

Finished

preside

/prɪˈzʌɪd/

verb

1.

be in the position of authority in a meeting or other gathering.

"the prime minister will preside at an emergency cabinet meeting"

Tea boy

British old-fashioned

a boy who makes tea for the workers in a place such as an office

ebullient

/ɪˈbʌljənt, ɪˈbʊljənt/

adjective

1.

cheerful and full of energy.

"she sounded ebullient and happy"

flamboyant¹

/fləmˈbɔɪənt/

adjective

1.

(of a person or their behaviour) tending to attract attention because of their exuberance, confidence, and stylishness.

"the band's flamboyant lead singer"

taciturn

/ˈtɑːstɪtən/

adjective

(of a person) reserved or uncommunicative in speech; saying little.

"after such gatherings she would be taciturn and morose"

tacit

/ˈtɑːst/

adjective

understood or implied without being stated.

"your silence may be taken to mean tacit agreement"

infraction

/ɪnˈfrækʃn/

noun

Law

plural noun: infractions

a violation or infringement of a law or agreement.

minor infractions of the rules

frogspawn

/ˈfrɒɡspɔːn/

noun

the eggs of a frog, which are surrounded by transparent jelly.

let alone

used to indicate that something is far less likely or suitable than something else already mentioned.

"he was incapable of leading a bowling team, let alone a country"

contention

/kənˈtɛnʃ(ə)n/

noun

1.

heated disagreement.

"the captured territory was the main area of contention between the two countries"

rout someone out

to make someone come out of the place where they are:

His wife had to rout him out of the crowd.

contemplate

/ˈkɒntəmpleɪt, ˈkɒntəmpleɪt/

verb

look thoughtfully for a long time at.

"he contemplated his image in the mirrors"

inept

/ɪˈneɪpt/

adjective

having or showing no skill; clumsy.

"the referee's inept handling of the match"

fractious

/ˈfrækʃəs/

adjective

(typically of children) irritable and quarrelsome.

"they fight and squabble like fractious children"

onerous

/ˈəʊn(ə)rəs, ˈɒn(ə)rəs/

adjective

(of a task or responsibility) involving a great deal of effort, trouble, or difficulty.

"he found his duties increasingly onerous"

imposition

/ˌɪmpəˈzɪʃn/

noun

1.

the action or process of imposing something or of being imposed.

"the imposition of martial law"

succinct

/səkˈsɪŋ(k)t/

adjective

(especially of something written or spoken) briefly and clearly expressed.

"use short, succinct sentences"

petty

/ˈpeti/

adjective

1.

of little importance; trivial.

"both groups are known to fight over petty issues"

espousal

/ɪˈspəʊzl, ɛˈspəʊzl/

noun

1.

an act of adopting or supporting a cause, belief, or way of life.

"his espousal of Western ideas"

unvarnished

/ʌnˈvɑːnɪʃt/

(of a statement or manner) plain and straightforward.

"please tell me the unvarnished truth"

reprehend

/ˌreprɪˈhɛnd/

verb

reprimand.

"a recklessness which cannot be too severely reprehended"

bigot

/ˈbɪɡət/

noun

a person who is obstinately or unreasonably attached to a belief, opinion, or faction, especially one who is prejudiced against or antagonistic towards a person or people on the basis of their membership of a particular group.

"don't let a few small-minded bigots destroy the good image of the city"

hand in hand

/ˌhænd ɪn ˈhænd/

phrase of hand

(of two people) with hands joined, especially as a mark of affection.

"I walked hand in hand with my father"

ineffable

/ɪn'ɛfəbl/

adjective

too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words.

"the ineffable mysteries of the soul"

ingenuous

/ɪn'dʒɛnjʊəs/

adjective

(of a person or action) innocent and unsuspecting.

"he eyed her with wide, ingenuous eyes"

slide

/slʌɪd/

a sandal or light shoe without a back.

twee

/twi:/

adjective British

excessively or affectedly quaint, pretty, or sentimental.

"although the film's a bit twee, it's watchable"

antipathy

/ən'tɪpəθi/

noun

a deep-seated feeling of aversion.

"his fundamental antipathy to capitalism"

unwittingly

/ʌn'wɪtɪŋli/

adverb

without being aware; unintentionally.

in one's element

idiom

: in a place or situation where one is comfortable and does well

At school she was (really) in her element.

repercussion

/ˌrɪ:pə'kʌʃn/

noun

1.

an unintended consequence of an event or action, especially an unwelcome one.

"the move would have grave repercussions for the entire region"

complacent

/kəm'pleɪsnt/

adjective

showing smug or uncritical satisfaction with oneself or one's achievements.

"you can't afford to be complacent about security"

repent

/rɪ'pɛnt/

verb

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

"the Padre urged his listeners to repent"

subjugate

/'sʌbdʒʊgeɪt/

verb

bring under domination or control, especially by conquest.

"the invaders had soon subjugated most of the population"

remit

verb

/rɪ'mɪt/

1.

cancel or refrain from exacting or inflicting (a debt or punishment).

"the excess of the sentence over 12 months was remitted"

noun

/'rɪ:mɪt, rɪ'mɪt/

1.

British

the task or area of activity officially assigned to an individual or organisation.

"the committee was becoming caught up in issues that did not fall within its remit"

remit something to cancel or free somebody from a debt, duty, punishment, etc.

synonym cancel

to remit a fine

to remit a prison sentence

relish

/'relɪʃ/

noun

1.

great enjoyment.

"she swigged a mouthful of wine with relish"

"Full scope" means the entire range, extent, or amount of something. For example, you might say "the full scope of the concept of class".

supersede

/su:pə'si:d/

verb

take the place of (a person or thing previously in authority or use); supplant.

"the older models of car have now been superseded"

furbelow

/'fə:bɪləʊ/

noun

a gathered strip or pleated border of a skirt or petticoat.

sherry

/'ʃɛri/

noun

a fortified wine originally and mainly from southern Spain.

"a bottle of dry sherry"

saccharine

/'sək(ə)rɪn, 'səkəri:n/

adjective

1.

excessively sweet or sentimental.

"saccharine music"

conscientious

/,kɒnʃɪ'ɛnʃəs/

adjective

1.

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

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

flighty adjective

/'flaɪti/

somebody who is flighty cannot be relied on because they often change their activities, ideas or partners and do not treat them seriously

fabricate

/'fabrɪkeɪt/

verb

1.

invent (something) in order to deceive.

"officers fabricated evidence"

deluge

/'delju:(d)ʒ/

noun

a severe flood.

"this may be the worst deluge in living memory"

It's possible to drop 'the' when the adjective is used later in the sentence, rather than directly before the noun. We can choose either 'the' or 'no article', with no change in meaning:

She is (the) most beautiful.

This café is (the) best.

John and Lisa are (the) most intelligent.

This bowl is (the) biggest.

eviscerate

/ɪˈvɪsəreɪt/

verb

disembowel (a person or animal).

"the goat had been skinned and neatly eviscerated"

viscera

/ˈvɪs(ə)rə/

noun

noun: viscus; plural noun: viscera

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

fug

/fʌg/

noun informal • British

a warm, stuffy or smoky atmosphere in a room.

"the cosy fug of the music halls"

"Make out" is an American slang term that refers to a sexual activity involving kissing and non-penetrative touching

bent out of shape

phrase

informal • North American

angry or agitated.

"he'd changed a few things around, and Glen was a little bent out of shape about it"

suspicious

/səˈspɪʃəs/

having or showing a cautious distrust of someone or something.

"he was suspicious of her motives"

causing one to have the idea or impression that someone or something is questionable, dishonest, or dangerous.

"they are not treating the fire as suspicious"

infatuate

/ɪnˈfætʃueɪt/

verb

be inspired with an intense but short-lived passion or admiration for.

"she is infatuated with a handsome police chief"

"I'm screwed" is a slang way of saying "I'm in trouble". For example, you would say "I forgot to study for the test, I'm screwed", meaning you're likely going to fail. You would use the phrase informally, you wouldn't use it with your teacher, for example.

peewee noun (IN SPORT)

Add to word list

[C]

a young child who plays an organised sport in a particular age group:

Those minor peewees are only 11 and 12.

The helmets are worn by more than 2 million football players, from pee-wees to professionals.

[U]

a particular age group in which young children play an organised sport:

The six-year-old is on a peewee league baseball team.

This book should be mandatory reading for every coach, from pee-wee to the pros.

peewee²

/ˈpiːwiː/

noun

noun: peewee; noun: pee-wee

1.

North American

a level of amateur sport, involving children aged eight or nine (in the US) or twelve or thirteen (in Canada).

"a peewee baseball team"

a player at a peewee level of sport.

2.

a small marble.

ragtag

/ˈragtag/

adjective

adjective: rag-tag

untidy, disorganized, or incongruously varied in character.

"a ragtag group of idealists"

have/take a gander

to have a quick look:

have/take a gander at Let's take a gander at your new car, then.

I love having a gander at other people's homes - it gives me ideas.

Can I take a gander at your new shed, Mike?

I was walking by the new restaurant on Green Street so I thought I'd take a gander at the menu.

Why don't you call in and have a gander at our new kitchen?

Little Red Riding Hood

awning

/ˈɔːnɪŋ/

noun

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

Which car model would you suggest for me for my next car?

What kind of car should I buy?

tourniquet

/ˈtuənɪkeɪ, ˈtɔːnɪkeɪ, ˈtəːnɪkeɪ/

noun

a device for stopping the flow of blood through a vein or artery, typically by compressing a limb with a cord or tight bandage.

hiatus

/hɪˈeɪtəs/

"Hiatus" is a countable noun because it can be used countably. But in the sentence "Two of my colleagues went on hiatus" it's used in an uncountable way, both grammatically and semantically. The phrase "on hiatus" functions more like an adjective describing the state of the workmates, rather than a preposition connecting the workmates to the noun "hiatus".

Don't take it out on me!

glucose

/ˈgluːkəʊz/

permission slip (plural permission slips)

(US, education) A paper form that a school sends home with a student to a parent, onto which the parent provides authorization for the student to attend a certain event, such as a field trip.

schmutz

/ʃmʊts/

noun informal • North American

dirt or a similar unpleasant substance.

"these handy wipes are always close by for swiping schmutz off my shoes, or cleaning up coffee spills"

piddle

/ˈpɪdl/

informal

verb

urinate.

first thing

at the earliest time in the day:

He said he'd call back first thing tomorrow.

I have a big report due first thing in the morning.

He went to see Katy first thing the next morning.

Let's meet first thing to decide what we're going to do.

It's probably best to schedule your visit for first thing in the morning.

maul

/mɔːl/

verb

(of an animal) wound (a person or animal) by scratching and tearing.

