

finished

hazard

/ˈhæzəd/

say (something) in a tentative way.

"he hazarded a guess"

tentative /ˈtɛntətɪv/

not certain or fixed; provisional.

"a tentative conclusion"

"Not it" is a sort of childhood game where the last person to say "not it" is the one chosen for something undesirable. For example, mom says "Someone needs to take this trash out" and then the siblings begin exclaiming "not it!" until the last one to do so (or the last one who hasn't done so) is now "it", meaning they've been chosen.

"Seize the day" is an English expression that comes from the Latin expression, "Carpe Diem": https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seize_the_Day. Its meaning today is roughly the same as the common phrase "YOLO" ("You Only Live Once").

throes of passion (uncountable)

sexual intercourse

dulcet

/ˈdʌlsɪt/

adjective often ironic

(especially of sound) sweet and soothing.

"record the dulcet tones of your family and friends"

arboreal

/ɑːˈbɔːrɪəl/

adjective

living in trees.

"arboreal rodents"

relating to trees.

die for someone or something

1. Lit. to perish for the benefit or glory of someone or something. He said he was willing to die for his country. She would die for her child if necessary.

2. Fig. to experience great physical or emotional desire for someone or something. He was just dying for Jane, but she would have nothing to do with him. Freddie was dying for a glass of water—he was so thirsty.

take fright

suddenly become frightened or panicked.

"the City took fright at escalating costs and marked the shares down"

masticate

/ˈmɑːstɪkeɪt/

verb

chew (food).

"dentition affects how well food is masticated and absorbed"

camp, campy

/kɑːmp/

deliberately exaggerated and theatrical in style, typically for humorous effect.

"the movie seems more camp than shocking or gruesome"

traipse

/treɪps/

verb

walk or move wearily or reluctantly.

"students had to traipse all over London to attend lectures"

siccative

/ˈsɪkətɪv/

noun

a drying agent used as a component of paint.

traipse

/treɪps/

verb

walk or move wearily or reluctantly.

"students had to traipse all over London to attend lectures"

desiccate

/ˈdɛsɪkeɪt/

verb

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

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

commonweal

/ˈkɒmənwiːl/

noun archaic

the welfare of the public.

"the Church's importance to the country's commonweal"

senescence

/sɪˈnɛsns/

noun Biology

the condition or process of deterioration with age.

loss of a cell's power of division and growth.

contingent /kənˈtɪn(d)ʒ(ə)nt/

subject to chance.

"the contingent nature of the job"

a group of people sharing a common feature, forming part of a larger group.

"a contingent of Japanese businessmen attending a conference"

occurring or existing only if (certain circumstances) are the case; dependent on.

"his fees were contingent on the success of his search"

a group of people sharing a common feature, forming part of a larger group.

"a contingent of Japanese businessmen attending a conference"

I have [a question for you].

but

I will put [a question] to you.

scald /skɔːld/

injure with very hot liquid or steam.

"the tea scalded his tongue"

My work is right around the corner from here.

My work is right up the road.

In my GPS, I have the location saved as "Work"

It's that time of the month.

I'm on my period

pelt /pɛlt/

hurl missiles repeatedly at.

"two boys pelted him with rotten apples"

most /məʊst/

extremely; very.

"it was most kind of you"

row /raʊ/

a noisy acrimonious quarrel.

"they had a row and she stormed out of the house"

genuflect

/ˈdʒɛnjʊfleks/

verb

lower one's body briefly by bending one knee to the ground, typically in worship or as a sign of respect.

show deference or servility.

"her party still genuflects to her, and a core within it reflexively venerates her"

off to the races

1. Departing for something.

Your suitcases better be packed because, once the cab gets here, we'll be off to the races.

2. In the midst of an activity.

Good news, sir—the architect is already off to the races on that project you approved this morning.

Induction cooking can be described as “the best of both worlds” because not only are induction cooktops sleek and easy to clean like smooth top or glass top electric cooktops, but they also provide the accuracy and control of gas cooktops.

chicken in a white sauce

TLC is an abbreviation for “tender loving care” and is used to describe kindness, love, and attention. For example, you might say “He'll need a lot of TLC when he gets out of hospital”.

prowess /'praʊɪs/

skill or expertise in a particular activity or field.