"a man was mauled by a lion at London Zoo"

strong suit

noun

(in bridge or whist) a holding of a number of high cards of one suit in a hand.

something at which one excels.

noun: one's strong suit; plural noun: one's strong suits

"compassion is not Jack's strong suit"

impasse

/amˈpɑːs, ˈɑmpɑːs/

noun

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

"the current political impasse"

tenure

/ˈtɛnjə/

noun

1.

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

the holding of an office.

"his tenure of the premiership would be threatened"

snarfle /ˈsnɑːfl(ə)/

(slang) To make the noise of an animal (such as a pig) eating.

(slang) To eat greedily.

coiffure

/kwaːˈfjʊə, kwəˈfjʊə, kwəˈfjuə/

noun

noun: coiffure; plural noun: coiffures

a person's hairstyle.

"Diana's intricately braided coiffure"

coif

noun

1.

a woman's close-fitting cap, now only worn under a veil by nuns.

"her black habit and white starched coif"

2.

informal•North American

short for coiffure.

verb

/kwa:f,kwɒf/

style or arrange (someone's hair).

"Gloria's hair was coiffed in its usual way"

derpy

/'dɜ:pi/

adjectiveinformal

foolish or stupid.

"they say some pretty derpy things"

riveting

/'rɪvɪtɪŋ/

adjective

completely engrossing; compelling.

"the book is a riveting account of the legendary freedom fighter"

"No loitering" means that you should not spend time in a place without a clear purpose, especially if you are not welcome there.

stay put

phrase of stay

remain somewhere without moving or being moved.

"she told Clarissa to stay put"

retroactive continuity

retcon

/'retkɒn/

noun

(in a film, television series, or other fictional work) a piece of new information that imposes a different interpretation on previously described events, typically used to facilitate a dramatic plot shift or account for an inconsistency.

"we're given a retcon for Wilf's absence from Donna's wedding in 'The Runaway Bride': he had Spanish Flu"

schema

/'ski:mə/

noun

plural noun: schemata

1.

technical

a representation of a plan or theory in the form of an outline or model.

"a schema of scientific reasoning"

STD

/ɛsti:'di:/

noun

a sexually transmitted disease.

jape

/dʒeɪp/

noun

a practical joke.

"the childish jape of depositing a stink bomb in her locker"

dig

/dɪg/

informal

like, appreciate, or understand.

"I really dig heavy rock"

"You dig?"

jagoff

/'dʒagɒf/

noun dialect•US

noun: jag-off

(chiefly in western Pennsylvania) a stupid, irritating, or contemptible person.

kink

/kɪŋk/

a sharp twist or curve in something that is otherwise straight.

"a kink in the road"

a flaw or obstacle in a plan, operation, etc.

"though the system is making some headway, there are still some kinks to iron out"

distinguished

/dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪʃt/

adjective

very successful, authoritative, and commanding great respect.

"a distinguished American educationist"

swinge

/swɪŋ(d)ʒ/

verb literary

strike hard; beat.

"did she not swinge the dragon of ripsnorting inflation?"

euthanasia

/ˌjuːθəˈneɪzɪə, ˌjuːθəˈneɪzə/

(one's) jam

slang

1. A song that one loves or likes a lot.

Yo, this is my jam! Turn it up!

A: "This dumb song is your jam?" B: "Yes, and clearly you have no taste."

Look at Mom dancing with her friends over there. This must be their jam!

2. Something one particularly prefers, desires, enjoys, or cares about.

I knew classic literature was your jam, so I thought you might like this book I found.

Thank you for the invitation, but long-distance cycling just isn't really my jam.

Baking's not my jam—I don't like having to measure every little thing so precisely.

euthanize

/ˈjuːθənɪz/

verbNorth American

put (an animal) to death humanely.

"older dogs may find loving homes instead of being euthanized"

put something ↔ down to kill an animal without causing it pain, usually because it is old or sick
SYN put something to sleep

We had to have the dog put down.

Putting down a dog, also known as euthanasia, refers to the process of intentionally ending a dog's life to alleviate suffering, typically due to terminal illness, severe injury, or significant behavioral issues.

sleep in

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

Yesterday, few players turned up because most slept in.

blouse /blaʊz/

kablammo

(informal) Alternative form of kablam ("sound of a loud explosion")

Viagra

/vɪˈɑːgrə/

walk through

1.

guide someone carefully through a process.

"a meeting to walk parents through the complaint process"

2.

rehearse a play or other piece, reading the lines aloud from a script and performing the actions of the characters.

"he walked through the script with me"

clutter noun

/ˈklʌtə(r)/

[uncountable, singular] (disapproving)

a lot of things in an untidy state, especially things that are not necessary or are not being used; a lack of order

synonym mess

There's always so much clutter on your desk!

Try to get rid of screen clutter.

There was a clutter of bottles and tubes on the shelf.

break out

(of a person's skin) become inflamed or affected by spots.

"if your skin breaks out from the repellent, wash it off with mild soap"

canker

/ˈkæŋkə/

North American

a small ulcer of the mouth or lips.

noun: canker sore

"a remedy for canker sores"

string out

phrasal verb of string

1.

stretch out into a long line.

"the runners string out in a line across the road"

prolong something.

"he had strung out the conversation"

In hip-hop culture, terms like "fire" or "lit" and "cold" are used to describe the quality or impact of music, but they convey different meanings.

Guys who can lead/hold a conversation, what the hell do you start with/talk about?

"Spitting fire" and "dropping bars" derive from the same notion of rapping notable verses.

I don't specify rap here because someone can spit bars on a song of any genre. An contemporary example would be Nicki Minaj's verses on pop songs, like this 2017 one: Katy Perry - Swish Swish (Audio) ft. Nicki Minaj, (which sounds a bit like Madonna's hit "Vogue", but I digress).

"Spitting fire" is usually referencing verses that are either noteworthy due to impressively written punchlines (clever verses/bars) or fast rapping.

deadbeat
/'dɛdbi:t/
informal
completely exhausted.
"I must go to bed—I'm dead beat"

What does it mean to get "smashed"?
I'm from the UK and in that context it means 'to get drunk/lit/f**ked up'

It's really an expression for getting very tipsy, and us Brits are some of the best at getting smashed - alcohol is very popular here :)

I hope this helped.

cull
/kʌl/
verb
1.
reduce the population of (a wild animal) by selective slaughter.
"he sees culling deer as a necessity"

connive
/kə'neɪv/
verb
secretly allow (something immoral, illegal, or harmful) to occur.
"I did not connive in the production of these documents"
conspire to do something immoral, illegal, or harmful.
"they connived with bank officials to launder money"

the fabric of something
the fabric of a building is its basic structure, including walls and the roof
the need to preserve the fabric of the church

the basic structure of a society, culture, activity, etc.
"the multicultural fabric of Canadian society"

the fabric of something
the structure or parts of something:
the fabric of society
Unhappiness was woven into the natural fabric of people's lives.
We must invest in the fabric of our hospitals and start rebuilding them.
We see how much cultural institutions can contribute to the fabric of urban society.
Procedures to prevent wrongful convictions should be part of the fabric of our justice system.

penal
/'pi:nl/
adjective

relating to, used for, or prescribing the punishment of offenders under the legal system.
"the campaign for penal reform"

conjugal

/ˈkɒndʒʊɡəl/

adjective

relating to marriage or the relationship between a married couple.

"conjugal loyalty"

loofah

/ˈluːfə/

noun

1.

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

The Vulcan mind meld, also known as the mind link, mind probe, mind fusion, mind touch, or simply meld, was a telepathic link between two individuals.

ovary noun

/ˈəʊvəri/

either of the two organs in a woman's body that produce eggs; a similar organ in female animals, birds and fish

ovulate verb

/ˈɒvjuleɪt/

(of a woman or a female animal) to produce an egg (called an ovum), from the ovary

jones

/dʒəʊnz/

informal•US

verb

have a fixation on; be addicted to.

"Palmer was jonesing for some coke again"

a-word (plural a-words)

(euphemistic) A bad word that starts with the letter a.

live a little

idiom

: to spend time doing enjoyable things

Now that he's retired he just wants to live a little.

mug¹

/mʌɡ/

attack and rob (someone) in a public place.

"he was mugged by three men who stole his bike"

the dubious honour/distinction/pleasure (of doing something)

a dubious honour etc is the opposite of an honour – used about something unpleasant that happens

The Stephensons had the dubious honor of being the 100th family to lose their home in the fire.

yearn /jə:n/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. have an intense feeling of longing for something, typically something that one has lost or been separated from • she yearned for a glimpse of him • [with infinitive] they yearned to go home.

unsurpassed /ʌnsə'pɑ:st/ adjective better or greater than any other • the quality of workmanship is unsurpassed.

torment I. noun — [mass noun] torment /'tɔ:mənt / 1. severe physical or mental suffering • their deaths have left both families in torment. 2. [count noun] — a cause of severe suffering • the journey must have been a torment for them.

relict
/'rɛlɪkt/
noun

1.
a thing which has survived from an earlier period or in a primitive form.

flamboyant1 /fləm'boɪənt/
adjective

1.
(of a person or their behaviour) tending to attract attention because of their exuberance, confidence, and stylishness.
"the band's flamboyant lead singer"

The Moorish idol (*Zanclus cornutus*) is a species of marine ray-finned fish belonging to the family Zanclidae.

When someone is sworn in, they make a formal promise to be honest or loyal, either in a law court or when starting a new official job:

The next witness was sworn in.

Obama was sworn in as president.

incur
/ɪn'kə:/
verb

become subject to (something unwelcome or unpleasant) as a result of one's own behaviour or actions.

"I will pay any expenses incurred"

incursion
/ɪn'kə:ʃn,ɪn'kə:ʒn/

noun

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

"incursions into enemy territory"

duff1

/dʌf/

adjectiveinformal•British

of very poor quality.

"duff lyrics"

decaying vegetable matter covering the ground under trees.

"generally the fires in this area burn the duff and underbrush and scorch a few trees"

back-burner

verbUS

postpone consideration of or action on.

"a planned test of the new ale has been back-burnered"

If something is on the back burner, it is temporarily not being dealt with or considered, especially because it is not urgent or important:

We've all had to put our plans on the back burner for a while.

envoy

/ˈɛnvɔɪ/

noun

1.

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

"the UN special envoy to Yugoslavia"

concede

/kənˈsiːd/

verb

1.

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

"I had to concede that I'd overreacted"

concession

/kənˈsɛʃn/

noun

1.

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

"the government was unwilling to make any further concessions"

whirlwind

/ˈwɜːlwɪnd/

noun

a column of air moving rapidly round and round in a cylindrical or funnel shape.

used with reference to a very energetic person or a tumultuous process.

"a whirlwind of activity"

reel /ri:l/

[intransitive] (+ adv./prep.) to move in a very unsteady way, for example because you are drunk or have been hit

synonym stagger

I punched him on the chin, sending him reeling backwards.

She was reeling after several glasses of wine.

He reeled under the blow.

[intransitive] reel (at/from/with something) to feel very shocked or upset about something

I was still reeling from the shock.

cloture

/ˈklɒtʃʊə/

nounUS

(in a legislative assembly) a procedure for ending a debate and taking a vote; closure.

"a cloture motion"

partisan

/ˌpɑːtɪˈzæn, ˈpɑːtɪz(ə)n/

noun

1.

a strong supporter of a party, cause, or person.

"partisans of the exiled Stuarts"

filibuster

/ˈfɪlɪbʌstə/

noun

1.

an action such as a prolonged speech that obstructs progress in a legislative assembly while not technically contravening the required procedures.

alkali

/ˈalkəlaɪ/

anthrax

/ˈænθraks/

noun

a serious bacterial disease of sheep and cattle, causing acute and often fatal septicaemia, and also transmissible to humans.

janky

/ˈdʒæŋki/

adjectiveinformal•North American

of extremely poor or unreliable quality.

"the software is pretty janky"

a lifesize cardboard cutout

buck1

/bʌk/

noun

1.

the male of some horned animals, especially the fallow deer, roe deer, reindeer, and antelopes.

2.

another term for vaulting horse.

If you win back something that you have lost, you get it again, especially as a result of a great effort.

The Government will have to work hard to win back the confidence of the people. [VERB PARTICLE noun]

So he went and filed a suit and won his job back. [VERB noun PARTICLE]

in contention

idiom

: being argued about : not yet decided

an issue that is still in contention

The issue has been settled - it's no longer in contention.

contention

noun

1.

heated disagreement.

"the captured territory was the main area of contention between the two countries"

in contention

having a chance of winning something

Owen's goal kept England in contention.

blight

/blaɪt/

noun

1.

a plant disease, typically one caused by fungi such as mildews, rusts, and smuts.

"the vines suffered blight and disease"

thing that spoils or damages something.

"the vacant properties are a blight on the neighbourhood"

If you say that something is on someone, you mean that it is their responsibility or their fault. [informal]

He panicked in his team selection and tactics, so that defeat was on him.

If you play poorly, as Anton did, then that is on you.

If it doesn't work out, it's all on me.

wind up

to annoy or upset someone:

It really winds me up when he goes on about teachers having an easy life.

She just knows how to wind me up.

to tell someone something that is not true in order to make a joke:

Are you serious or are you just trying to wind me up?

to close a business or organization:

Lawyers were called in to wind up the company.

to find yourself in an unexpected and usually unpleasant situation, especially as a result of what you do:

If he keeps doing stuff like that he's going to wind up in prison!

You don't want to wind up homeless, do you?

in earnest

idiom

1

: in an earnest or serious way

The search began in earnest when the police arrived.

After light showers during the day, it began to rain in earnest in the evening.

It's hard to tell if he's making this proposal in earnest.

2

: not fooling : serious and sincere

We thought he was joking at first, but then we realized that he was in earnest.

gamut

/ˈɡæmət/

noun

1.

the complete range or scope of something.

"the whole gamut of human emotion"

fad

/fad/

noun

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

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

There was a fad for wearing ripped jeans a few years ago.

tract home

nounNorth American

a house forming part of a housing estate.

horoscope

/ˈhɒrəskəʊp/

protract

/prəˈtrakt/

verb

prolong.

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

"Because my period is protracted, I can't remove my sanitary pads."

lose to (someone or something)

To be defeated by someone or something. What was lost can be stated between "lose" and "to."

The football team lost to their rivals in the championship game.

I can't believe I lost the student council presidency to that doofus!

be in good shape

to be prepared and ready to do something:

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

Can you explain to me the meaning of these sentences: "She's 6 feet tall if she's an inch." "It was a gallon of blood if it was a drop." "She is forty if she is a day."

if (one) is a day

Used to emphasize that one must be a certain age.

How does he keep himself looking so young—he's got to be 60 if he's a day!

40/50/60 etc if he's/she's a day

used to emphasize that someone is at least as old as you are saying

She's ninety if she's a day.

small fry

noun

1.

insignificant people or things.

"he was small fry and privy to nothing"

2.

young fish.

"undersized whiting and other small fry"

look askance (at somebody/something) | look (at somebody/something) askance

askance

/əˈskɑːns, əˈskaːns/

adverb

with an attitude or look of suspicion or disapproval.

"the reformers looked askance at the mystical tradition"

jokester

/ˈdʒəʊkstə/

noun

a person fond of making or telling jokes.

"he was an outgoing, fun-loving kid, the family jokester"

you don't say!

phrase of say

informal

used to express amazement or disbelief.

An open weave is a weaving technique that results in fabric with spaces between the threads, or an "open" appearance

resort to something

/rɪˈzɔːt/

to do something that you do not want to do because you cannot find any other way of achieving something:

I had to resort to violence/threats to get my money.

[+ -ing verb] When she didn't answer the phone, I resorted to calling up to her from the street.

trickery /ˈtrɪk(ə)ri/

[uncountable]

the practice of deception.

"the dealer resorted to trickery"

errant

/ˈɛrənt/

adjective

1.

formal•humorous

erring or straying from the accepted course or standards.

"an errant husband coming back from a night on the tiles"

skag /skag/

noun informal•North American

1.

heroin.

2.

An unattractive woman.

decimate /ˈdɛsɪmeɪt/

verb

1.

kill, destroy, or remove a large proportion of.

"the inhabitants of the country had been decimated"

bide one's time

wait quietly for a good opportunity to do something.

"she patiently bided her time before making an escape bid"

How buying "back in" in poker tournament changes odds

I argued that as long as everyone has the ability to buy back in, then whatever the mathematical ripple effects are of buying back in, they get spread over all players equally.

back in

intransitive verb

1

in poker : to bet after having passed at the first opportunity

I can't serve more than 5 customers at a time.

If you could wait over here in this line, I will be able to assist everyone one by one.

grime

/grʌɪm/

noun

1.

dirt ingrained on the surface of something.

"the windows were thick with grime"

a genre of popular music influenced by UK garage, typically characterized by a minimal, prominent rhythm, a very low-pitched bassline, and vocals by an MC.

dividend

/'dɪvɪdend, 'dɪvɪd(ə)nd/

noun

1.

a sum of money paid regularly (typically annually) by a company to its shareholders out of its profits (or reserves).

associate

verb

/ə'səʊʃieɪt, ə'səʊsɪeɪt/

sunset noun /'sʌnset/

[uncountable] the time when the sun goes down and night begins

At sunset: Every evening at sunset the flag was lowered.

subterfuge /'sʌbtəfjuːdʒ/ I. noun — [mass noun] 1. deceit used in order to achieve one's goal • he had to use subterfuge and bluff on many occasions • [count noun] I hated all the subterfuges, I hated lying to you.

sanguine /'sɒŋɡwɪn/ I. adjective 1. optimistic or positive, especially in an apparently bad or difficult situation • he is sanguine about prospects for the global economy. • the committee takes a more sanguine view.

teensy-weensy

/ˌtiːnzɪ'wiːnzi/

adjective informal

tiny.

"do we detect a teensy-weensy bit of animosity?"

a brush with something

a situation in which you experience something, or almost experience something, especially something unpleasant:

have a brush with death: Jim had a brush with death (= was nearly killed) on the motorway.

brush with the law: Was that your first brush with the law (= experience of being in trouble with the police)?

It was her brush with mortality - a cancer scare last year - that made Evans rethink her career.

After his latest brush with infamy, the footballer is keen to stay out of the tabloids and is keeping a low profile.

She had a brush with stardom in the eighties as a member of a minor pop band.

forgo

/fə'gəʊ,fɔː'gəʊ/

verb

go without (something desirable).

"she wanted to forgo the tea and leave while they could"

baffle

/'bɑːfl/

verb

1.

totally bewilder or perplex.

"an unexplained occurrence that baffled everyone"

A pet peeve, pet aversion, or pet hate is a minor annoyance that an individual finds particularly irritating to a greater degree than the norm.

memorabilia [plural]

/ˌmɛm(ə)rə'biːliə,ˌmɛm(ə)rə'biːliə/

noun

objects kept or collected because of their associations with memorable people or events.

"sixties memorabilia"

up top

A request for a high five, accompanied by an open palm gesture.

mutton

/ˈmʌtn/

noun

the flesh of fully grown sheep used as food.

"a leg of mutton"

vasectomy

/vəˈsɛktəmi/

noun

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

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

bummer

/ˈbʌmə/

noun informal

1.

a disappointing or unpleasant situation or experience.

"the party was a real bummer"

2.

North American

a loafer or vagrant.

butter someone up

to be very kind or friendly to someone or try to please someone, so that that person will do what you want them to do:

You'll have to butter them up a bit before they'll agree.

rank /rʌŋk/

the people belonging to or constituting a group or class.

"the ranks of Britain's unemployed"

join the ranks

to become one of a particular large group of people:

When I leave school at the end of this month, I'll probably have to join the ranks of the unemployed.

He is about to join the ranks of sportspeople turned designers.

In winning the award, he joined the ranks of writers such as Asimov and Williamson.

She joined the growing ranks of parents choosing to homeschool their children.

He has joined the ranks of doctors concerned that the drugs are being prescribed too freely.

make up for something

to take the place of something lost or damaged or to compensate for something bad with something good:

No amount of money can make up for the death of a child.

This year's good harvest will make up for last year's bad one.

[+ -ing verb] He bought me dinner to make up for being so late the day before.

a clean/contaminated water supply

The water supply is unsafe.

Supplies of food are almost exhausted.

We cannot guarantee adequate supplies of raw materials.

Books were in short supply (= there were not enough of them).

gratuity noun /grə'tju:əti/

(plural gratuities)

(formal) money that you give to somebody who has provided a service for you

synonym tip

if only

phrase of if

1.

even if for no other reason than.

"Willy would have to tell George more, if only to stop him pestering"

2.

used to express a wish, especially regretfully.

"if only I had listened to you"

(idiomatic) I wish that; signifies a regret about an action in the past.

If only I had listened to my parents.

We didn't have that luxury. If only!

hoot /hu:t/

noun

a low, wavering musical sound which is the typical call of many kinds of owl.

informal

an amusing situation or person.

noun: a hoot

"your mum's a real hoot"

Let's start with a nice, positive idiom. The world is your oyster is used to tell someone that there are no limits to what they can do or where they can go:

Once you've got that qualification, the world's your oyster!