“his prowess as a fisherman”

give /gɪv/

capacity to bend or alter in shape under pressure.

“plastic pots that have enough give to accommodate the vigorous roots”

the bends

phrase [plural]

Add to word list

a serious medical condition that divers (= people who swim underwater) get when they come up to the surface of the water too quickly:

On the way up, divers stop at various depths in order to prevent the bends.

Many of the men who dive here for a living suffer from the bends.

I had worked as a diver for over a decade before I got the bends.

The bends affect the nerve endings very badly.

The bends, caused by decompressing too fast, can be fatal.

capsize

/kəp'saɪz/

verb

(of a boat) be overturned in the water.

“the craft capsized in heavy seas”

be none the wiser

not understand something, even though it has been explained.

“she said an awful lot but he wasn't any the wiser”

square up

assume the attitude of a person about to fight.

“the fighters squared up in the ring”

2.

settle or pay an account.
"would you square up the bill?"

scarper
/'skɑ:pə/
verb informal • British
run away.
"they left the stuff where it was and scarpered"

gear /gɪr/
[uncountable] the equipment or clothing needed for a particular activity
climbing/fishing/sports, etc. gear

[uncountable] (informal) clothes
wearing the latest gear

kit someone/something out
to supply someone or something with the clothes or equipment that are needed for a particular purpose:
get kitted out for They went shopping to get kitted out for the trip.

bonkers
/'bɒŋkəz/
adjective informal • British
mad; crazy.
"you're stark raving bonkers!"

many a —
a large number of.
"many a good man has been destroyed by booze"

in fact, reptiles can conduct as complex and as sensitive a courtship as many a mammal.

terrapin
/'terəpɪn/
noun
1.
a freshwater turtle, especially one of the smaller kinds of the Old World.

clutch /klʌtʃ/
a group of eggs fertilized at the same time, laid in a single session and (in birds) incubated together.
"they lay fewer than ten eggs in a clutch"

smidge
/smɪdʒ/
noun informal
another term for smidgen.

"a smidge over five foot two"

batsman

/ˈbatsmən/

noun

a player, especially in cricket, who is batting or whose chief skill is in batting.

"the left-handed batsman mustered 28,016 runs in 666 innings"

muggy

/ˈmʌɡi/

adjective

(of the weather) unpleasantly warm and humid.

"it was a hot, very muggy evening"

black sheep

/ˌblæk ˈʃi:p/

noun

a member of a family or group who is regarded as a disgrace to it.

"Michael's younger brother was the black sheep of the family"

chime in

to interrupt or speak in a conversation, usually to agree with what has been said:

"It's very difficult," I said. "Impossible," she chimed in.

Andy chimed in with his view of the situation.

dill1

/dɪl/

noun

an aromatic annual herb of the parsley family, with fine blue-green leaves and yellow flowers. The leaves or seeds are used for flavouring and for medicinal purposes.

"Commuters using public transport are complaining about the recent fare increase."

Having a lot of tears in your eyes with dry eye might sound odd. But your eyes make more tears when they are irritated by dry eye.

lever

/ˈli:və/

noun

a rigid bar resting on a pivot, used to move a heavy or firmly fixed load with one end when pressure is applied to the other.

"a tyre lever"

liver1

/ˈlɪvə/

noun

a large lobed glandular organ in the abdomen of vertebrates, involved in many metabolic processes.

"cholesterol may accumulate in the liver"

drought /draʊt/

noun

1.

a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water.

"the cause of Europe's recent droughts"

blitz

/blɪts/

noun

1.

an intensive or sudden military attack.

"a heavy artillery blitz"

kerfuffle

/kə'fʌfl/

noun informal•British

a commotion or fuss, especially one caused by conflicting views.

"there was a kerfuffle over the chairmanship"

insolent

/'ɪnsələnt/

adjective

showing a rude and arrogant lack of respect.

"she hated the insolent tone of his voice"

abrogate

/'abrəgeɪt/

verb formal

1.

repeal or do away with (a law, right, or formal agreement).

"a proposal to abrogate temporarily the right to strike"

Strictly speaking, "to abandon" is an infinitive. Headlines typically use the infinitive "to <verb>" instead of "will <verb>" because it's slightly shorter.