In a word, we are very busy, so we can't come to the party.

Can you render word for word what David said to you?

"Mum's the word" means to keep silent or quiet. Mum is a Middle English word meaning 'silent', and may be derived from the mummer who acts without speaking.

then again

On second thought; from a different, conflicting, or contradictory point of view.
This deal could really help the business get out of debt. Then again, you'd just be indebted to the government instead, so maybe it's not the best solution.
I'd love to upgrade our car. Then again, there are lots of other things around the house that we need to replace more urgently.

but after thinking about it

earmark /'ɪəmə:k/ verb

designate (funds or resources) for a particular purpose.

"the cash had been earmarked for a big expansion of the programme"

mark the ear of (a domesticated animal) as a sign of ownership or identity.

The marriage ended in divorce in 1996.

tiff

/tɪf/

noun informal

a petty quarrel, especially one between friends or lovers.

"Joanna had a tiff with her boyfriend"

aperture

/'æpətʃə/

noun

an opening, hole, or gap.

"the bell ropes passed through apertures in the ceiling"

a space through which light passes in an optical or photographic instrument, especially the variable opening by which light enters a camera.

"a refracting telescope with an aperture of 3 inches"

wrap up

complete or conclude something.

"they hope to wrap up negotiations within sixty days"

inferior /ɪn'fɪəriə/

tattletale noun

/'tætlteɪl/

a child who tells an adult what another child has done wrong

usury /'ju:ʒ(ə)ri/ I. noun — [mass noun]

the action or practice of lending money at unreasonably high rates of interest.

"the medieval prohibition on usury"

miscreant

/'mɪskrɪənt/

noun

a person who has done something wrong or unlawful.

"the police are straining every nerve to bring the miscreants to justice"

gaffe

/gaf/

noun

an unintentional act or remark causing embarrassment to its originator; a blunder.

"in my first few months at work I made some real gaffes"

it escapes (one)

One can't quite remember something at the moment.

I'm trying to remember why I came in here, but it escapes me.

lay into someone

to attack someone physically, or to criticize someone in an angry way:

In the middle of the meeting she suddenly laid into him for no apparent reason.

solder

/'sɒldə, 'səʊldə/

noun

a low-melting alloy, especially one based on lead and tin or (for higher temperatures) on brass or silver, used for joining less fusible metals.

"remove the fitting using a blowtorch to melt the solder"

spittle

/'spɪtl/

noun

saliva, especially as ejected from the mouth.

extraneous

/ɪk'streɪniəs, ɛk'streɪniəs/

adjective

1.

irrelevant or unrelated to the subject being dealt with.

"one is obliged to wade through many pages of extraneous material"

stipulate¹

/'stɪpjʊleɪt/

verb

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

"he stipulated certain conditions before their marriage"

quibble

/'kwɪbl/

noun

1.

a slight objection or criticism about a trivial matter.

"the only quibble about this book is the price"

corolla /kə'ɒʊlə/, /kə'ɒlə/

thang

/θaŋ/

noun

non-standard spelling of thing representing Southern US pronunciation, typically used to denote a feeling or tendency.

"yet another dimension of this Canadian groove thang"

coitus

/'kəʊɪtəs, 'kɔɪ(ɪ)təs/

noun formal

sexual intercourse.

coitus interruptus

/'kəʊɪtəs ɪntə'rʌptəs/

noun

sexual intercourse in which the penis is withdrawn before ejaculation.

hosiery

/'həʊz(ɪ)əri/

noun

stockings, socks, and tights collectively.

conflagration /'kɒnflə'greɪʃ(ə)n/ I. noun an extensive fire which destroys a great deal of land or property. • tinder-dry conditions sparked fears of a conflagration in many drought-devastated communities.

conceit /kən'si:t/ I. noun 1. [mass noun] — excessive pride in oneself • he was puffed up with conceit.

coax1 /kəʊks/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. persuade (someone) gradually or gently to do something • the trainees were coaxed into doing boring work • [with direct speech] 'Come on now,' I coaxed.

tenable

/'tenəbl/

adjective

1.

able to be maintained or defended against attack or objection.

"such a simplistic approach is no longer tenable"

prosaic

/prə(ʊ)'zeɪɪk/

adjective

having or using the style or diction of prose as opposed to poetry; lacking imaginativeness or originality.

"prosaic language can't convey the experience"

commonplace; unromantic.

"the masses were too preoccupied by prosaic day-to-day concerns"

take a/the fall for someone

to accept the blame for something another person did:

I wasn't going to take the fall for him.

Let's return to camp.

to pitch/make/set up camp (= put up tents)

to break camp (= to take down tents)

"he became the dramatic counselor at camp"

Camp:

A resting/sleeping place while hiking {in}

A place of internment (prison camp) {at a/the}

A summer home (chiefly Eastern US) {not applicable, I don't think}

A place for large groups of adolescents to be supervised for extended periods, usually in the summer {at a/the}

A military base {at a/the}

monger

/ˈmʌŋgə/

combining form

denoting a dealer or trader in a specified commodity.

"fishmonger"

denoting a person who promotes a specified activity, situation, or feeling, especially one that is undesirable or discreditable.

"warmonger"

wean1

/wi:n/

verb

accustom (an infant or other young mammal) to food other than its mother's milk.

accustom (someone) to managing without something which they have become dependent on.

"the doctor tried to wean her off the sleeping pills"

You don't like apples, do you? Answer: No (a shake of the head) I don't. meaning: yes, you are correct, I don't like apples.

You like oranges, don't you? Answer: Yes (a nod of the head) I do.

have first dibs on The current owner might have first dibs on buying the rest of the property.

f you "call dibs on something" before anyone else does, it is a common custom that you should get it.

"I've got dibs on the sofa"

Heelys are the original skate shoes with wheels!

prowess

/ˈpraʊɪs/

noun

1.

skill or expertise in a particular activity or field.

"his prowess as a fisherman"

LASIK

/ˈleɪzɪk/

noun

corrective eye surgery in which a flap of the corneal surface is raised and a thin layer of underlying tissue is removed using a laser.

rapture

/ˈraptʃə/

North American

(according to some millenarian teaching) the transporting of believers to heaven at the Second Coming of Christ.

"thousands of Christians gathered outside Rochester and other cities, awaiting the Rapture"

Per diem (Latin for "per day" or "for each day") or daily allowance is a specific amount of money that an organization gives an individual, typically an employee, per day to cover living expenses when travelling on the employer's business.

per diem

/pəː ˈdiːɛm/

adverb

for each day (used in financial contexts).

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

Good gravy!

An exclamation of surprise.

Good gravy, you scared me!

I didn't expect to see you here—good gravy!

What's that black mark on the ceiling? Good gravy, it's a spider! Help!

juicy

/ˈdʒuːsi/

informal
interestingly scandalous.
"juicy gossip"

docosahexaenoic acid
in American English
(ˈdɒkəsəˌheksəɪˈnoʊɪk, ˌdɒk-)
noun
Biochemistry See DHA

contemptuous
/kənˈtɛm(p)ʃʊəs/
adjective
showing contempt; scornful.
"she was intolerant and contemptuous of the majority of the human race"

bail on (one)
To leave or abandon one.
Hey, thanks for bailing on me earlier—I was stuck talking to that guy for half an hour!
Come on, I highly doubt that Angela would bail on you after one fight.
If you think Paul might bail on you for the dance, it couldn't hurt to have a back-up plan, right?

The expression, "bail on a friend," is a shortened version of bailing out on a friend, which means to leave the friend.

In my book "bailing on a friend" means that you were supposed to be there for them and you weren't or you were there but you didn't do what they expected you to.

cleat
/kli:t/
noun
1.
a T-shaped piece of metal or wood on a boat or ship, to which ropes are attached.
2.
each of a number of projections on the sole of a shoe, designed to prevent the wearer losing their footing.
North American
athletic shoes with cleats on the soles.

bleacher
/ˈbli:tʃə/
noun
plural noun: bleachers
1.
a person or thing that bleaches.
2.

North American

a cheap bench seat at a sports ground, typically in an outdoor uncovered stand.

"there's a pudgy man in the bleachers pacing the aisles"

blimp

/blɪmp/

nouninformal

1.

British

a pompous, reactionary type of person.

"you'll still find Colonel Blimps at local party level"

2.

a small airship or barrage balloon.

have a stroke

1. To experience a sudden lack of blood flow to a part of the brain, resulting in a loss of brain function.

Do the doctors think he had a stroke?

2. slang To become very or unreasonably angry or upset; to have an outburst of rage, frustration, or ill temper. Potentially offensive.

My mom's going to have a stroke when she sees what happened to the car!

Hey, we can fix this mistake—don't have a stroke over it.

be an apology for something

to be an extremely bad example of something:

You're not coming out because you're tired? That's an apology for an excuse!

apology

/ə'pɒlədʒi/

a very poor or inadequate example of.

"we were shown into an apology for a bedroom"

peruse

/pə'ru:z/

read (something), typically in a thorough or careful way.

"he has spent countless hours in libraries perusing art history books and catalogues"

to read in a casual or leisurely way

ameliorate

/ə'mi:liəreɪt/

verbformal

make (something bad or unsatisfactory) better.

"the reform did much to ameliorate living standards"

amelioration

/ə'mi:liə'reɪʃn/

nounformal

the act of making something better; improvement.

"progress brings with it the amelioration of the human condition"

cleave¹

/kli:v/

stick fast to.

"Rose's mouth was dry, her tongue cleaving to the roof of her mouth"

"Suit yourself" is an informal idiom that means to do what one wants to do, especially when someone doesn't think it's what they should do.

call out on

3. To confront one about one's misdeeds or unpleasant behavior. In this usage, a noun or pronoun can be used between "call" and "out."

If your intern keeps coming in late, you need to call her out on it.

If the boss thinks you're responsible for the printing mishap, he won't hesitate to call you out on it in front of the rest of the staff.

Thank goodness somebody finally called Andrew out on his lies!

shoddy

/'ʃɒdi/

adjective

badly made or done.

"we're not paying good money for shoddy goods"

Note that the phrase "called on her" is very common in a classroom setting. It refers to the teacher selecting someone to give an answer verbally, for example, to a question posed to the whole class. This is distinct from "called her on."

Calling someone out on something is a phrase that implies that a person is doing something wrong or shoddy and it's pretty obvious to everyone that it is wrong, but it's not obvious that someone will point out the problem.

propaganda noun [uncountable]

/ˌprɒpəˈgændə/

ideas or statements that may be false or present only one side of an argument that are used in order to gain support for a political leader, party, etc.

enemy propaganda

tend /tend/

care for or look after; give one's attention to.

"Varela tended plants on the roof"

mourner

/'mɔːnə/

noun

1.

a person who attends a funeral as a relative or friend of the dead person.

auspicious

/ɔːˈspɪʃəs/

adjective

conducive to success; favourable.

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

Be careful not to get infected with corona!

Be careful not to catch COVID-19!

leprosy

/ˈlɛprəsi/

noun

1.

a contagious disease that affects the skin, mucous membranes, and nerves, causing discoloration and lumps on the skin and, in severe cases, disfigurement and deformities.

Leprosy is now mainly confined to tropical Africa and Asia.

Leukemia (also spelled leukaemia; pronounced /luːˈkiːmiːə/[1] loo-KEE-mee-ə) is a group of blood cancers that usually begin in the bone marrow and produce high numbers of abnormal blood cells.

Capillary action is the movement of a liquid through or along another material against an opposing force, such as gravity.

It doesn't spill over because of the surface tension.

scuffle

/ˈskʌfl/

noun

1.

a short, confused fight or struggle at close quarters.

"there were minor scuffles with police"

scuttle /ˈskʌtl/

run hurriedly or furtively with short quick steps.

"a mouse scuttled across the floor"

a metal container with a handle, used to fetch and store coal for a domestic fire.

the amount of coal held in a scuttle.

"carrying endless scuttles of coal up from the cellar"

give/cut (someone) some slack

: to treat (someone) in a less harsh or critical way

Would you give/cut me some slack? I'm doing the best I can.

show/teach someone the ropes

to show someone how to do a job or activity:

Lynn spent an afternoon showing the new girl the ropes.

dilate

/dɪˈleɪt, dɪˈleɪt/

verb

make or become wider, larger, or more open.

"her eyes dilated with horror"

evil /ˈiːvl/

[uncountable] a force that causes bad things to happen; morally bad behavior

the eternal struggle between good and evil

the forces of evil

You can't pretend there's no evil in the world.

run on

continue without stopping; go on longer than is expected.

"the story ran on for months"

taxidermy

/ˈtaksɪdəːmi, təkˈsɪdəmi/

noun

the art of preparing, stuffing, and mounting the skins of animals with lifelike effect.

fault

/fɔːlt, fɒlt/

Geology

an extended break in a rock formation, marked by the relative displacement and discontinuity of strata on either side of a particular plane.

"a landscape broken by numerous faults"

usury /ˈjuːʒ(ə)ri/ I. noun — [mass noun] 1. the action or practice of lending money at unreasonably high rates of interest. • the medieval prohibition on usury.

verbatim /vəˈbeɪtɪm/

vicarious /vɪˈkeɪəriəs, vɪˈkeəriəs/ I. adjective 1. experienced in the imagination through the feelings or actions of another person • this catalogue brings vicarious pleasure in luxury living. 2. acting or done for another • a vicarious atonement.

wanton /ˈwɒntən/ I. adjective 1. (of a cruel or violent action) deliberate and unprovoked • sheer wanton vandalism.

chaff¹

/tʃɑːf/

noun

1.

the husks of corn or other seed separated by winnowing or threshing.

Chaff grenade

chuffed

/tʃʌft/

adjective informal•British

very pleased.

"I'm dead chuffed to have won"

chuff1

/tʃʌf/

verb

(of a steam engine) move with a regular sharp puffing sound.

"the train was chuffing out of the station"

winnow /'wɪnəʊ/ I. verb 1. [with obj.] — blow a current of air through (grain) in order to remove the chaff. • a combine cuts, threshes, and winnows the grain in one operation. 2. remove (chaff) from grain • women winnow the chaff from piles of unhusked rice.

caulk /kɔ:k / <US> calk I. noun — [mass noun] 1. a waterproof filler and sealant, used in building work and repairs. • use silicone caulk to ensure that you have an all-season moisture seal.

brusque

/brʊsk,bru:sk,brʌsk/

adjective

abrupt or offhand in speech or manner.

"she could be brusque and impatient"

beck1

/bɛk/

nounNorthern English

a stream.

How to file a police report

mug1

/mʌg/

attack and rob (someone) in a public place.

"he was mugged by three men who stole his bike"

inquartation

in American English

(,ɪŋkwɔr'teɪʃən)

noun

(in assaying)

the addition of silver to a gold–silver alloy in order to facilitate the parting of the gold by nitric acid

semen
/'si:mən/

seminal
/'semɪnl/
adjective

1.
strongly influencing later developments.
"his seminal work on chaos theory"

primrose
/'prɪmrəʊz/
a European plant of woodland and hedgerows, which produces pale yellow flowers in the early spring.
a pale yellow colour.
noun: primrose yellow; plural noun: primrose yellows
"old-fashioned tones of primrose and lavender"

post-mortem
/,pəʊs(t)'mɔ:təm/
noun
an examination of a dead body to determine the cause of death.
"the hospital will want to carry out a post-mortem"

post-partum
/,pəʊs(t)'pɑ:təm/
adjective
Medicine • Veterinary Medicine
following childbirth or the birth of young.
"the custom of postpartum abstinence"

have/throw a fit
to become very angry or worried, often shouting a lot:
She'll throw a fit when she sees the mess you've made.

copperplate
/'kɒpəpleɪt/
noun

1.
a polished copper plate with a design engraved or etched into it.
2.
a style of neat, round handwriting, usually slanted and looped, the thick and thin strokes being made by pressure with a flexible metal nib.

the length and breadth of sth
Add to word list
in every part of a place:
They travelled the length and breadth of Scotland together.

stumpy

/ˈstʌmpi/

adjective

short and thick; squat.

"weak stumpy legs"

bogus

/ˈbəʊɡəs/

adjective

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

"a bogus insurance claim"

rambling

/ˈræmblɪŋ, ˈræmbəlɪŋ/. (of a building or path) spreading or winding irregularly in various directions.

"a big old rambling house"

compile

/kəmˈpaɪl/

verb

1.

produce (a list or book) by assembling information collected from other sources.

"the local authority must compile a list of the names and addresses of taxpayers"

estuary

/ˈɛstʃʊəri/

noun

the tidal mouth of a large river, where the tide meets the stream.

legend

/ˈlɛdʒ(ə)nd/

a caption.

"a picture of a tiger with the legend 'Go ahead make my day'"

the wording on a map or diagram explaining the symbols used.

"see legend to Fig. 1"

despicable

/dɪˈspɪkəbl, ˈdɛspɪkəbl/

adjective

deserving hatred and contempt.

"a despicable crime"

irony noun

/ˈaɪrəni/

[uncountable, countable] the amusing or strange aspect of a situation that is very different from what you expect; a situation like this

The irony is that when he finally got the job, he discovered he didn't like it.

It was one of life's little ironies.

albert

/ˈalbət/

con artist

noun informal

a person who cheats or tricks others by persuading them to believe something that is not true.

"the debonair con artist lives by scamming rich women"

trawl

/trɔ:l/

a large wide-mouthed fishing net dragged by a boat along the bottom of the sea or a lake.

noun: trawl net; plural noun: trawl nets

piddle /ˈpɪdl/

urinate.

piddling

/ˈpɪdəlɪŋ, ˈpɪdlɪŋ/

adjective informal

pathetically trivial; trifling.

"piddling little questions"

esquire

/ɪˈskwɪə, ɛˈskwɪə/

noun

1.

British

a polite title appended to a man's name when no other title is used, typically in the address of a letter or other documents.

"J. C. Pearson Esquire"

saunter

/ˈsɔ:ntə/

verb

walk in a slow, relaxed manner.

"Adam sauntered into the room"

commode

/kəˈməʊd/

noun

plural noun: commodes

1.

a piece of furniture containing a concealed chamber pot.

2.

a chest of drawers or chiffonier of a decorative type popular in the 18th century.

shifty-eyed

having the appearance of being dishonest, esp as signified by a lack of eye contact
He seemed evasive, shifty-eyed and vague.

short of

not reaching as far as.

"a rocket failure left a satellite tumbling in an orbit far short of its proper position"

without going so far as (some extreme action).

"short of putting out an all-persons alert, there's little else we can do"

instalment

/ɪnˈstɔːlm(ə)nt/

any of several parts of something which are published, broadcast, or made public in sequence at intervals.

"filming the final instalment in his Vietnam trilogy"

by far

phrase of far

by a great amount.

"this was by far the largest city in the area"

rear /rɪə/

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

"Nigel was born and reared in Bath"

If you step/tread on someone's toes, you say or do something that upsets or annoys that person, especially by involving yourself in matters that are not your responsibility.

clione

klee-oh-nee

Klai o nee

stunlocked

(video games, transitive) To render (a character) unable to move or react by repeatedly hitting them and keeping them in a stunned state.

pubic

/ˈpjuːbɪk/

adjective

relating to the pubes or pubis.

"pubic hair"

pube noun

/pjuːb/

/pjuːb/

[usually plural] (informal)

a pubic hair

permit /'pə:mɪt/

an official document giving someone authorization to do something.

"he is only in Britain on a work permit"

stockade

/stɒ'keɪd/

noun

a barrier formed from upright wooden posts or stakes, especially as a defence against attack or as a means of confining animals.

"they built stockades around their towns"

A pitch video is a short, engaging video that introduces a product, service, idea, or yourself to an audience.

mode

[countable, uncountable] the way in which a piece of equipment is set to perform a particular task

Switch the camera into (the) automatic mode.

You can also use this computer game in two-player mode.

janitor

/'dʒænɪtə/

noun North American

a person employed to look after a building; a caretaker.

funnel

/'fʌnl/

noun

1.

a tube or pipe that is wide at the top and narrow at the bottom, used for guiding liquid or powder into a small opening.

turn the tables

phrase of table

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

hefty

/'hefti/

adjective

1.

large and heavy.

"a hefty young chap"

laundromat

laundrette

scavenger hunt /'skæv.ɪn.dʒəˌhʌnt/

a game in which people must collect a number of items in a given period of time without buying them

A bellows or pair of bellows is a device constructed to furnish a strong blast of air.

convex

/ˈkɒnvɛks/

adjective

1.

having an outline or surface curved like the exterior of a circle or sphere.

"a convex lens"

Asbestos (/æsˈbɛstəs, æz-, -təs/ ass-BES-təs, az-, -toss)[1] is a naturally occurring, carcinogenic, fibrous silicate mineral.

eyelet

/ˈaɪlɪt/

noun

1.

a small round hole in leather or cloth for threading a lace, string, or rope through.

2.

a small hole or slit in a wall for looking through.

down with

idiom

1

—used to say that one does not like something and wants it to stop or fail

Down with racism!

Down with the government!

2

US slang —used to say that one understands or approves of something

I told them I wasn't down with lying to people.