Very strictly speaking, English doesn't even have a future tense. This is why you need two verbs ("to abandon", "will abandon") to talk about future events.

run a fever

To have an abnormally high body temperature (a fever), which is indicative of or caused by illness; to have a fever.

After my toddler was lethargic all day, I begin to worry that she was running a fever.

"What modes of payment do you accept?"

What means of transportation are available in that city?

mode of payment

COMMERCE

a way of paying for something, such as cash:

They were only accepting credit or debit cards as the mode of payment.

snookums

A cloying term of endearment or address for one's pet, child, or romantic partner.

Aw, snookums! It's OK to be scared!

I'm going to the toy store to buy a present for my precious little snookums.

This is my pet beagle, Barry. He's my little snookums, yes he is!

get one's knickers in a twist

British, informal

: to become upset about something that is not very important

Don't get your knickers in a twist: I'll be ready in a minute!

slog /slog/

work hard over a period of time.

"they were slogging away to meet a deadline"

— a treat

do something specified very well or satisfactorily.

"their tactics worked a treat"

look attractive.

"he looked a treat in his suit and bowler hat"

niggle /'nɪɡl/

cause slight but persistent annoyance, discomfort, or anxiety.

"Doreen wanted to discuss matters that niggled at her mind"

Talc, or talcum, is a clay mineral composed of hydrated magnesium silicate, with the chemical formula $\text{Mg}_3\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2$.

zip tie

noun

a fastener consisting of a thin, flexible nylon strap with a notched surface, one end of which is threaded through a locking mechanism at the other.

"wrap electronics cords with zip ties and tape them to the equipment they go with"

verb

rebuttal

/rɪ'buːtl/

noun

an instance of rebutting evidence or an accusation.

Baby teething chart: What order do baby teeth come in?

The company decided to base its choice of location on the local talent pool available in the city."

don /dɒn/

put on (an item of clothing).

"in the dressing room the players donned their football shirts"

azalea

/əˈzeɪlɪə/

noun

a deciduous flowering shrub with clusters of brightly coloured, sometimes fragrant flowers.

Azaleas are typically smaller than other rhododendrons and there are numerous cultivars.

slough /slaʊ/

a swamp.

pert /pɜːt/

(of a girl or young woman) attractively lively or cheeky.

"a pert, slightly plump girl called Rose"

(of a bodily feature or garment) attractively small and well shaped.

"she had a pert nose and deep blue eyes"

take it upon yourself to do something

to accept responsibility for something without being asked to:

He took it upon himself to personally thank each person at the meeting.

ringer1 /ˈrɪŋə/

noun: dead ringer

a person or thing that looks very like another.

"he is a dead ringer for his late papa"

"Up ahead" means that something is coming up, or ahead of you.

Ex: Pull over at the gas station up ahead, so we can fill up the tank.

Or you might see a sign that says "Stop sign up ahead".

jog someone's memory

cause someone to remember something suddenly.

"I wanted to see if the clothes would jog her

prick /prɪk/

make a small hole in (something) with a sharp point; pierce slightly.

"prick the potatoes with a fork"

(slang, derogatory) Someone (especially a man or boy) who is unpleasant, rude or annoying.

[from 16th c.]

lead a busy, normal, quiet, etc. life

to live a particular type of life:

He was able to lead a normal life, despite the illness.

We certainly don't lead a life of luxury but we're not poor either.

Despite her wealth, she led a simple life.

The book has important lessons about leading a successful life.

All that time, he was leading a double life, working secretly for the government.

mushy /'mʌʃi/

excessively sentimental.

"a mushy film"

have a cushion of assets

demur /dɪ'mə:/

the action of objecting to or hesitating over something.

"they accepted this ruling without demur"

demure /dɪ'mjʊə, dɪ'mjɔ:/

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

"a demure young lady"

in some measure

To a certain degree or extent; somewhat.

While hard work and perseverance will take you far, success also depends in some measure on good fortune.

A: "Are you feeling better?" B: "In some measure. My throat isn't sore anymore, but I'm still pretty congested."

She's says she's gotten over it, but I don't know—I think she's still mad at me in some measure.

pit viper noun

/ˈpɪt vaɪpə(r)/

/ˈpɪt vaɪpər/

one of several types of poisonous snake that finds its food using areas on its head that are sensitive to heat

celibate

/ˈsɛlɪbət/

adjective

abstaining from marriage and sexual relations, typically for religious reasons.