Yeah, I'm down with that.

3

: affected by (an illness)

She has been down with the flu for a week.

leave of absence

time away from your work or studies that is formally given to you by your organization:

Luckily I was allowed to take a leave of absence now and then to work on the movies.

He took an unpaid leave of absence from his job.

She requested a one-year leave of absence from her job in order to spend time with her young children.

Foster confirmed that he would be taking a leave of absence in order to undergo surgery.

He was put on a paid leave of absence pending investigation of the claims against him.

marmalade

/ˈmɑːməleɪd/

She laughed without reason (formal register)

reason

[uncountable] a fact that makes it right or fair to do something

reason to do something They have reason to believe she is lying.

We have every reason (= have very good reasons) to feel optimistic.

You have no reason to accuse him of laziness.

She has good reason to be concerned.

There is no reason at all to doubt it.

reason why... There is no reason why we should agree to this.

reason for something This result gives us all the more reason for optimism.

reason for doing something He has every reason for feeling excited.

with reason She complained, with reason (= rightly), that she had been underpaid.

waive

/weɪv/

verb

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

"he will waive all rights to the money"

triage

/ˈtriːɑːʒ/

homage noun

/ˈhɒmɪdʒ/, /bˈmɑːʒ/

homage

/ˈhɒmɪdʒ/

noun

special honour or respect shown publicly.

"many villagers come here to pay homage to the Virgin"

A weapon of mass destruction (WMD) is a biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear, or any other weapon that can kill or significantly harm many people or cause great damage to artificial structures (e.g., buildings), natural structures (e.g., mountains), or the biosphere.

The outbreak of war was motivated by a gradual rise in tension between the Kings of France and England about Guyenne, Flanders and Scotland.

When you pull a rubber band, it is in tension.

erroneous

/ɪˈrəʊniəs/

adjective

wrong; incorrect.

"employers sometimes make erroneous assumptions"

gee up phrasal verb

gee somebody up | gee somebody on

to encourage somebody to work harder, perform better, etc.

Kerr, geed up by her early goal, went on to score another.

touch up

phrasal verb of touch

1.

make small improvements to the appearance or finish of something.

"these paints are handy for touching up small areas on walls or ceilings"

dork

/dɔ:k/

noun

1.

informal•North American

a contemptible, socially inept person.

"they're all dressed like complete dorks"

stooge

/stu:dʒ/

noun

1.

derogatory

a subordinate used by another to do unpleasant routine work.

"party stooges put there to do a job on behalf of central office"

damn straight

(used to express emphatic affirmation or agreement):

Overheard you say they're the best band ever—damn straight!

downright

/'daʊnrʌɪt/

adjective

1.

(of something bad or unpleasant) utter; complete (used for emphasis).

"it's a downright disgrace"

cam1

/kam/

noun

a projection on a rotating part in machinery, designed to make sliding contact with another part while rotating and impart reciprocal or variable motion to it.

a camshaft.

Permaculture is a philosophy of working with, rather than against nature; of protracted and thoughtful observation rather than protracted and thoughtless labor; and of looking at plants and animals in all their functions, rather than treating any area as a single product system.

prime verb

/praɪm/

to prepare someone for a situation so that they know what to do, especially by giving them special information

synonym brief

prime somebody (with something) They had been primed with good advice.

prime somebody (for something) She was ready and primed for action.

prime somebody to do something He had primed his friends to give the journalists as little information as possible.

cardboard cut-out noun

/ˌkɑːdbɔːd ˈkʌt aʊt/

a picture of somebody/something that is stuck on a piece of cardboard and cut out

There was a life-size cardboard cut-out of Elvis Presley in the shop window.

fiddle-faddle

/ˈfɪdl ˌfɑːdl/

noun

trivial matters; nonsense.

verb

mess about; fuss.

"you haven't time to fiddle-faddle about like that"

Sour Patch Kids (known as Very Bad Kids in France,[1] and known as Maynards Sour Patch Kids in Canada and previously in the UK) are a brand of soft candy with a coating of invert sugar and sour sugar (a combination of citric acid, tartaric acid, and sugar).

to term

idiom

medical

: to the natural end of a pregnancy

She carried the baby to term.

dud

/dʌd/

informal

noun

1.

a thing that fails to work properly or is otherwise unsatisfactory or worthless.

"all three bombs were duds"

2.

clothes.

"buy yourself some new duds"

dad
/dad/

flannel
/'flanl/
noun

1.
a kind of soft woven fabric, typically made of wool or cotton and slightly milled and raised.
"a check flannel shirt"

marry off
(of a parent or guardian) find a husband or wife for a son, daughter, or other dependent family member, especially for reasons of expediency.
"girls were married off, where possible, shortly after puberty"

onset
/'ɒnsɛt/
noun
the beginning of something, especially something unpleasant.
"the onset of winter"

Dumm·kopf
/'dʊmkɔpf, Dúmmkopf/
"Dummkopf" is a German word that means "dumb head" or "idiot" in English.

leeway
/'li:weɪ/
noun
1.
the amount of freedom to move or act that is available.
"they had several months' leeway to introduce reforms"

I'm still suffering from jet lag after my trip to Australia.

"I have jet lag." would in this case be correct.

Rounding numbers makes it easy to compute large sums.

surmise
verb
/sə'maɪz/
suppose that something is true without having evidence to confirm it.
"he surmised that something must be wrong"

misnomer
/mɪs'neɪmə/
noun
a wrong or inaccurate name or designation.

"morning sickness is a misnomer for many women, since the nausea can occur any time during the day"

a wrong or inaccurate use of a name or term.

"to call this 'neighbourhood policing' would be a misnomer"

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.[1] "Tater" is a dialect form of the word potato.

rapt

/rapt/

adjective

adjective: rapt

1.

completely fascinated or absorbed by what one is seeing or hearing.

"a rapt teenage audience"

enrapture

/ɪnˈraptʃə, ɛnˈraptʃə/

verb

give intense pleasure or joy to.

"Ruth was enraptured by the sleeping child"

rapture

/ˈraptʃə/

noun

1.

a feeling of intense pleasure or joy.

"Leonora listened with rapture"

on a dime

phrase of dime

informal•North American

used to refer to a manoeuvre that can be performed within a small area or short distance.

"boats that can turn on a dime"

natal

/ˈneɪtl/

adjective

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

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

prenatal

/priːˈneɪtl/

adjective

before birth; during or relating to pregnancy.

"prenatal development"

The bourgeoisie (/ˌbʊərʒwɑːˈziː/

bourgeoisie
/ˌbʊəʒwɑːˈziː/

bourgeois
/ˈbʊəʒwɑː/

adjective

belonging to or characteristic of the middle class, typically with reference to its perceived materialistic values or conventional attitudes.

"a rich, bored, bourgeois family"

shrew

/ʃruː/

noun

1.

a small insectivorous mammal resembling a mouse, with a long pointed snout and tiny eyes.

pelt2

/pɛlt/

noun

noun: pelt; plural noun: pelts

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

"traders brought reindeer pelts"

pelt1

/pɛlt/

verb

1.

hurl missiles repeatedly at.

"two boys pelted him with rotten apples"

sleuth

/sl(j)uːθ/

noun

a person who investigates crimes; a detective.

"they make MI5 look like a bunch of amateur sleuths"

teeter-totter

/ˈtiːtəˌtɒtə/

dialect•North American

noun

a see-saw.

"a playground with swings and teeter-totters"

temperate

/ˈtemp(ə)rət/

adjective

1.

relating to or denoting a region or climate characterised by mild temperatures.

"sage can be grown outdoors in cool, temperate climates"

bivouac

/ˈbɪvʊæk/

noun

a temporary camp without tents or cover, used especially by soldiers or mountaineers.

verb

stay in a bivouac.

"we bivouacked on the north side of the town"

starstruck

fascinated or greatly impressed by famous people, especially those connected with the cinema or the theatre.

"I was a star-struck cinemagoer"

pizzle

/ˈpɪzl/

nounarchaic

the penis of an animal, especially a bull.

fissure

/ˈfɪʃə/

noun

1.

a long, narrow opening or line of breakage made by cracking or splitting, especially in rock or earth.

"the bacteria survive around vents or fissures in the deep ocean floor"

spindle

/ˈspɪndl/

noun

1.

a slender rounded rod with tapered ends used in hand spinning to twist and wind thread from a mass of wool or flax held on a distaff.

2.

a rod or pin serving as an axis that revolves or on which something revolves.

doddle

/ˈdɒdl/

nouninformal•British

a very easy task.

"this printer's a doddle to set up and use"

pose a threat

conk2

/kɒŋk/

informal•British

a person's nose.

"look at the size of that konk!"

2.

dated•informal

a person's head.

"a persistent idea has been buzzing about in my konk"

informal

a blow to the head.

drive-by

/ˈdrʌɪnbʌɪ/

North American

adjective

(of a shooting or other act) carried out from a passing vehicle.

"a drive-by shooting"

noun

a shooting carried out from a passing vehicle.

"they had a drive-by and my daddy caught the bullets"

A power nap or cat nap is a short sleep that terminates before deep sleep (slow-wave sleep; SWS). A power nap is intended to quickly revitalize the sleeper.

beef up

phrasal verb of beef

give more substance or strength to something.

"cost-cutting measures are planned to beef up performance"

fuzz2

/fʌz/

nouninformal

noun: fuzz

the police.

"Keep down! It's the fuzz!"

chagrill

/ˈtʃɑːɡrɪl/

verb

verb: char-grill

grill (food, typically meat or fish) quickly at a very high heat.

"they chagrilled the sausages"

pleb

/plɛb/

nounderogatory•informal

an ordinary person, especially one from the lower social classes.

plebeian

/plɪˈbiːən/

noun

noun: plebeian; plural noun: plebeians

(in ancient Rome) a commoner.

a member of the lower social classes.

"the feeling was shared by plebeians, gentry, and clergy"

11 die in attack by militants on Somali president's compound

aversion

/əˈvɜːʃn/

noun

a strong dislike or disinclination.

"he had a deep-seated aversion to most forms of exercise"

hole up

phrasal verb of hole

informal

take refuge in a place to avoid detection or distraction.

"I holed up for two days in a tiny cottage in Snowdonia"

wired

/ˈwaɪəd/

adjective

1.

making use of computers to transfer or receive information, especially by means of the internet.

"the economic arguments for getting your business wired"

2.

informal

in a nervous, tense, or edgy state.

"not much sleep lately—I'm a little wired"

clammy

/ˈklami/

adjective

unpleasantly damp and sticky or slimy to touch.

"his skin felt cold and clammy"

legit

/lɪˈdʒɪt/

extremely good.

"their meats and sandwiches are legit"

steel

/stiːl/

mentally prepare (oneself) to do or face something difficult.

"his team were steeling themselves for disappointment"

mule1

/mju:l/

noun

noun: mule; plural noun: mules; noun: spinning mule; plural noun: spinning mules

1.

the offspring of a donkey and a horse (strictly, a male donkey and a female horse), typically sterile and used as a beast of burden.

mule2 /mju:l/

plural noun: mules

a woman's slipper or light shoe without a back.

off one's feet

phrase of foot

so as to be no longer standing.

"she was blown off her feet by the shock wave from the explosion"

clean

used to emphasize the completeness of a reported action, condition, or experience.

"he was knocked clean off his feet"

gaffe

/gaf/

noun

an unintentional act or remark causing embarrassment to its originator; a blunder.

"in my first few months at work I made some real gaffes"

lapel

/lə'pel/

noun

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

Hoover

/'hu:və/

British

nountrademark

a vacuum cleaner, properly one made by the Hoover company.

verb

clean (something) with a vacuum cleaner.

"he was hoovering the stairs"

pockmark

/'pɒkma:k/

noun

a pitted scar or mark on the skin left by a pustule or spot.

"the only possible reason for the thickness of the make-up was the pockmarks underneath"

wheelie bin

a large container for rubbish that has wheels so that it can be moved easily:

We put our wheelie bin out to be emptied every Thursday morning.

Garden waste collected in wheelie bins goes to a collection point, where it is turned into compost.

Urban foxes break into rubbish bins and refuse bags, often scattering debris (easily avoided by using wheely bins).

going-over

/ˌɡəʊɪŋ'əʊvə/

noun informal

a thorough cleaning or inspection.

"give the place a going-over with the Hoover"

on all fronts

It means "from every direction." Specifically in a war a "front" is the front line of where fighting is occurring, but "on all fronts" is also used metaphorically.

If I was having a day at work where there are a lot of problems in every department, I might say "We're having issues on all fronts"

I'm glad you could make it!

be off the table

To be withdrawn or no longer available, as for consideration, acceptance, discussion, etc.

I wouldn't wait too long to accept the job offer—it might be off the table before you know it.

Before we begin this debate, let me clarify that you are both to focus solely on the question of the economy; all other topics are off the table.

For the sake of making progress in our meeting this morning, the issue of possible pay reductions is off the table, OK?

mantle¹

/ˈmɑntl/

noun

1.

a loose sleeveless cloak or shawl, worn especially by women.

"she was wrapped tightly in her mantle"

appendage

/ə'pendɪdʒ/

noun

1.

a thing that is added or attached to something larger or more important.

"they treat Scotland as a mere appendage of England"

emancipate

/ɪˈmɑːnsɪpeɪt/

verb

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

"the people were emancipated from the shackles of oppression"

concoct

/kənˈkɒkt/

verb

make (a dish or meal) by combining various ingredients.

"she began to concoct a dinner likely to appeal to him"

create or devise (a story or plan).

"his cronies concocted a simple plan"

bunk²

/bʌŋk/

nouninformal

noun: bunk

nonsense.

"anyone with a brain cell would never believe such bunk"

death row

noun

a prison block or section for those sentenced to death.

"a convicted killer on death row"

deadbeat

/ˈdɛdbi:t/

nounderogatory•informal

an idle, feckless, or disreputable person.

"a nation of deadbeats who must work harder"

informal

completely exhausted.

"I must go to bed—I'm dead beat"

leek

/li:k/

noun

a plant related to the onion, with flat overlapping leaves forming an elongated cylindrical bulb which together with the leaf bases is eaten as a vegetable. It is used as a Welsh national emblem.

trepidation

/ˌtrɛpɪˈdeɪʃn/

a feeling of fear or anxiety about something that may happen.

"the men set off in fear and trepidation"

enantiomer

/ɪˈnantiə(ʊ)mə, ɛˈnantiə(ʊ)mə/

noun Chemistry

each of a pair of molecules that are mirror images of each other.

waive

/weɪv/

Learn to pronounce

verb

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

"he will waive all rights to the money"

good sport

noun

1

: a person who is not rude or angry about losing

2

informal + old-fashioned : someone who is kind or generous

Be a good sport and let him play with you.

gung-ho

/ɡʌŋˈhəʊ/

adjective

unthinkingly enthusiastic and eager, especially about taking part in fighting or warfare.

"the gung-ho tabloids have wrapped themselves in the Union Jack"

Cyan (/ˈsaɪ.ən, -æn/)

Where is the reception / front desk?

finesse

/fɪˈnes/

bring about or deal with (something) by using great delicacy and skill.

"Karen spent ten months finessing the financing for the property"

municipal

/mjuˈnɪsɪpl/

adjective

relating to a town or district or its governing body.

"municipal offices"

"For the last hour I have done nothing".

One might say "For the last two hours I haven't done anything" or "For the last two hours I haven't been doing anything" . One wouldn't say "the past one hour".

demure

/dɪˈmjʊə, dɪˈmjoː/

adjective

reserved, modest, and shy (typically used of a woman).

"a demure young lady"

reciprocate

/rɪˈsɪprəkeɪt/

verb

1.

respond to (a gesture or action) by making a corresponding one.

"the favour was reciprocated"

(of a part of a machine) move backwards and forwards in a straight line.

"when you're shooting most semi-automatic handguns, the slide reciprocates as part of the firing cycle"

precipitate

verb

/prɪˈsɪpɪteɪt/

1.

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

"the incident precipitated a political crisis"

Chemistry

cause (a substance) to be deposited in solid form from a solution.

"cell proteins were then precipitated and washed in 10% trichloroacetic acid"

stipulate¹

/ˈstɪpjʊleɪt/

verb

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

"he stipulated certain conditions before their marriage"

sediment

/ˈsɛdɪm(ə)nt/

noun

matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid; dregs.

"the ice freezes the wine and sediment at the base of the cork"

aquifer

/ˈakwɪfə/

noun

a body of permeable rock which can contain or transmit groundwater.

Amish

/ˈɑːmɪʃ, ˈeɪmɪʃ/

hamlet

/ˈhæmlɪt/

noun

a small settlement, generally one smaller than a village, and strictly (in Britain) one without a church.

"the house is in a quiet hamlet overlooking open countryside"

idyll

/ˈɪd(ɪ)l, ˈʌɪd(ɪ)l/

noun

an extremely happy, peaceful, or picturesque period or situation, typically an idealized or unsustainable one.

"the rural idyll remains strongly evocative in most industrialized societies"

fanatic

/fəˈnætɪk/

noun

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

"religious fanatics"

plaster

/ˈplɑːstə/

display widely and conspicuously.

"her story was plastered all over the December issue"

thatch

/θætʃ/

noun

a roof covering of straw, reeds, palm leaves, or a similar material.

"the rain drummed noisily on the thatch above her head"

entrant

/ˈɛntr(ə)nt/

noun

a person or group that enters or takes part in something.

"the prize will be awarded to the entrant who wins the tiebreak"

hydroponics

/ˌhʌɪdrəˈpɒnɪks/

noun

the process of growing plants in sand, gravel, or liquid, with added nutrients but without soil.

brolly

/ˈbrɒli/

noun informal • British

an umbrella.

swoon

/swuːn/

verb

1.

literary

faint, especially from extreme emotion.

"Frankie's mother swooned and had to be helped to the headmaster's office"

2.

be overcome with admiration, adoration, or other strong emotion.

"you can have them swooning over you with a few well-placed words"

On Wednesday, she found herself at the Paramount playing in front of 3,000 swooning fans. The bossa nova beat, lilting jazz flute, and swooning cellos conjure a vision of sun and palm trees.

confer

/kən'fə:/

verb

1.

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"

anthropomorphism

/ˌænθrəpə'mɔːfɪz(ə)m/

noun

the attribution of human characteristics or behaviour to a god, animal, or object

hardball /'hɑːdbɔːl/

baseball, especially as contrasted with softball.

"when I was 14 I started playing hardball in a semi-pro league"

informal

uncompromising and ruthless methods or dealings.

"the leadership played hardball to win the vote"

iron out

solve or settle difficulties or problems.

"they had ironed out their differences"

: to make smooth or flat by or as if by pressing

abode¹

/ə'bəʊd/

noun formal • literary

plural noun: abodes

a place of residence; a house or home.

"my humble abode"

sport

/spɔ:t/

wear or display (a distinctive item).

"he was sporting a huge handlebar moustache"

at bay

phrase of bay

forced to face or confront one's attackers or pursuers; cornered.

"he felt at bay, like a very dim minister facing a hostile House"

porthole

/'pɔ:θəʊl/

noun

1.

a small window on the outside of a ship or aircraft.

2.

historical

an opening for firing a cannon through.

dial something ↔ back/down phrasal verb American English

to reduce something or make it less extreme

The candidates have dialed back their attacks on each other, but they are still making their differences clear.

valedictory

/ˌvælɪ'dɪkt(ə)ri/

adjective

serving as a farewell.

"a valedictory wave"

valedictorian

/ˌvælɪdɪk'tɔ:riən/

noun

(in North America) a student who delivers the valedictory at a graduation ceremony.

Although 'commit suicide' is a common collocation, many people prefer not to use this phrase as it suggests that suicide is a crime (because 'commit' usually collocates with words such as 'crime', 'offence', 'sin', and 'murder'). You can say somebody takes their own life or that somebody dies by suicide instead.

If I take this to court, what do you think my chances of winning are?

If I decide to sue him, what's the likelihood of me winning?

parch

/pɑ:tʃ/

verb

make or become dry through intense heat.

"a piece of grassland parched by the sun"

hackle

/ˈhɑːkl/

noun

plural noun: hackles

1.

erectile hairs along an animal's back, which rise when it is angry or alarmed.

"the dog continued to growl, its hackles raised"

2.

a long, narrow feather on the neck or saddle of a domestic cock or other bird.

off the hook

phrase of hook

1.

informal

no longer in difficulty or trouble.

"I lied to get him off the hook"

skunk

/skʌŋk/

informal•North American

defeat (someone) overwhelmingly in a game or contest, especially by preventing them from scoring at all.

"I knew he was a good fisherman, but I didn't expect him to skunk you"

2.

dated•informal

fail to pay (a bill or creditor).

"he made a practice of skunking hotels"

down the hatch

phrase of hatch

informal

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

"'Down the hatch!' he said, raising his mug"

condemn

/kənˈdɛm/

verb

1.

express complete disapproval of; censure.

"most leaders roundly condemned the attack"

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

"the rebels had been condemned to death"

flirtatious

/fləˈteɪʃəs/

adjective

behaving in such a way as to suggest a playful sexual attraction to someone.

"she was beautiful and very flirtatious"

teem¹

/ti:m/

verb

be full of or swarming with.

"every garden is teeming with wildlife"

tour de force

/ˌtuə də ˈfɔ:s/

noun

a performance or achievement that has been accomplished or managed with great skill.

"his novel is a tour de force"

wok

/wɒk/

noun

a bowl-shaped frying pan used typically in Chinese cooking.

stifle¹

/ˈstʌfl/

verb

1.

make (someone) unable to breathe properly; suffocate.

"those in the streets were stifled by the fumes"

etiquette

/ˈetɪkət/

noun

the customary code of polite behaviour in society or among members of a particular profession or group.

"the rules of etiquette are changing"

My doctor referred me to a specialist. (= My doctor recommended that I should consult a specialist and gave me the name and contact information of a specific specialist.)

I would refer you to the definition given in the American Heritage Dictionary. (= I would recommend that you consult the American Heritage Dictionary for the definition; I would direct your attention to the definition in the American Heritage Dictionary.)

The President referred to the stock market crash in his speech." (= He talked briefly about it; he mentioned it as part of his comments on a larger topic)

We refer to her as "The Tiger Lady".

oust

/aʊst/

verb

drive out or expel (someone) from a position or place.

"the reformists were ousted from power"

stark

/stɑ:k/

adjective

1.

severe or bare in appearance or outline.

"the ridge formed a stark silhouette against the sky"

cosmopolitan

/ˌkɒzməˈpɒlɪt(ə)n/

adjective

1.

including people from many different countries.

"immigration transformed the city into a cosmopolitan metropolis"

subsistence

/səbˈsɪst(ə)ns/

noun

1.

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

"the minimum income needed for subsistence"

gratuity

/grəˈtju:ti/

noun

1.

formal

a tip given to a waiter, taxi driver, etc.

There's no common term for this, I'd just call it "walking on your knees." You could call it knee-walking but that's a made up word that you might have to explain.

Walking/crawling on the knees?

I would probably say scooted on their knees or shuffled on their knees.

refeeding syndrome

syndrome

/ˈsɪndrəʊm/

"Last track" refers to the final song in a set or performance.

light-headed adjective

/ˌlaɪt ˈhedɪd/

not completely in control of your thoughts or movements; slightly faint
He went for a hospital check-up after feeling light-headed.
Being at high altitudes can make you light-headed.
She felt hollow and light-headed with happiness.

put it out there

"We don't have to go get ice cream, but the ice cream shop is having a sale. Just wanted to put it (the option) out there."

"I'm not asking you to date me, but I want you to know that I do have feelings for you. Just wanted to put that out there"

I get the impression that it was originally used in business meetings and the like, to say "I'm just putting it out there," as in sharing an idea, or "putting something on the table."

fortitude

/ˈfɔːtɪtjuːd/

noun

courage in pain or adversity.

"she endured her illness with great fortitude"

hunker down

(especially North American English) to sit on your heels with your knees bent up in front of you

synonym squat

He hunkered down beside her.

What is another way of saying "fresh graduate"? Could I say "newly graduated"?

recent graduate

isolate verb /ˈɪsəleɪt/

noun /ˈɪs(ə)lət/

wuss

/wʊs/

informal

noun

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

"we are not just a group of shallow wusses"

boma

/ˈbəʊmə/

noun

(in eastern and southern Africa) an enclosure, especially for animals.

upfront

/ˌʌpˈfrʌnt/

bold, honest, and frank.

"he'd been upfront about his intentions"

2.

(of a payment) made in advance.

"an upfront fee of 4%"

pan out

phrasal verb of pan

1.

end up; conclude.

"he's happy with the way the deal panned out"

to develop in a particular way or in a successful way:

We'll have to see how things pan out.

Their attempt to start a new business didn't pan out.

verity

/ˈvɛrɪti/

noun

a true principle or belief, especially one of fundamental importance.

"the eternal verities"

truth.

"irrefutable, objective verity"

veritable

/ˈvɛrɪtəbl/

adjective

used for emphasis, often to qualify a metaphor.

"the early 1970s witnessed a veritable price explosion"

decadent

/ˈdɛkəd(ə)nt/

adjective

characterized by or reflecting a state of moral or cultural decline.

"a decaying, decadent Britain"

compassion

/kəmˈpʌʃn/

noun

sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.

"the victims should be treated with compassion"

callous

/ˈkæləs/

adjective

showing or having an insensitive and cruel disregard for others.

"his callous comments about the murder made me shiver"

familiar

/fəˈmɪliə/

often encountered or experienced; common.

"the situation was all too familiar"

show one's true colours

phrase of colour

reveal one's real character or intentions, especially when these are disreputable or dishonourable.

"she was only too anxious to get out of the room now that her employer had shown his true colours"

supple

/ˈsʌp(ə)l/

adjective

bending and moving easily and gracefully; flexible.

"her supple fingers"

lip

/lɪp/

the edge of a hollow container or an opening.

"the lip of the cup"

"Comfort food" is a common phrase, and people extend it to "comfort movies" and "comfort games" and things like that. "Comfort" doesn't stop being a noun in this case. English just permits us to use nouns as adjectives in two-noun compounds, like "police station."

impudent

/ˈɪmpjʊd(ə)nt/

adjective

not showing due respect for another person; impertinent.

"he could have strangled this impudent upstart"

frolic

/ˈfrɒlɪk/

verb

play or move about in a cheerful and lively way.

"Edward frolicked on the sand"

In chat, the phrase "butterflies in your stomach" is an idiom that means to feel very nervous or frightened about something. For example, you might say "I had terrible butterflies before I gave that talk in Venice"

having the qualities of a forceful leader

a take-charge executive

take charge

phrase of charge

assume control or responsibility.

"the candidate must take charge of an actual flight"

alma mater

/ˌalmə ˈmɑːtə, ˌalmə ˈmeɪtə/

no holds barred

phrase of hold

(in wrestling) with no restrictions on the kinds of holds that are used.

used to convey that no rules or restrictions apply in a conflict or dispute.

"he's willing to take on all comers, no holds barred, for a good political argument"

laissez-faire

/ˌleɪseɪˈfɛː/

noun

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

"a laissez-faire attitude to life"

unwillingness to get involved in or influence other people's activities:

The problems began long before he became CEO, but they worsened with his laissez-faire approach/attitude.

If a government is laissez-faire, it does not have many laws and rules that control the buying and selling of goods and services.

saw brier

noun

: any of several prickly plants of the genus Smilax: such as

a

: bullbrier

b

: a Bahamian brier (*S. havanensis*)

c

: catbrier

down the hatch

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

"Down the hatch!" he said, raising his mug"

Leprosy /ˈlɛprəsi/

noun

1.

a contagious disease that affects the skin, mucous membranes, and nerves, causing discoloration and lumps on the skin and, in severe cases, disfigurement and deformities.

Leprosy is now mainly confined to tropical Africa and Asia.

interpose

/,ɪntə'pəʊz/

verb

1.

place or insert between one thing and another.

"she interposed herself between the newcomers"

say (words) as an interruption.

"if I might interpose a personal remark here"

expense

/ɪk'spəns,ɛk'spəns/

deficient

/dɪ'fɪʃ(ə)nt/

deficit

/'dɛfɪsɪt/

make a point of doing something

to always do something or to take particular care to do something:

She makes a point of keeping all her shopping receipts.

attribute

verb

/ə'trɪbjʊ:t/

regard something as being caused by.

"he attributed the firm's success to the efforts of the managing director"

He ascribed his failure to his mother.

ask after

phrasal verb of ask

British

inquire about the health or well-being of someone.

"if I see him I'll tell him you were asking after him"

The judge should have made allowances for her illness.

allow for something

to consider something when you are planning something:

We allowed for living expenses of £20 a day.

[+ -ing verb] You should allow for the plane being delayed.

We have to allow for the possibility that we might not finish on schedule.

You must allow for his youth.

Happiness consists in contentment.

It gave me great pleasure to do the sights of Kyoto.

Dalmatian /dal'meɪ(ə)n/

accost /ə'kɒst/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. approach and address (someone) boldly or aggressively • reporters accosted him in the street.

damsel /'damz(ə)/ I. noun <archaic><literary> a young unmarried woman.

duvet /'d(j)u:veɪ/ I. noun 1. (chiefly Brit.) a soft quilt filled with down, feathers, or a synthetic fibre, used instead of an upper sheet and blankets.

flank /flʌŋk/ I. noun 1. the side of a person's or animal's body between the ribs and the hip • leaning against his horse's flanks.

estuary /'ɛstjʊ(ə)ri/ I. noun the tidal mouth of a large river, where the tide meets the stream.

shedload I. noun (Brit.) <informal> a large amount or number. — origin 1990s: from shed1 + load; perhaps euphemistic after shitload.

vestige /'vestɪdʒ/ I. noun 1. a trace or remnant of something that is disappearing or no longer exists • the last vestiges of colonialism. 2. [usu. with negative] — the smallest amount • he waited patiently, but without a vestige of sympathy.

scabbard /'skabəd/ I. noun 1. a sheath for the blade of a sword or dagger, typically made of leather or metal. • a ceremonial sword hung at his side in a gilded scabbard. 2. a sheath for a gun or other weapon or tool.

antiperspirant /antɪ'pɜːspɪrənt/

careen /kə'ri:n/ I. verb 1. [with obj.] — turn (a ship) on its side for cleaning, caulking, or repair. 2. [no obj.] — (of a ship) tilt; lean over • a heavy flood tide caused my vessel to careen dizzily. 3. [no obj., with adverbial of direction] — (chiefly N. Amer.) move swiftly and in an uncontrolled way • an electric golf cart careened around the corner.

shizzle

noun informal • US

used as a euphemism for 'shit' in various senses and phrases.

"this shizzle is givin' me a straight-up headache"

contravene

/,kɒntre'vi:n/

verb

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

"he contravened the Official Secrets Act"

contravention
/kɒntrə'veɪʃ(ə)n/

disingenuous
/ˌdɪs(ɪ)nɪ'dʒɛnjʊəs/

adjective

not candid or sincere, typically by pretending that one knows less about something than one really does.

"he was being somewhat disingenuous as well as cynical"

disseminate
/dɪ'sɛmɪneɪt/

verb

spread (something, especially information) widely.

"health authorities should foster good practice by disseminating information"

maelstrom
/'meɪlstrəm/

noun

a powerful whirlpool in the sea or a river.

Blurgh

Blurg

groove
/ɡruːv/

noun

1.

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

contretemps
/'kɒntrətɒ̃/

noun

a minor dispute or disagreement.

"she had occasional contretemps with her staff"