"a celibate priest"

steaming /ˈstiːmɪŋ/

informal

come, go, or move somewhere rapidly or in a forceful way.

"Jeremy steamed in ten minutes late"

take on water

(of a ship, boat, or other watercraft) To slowly fill with water, as due to a leak or being washed by high waves; to begin to sink.

leapt /lept/

tiller¹

/ˈtɪlə/

noun

a horizontal bar fitted to the head of a boat's rudder post and used for steering.

barrage /ˈbɑːrɑː(d)ʒ/

a concentrated artillery bombardment over a wide area.

"his forces launched an artillery barrage on the city"

2.

an artificial barrier across a river or estuary to prevent flooding, aid irrigation or navigation, or to generate electricity by tidal power.

"they are considering a tidal barrage built across the Severn estuary"

salvo /ˈsɒlvəʊ/

a simultaneous discharge of artillery or other guns in a battle.

"a deafening salvo of shots rang out"

a number of weapons released from one or more aircraft in quick succession.

a sudden, vigorous, or aggressive act or series of acts.

"the pardons provoked a salvo of accusations"

impel

/ɪmˈpɛl/

verb

drive, force, or urge (someone) to do something.

"financial difficulties impelled him to desperate measures"

impeller

/ɪmˈpɛlə/

noun

the rotating part of a centrifugal pump, compressor, or other machine designed to move a fluid by rotation.

a device turned by the flow of water past a ship's hull, used to measure speed or distance travelled.

propel

/prəˈpɛl/

propeller

/prəˈpɛlə/

ladder

/ˈlɑːdə/

noun

1.

a piece of equipment consisting of a series of bars or steps between two upright lengths of wood, metal, or rope, used for climbing up or down something.

rudder

/ˈrʌdə/

noun

a flat piece hinged vertically near the stern of a boat or ship for steering.

an eternity [singular] (informal) a period of time that seems to be very long or to never end
After what seemed like an eternity the nurse returned with the results of the test.

shaver

/ˈʃeɪvə/

noun

1.

an electric razor.

2.

informal

a young lad.

"little shavers and their older brothers"

be hung up on something

to be extremely interested in or worried by a particular subject and spend an unreasonably large amount of time thinking about it:

Why are you so hung up on getting everything right?

bootleg

/ˈbuːtlɛɡ/

adjective

(of alcoholic drink or a recording) made, distributed, or sold illegally.

"bootleg cassettes"

specious

/ˈspiːʃəs/

adjective

superficially plausible, but actually wrong.

"a specious argument"

misleading in appearance, especially misleadingly attractive.

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

enchant

/ɪnˈtʃɑːnt, ɛnˈtʃɑːnt/

dame /deɪm/

(in the UK) the title given to a woman with the rank of Knight Commander or holder of the Grand Cross in the Orders of Chivalry.

"Dame Vera Lynn"

"Don't cheap out on your mattress, it's worth spending a little extra money on!"

"He said he would pay for everyone's dinner, but he cheaped out in the end."

"One swallow does not a summer make"

Seedy is sketchy, sleazy, and disreputable. In this context it seems to imply that it is a spa for sex / sexual activities.

big on (something)

Very interested or invested in something.

My sister loves going to clubs because she's really big on dancing.

My family is big on education, so I know I'm going to college next year.

I like for a vacation to feel like a vacation, you know? No daily excursions for me—I'm big on lounging by the pool and getting massages and all that good stuff.

Players use 'ahh' as a substitute for 'ass,' stemming from online censorship.

clause

/klo:z/

a particular and separate article, stipulation, or proviso in a treaty, bill, or contract.

"Clause 1 of the agreement"

multitude

/'mʌltɪtju:d/

noun

a large number of people or things.

"demand for these materials has soared for a multitude of reasons"

To die of AIDS, of bird flu, of hunger, of a heart attack, of cancer, of pneumonia, of childbirth, of a broken heart, of sorrow, of love, of curiosity.

To die from car/road accidents, from disease, from illness, from stroke, from a wound, from smoking, from drinking, from sudden death, from a weapon, from injury, from war, from religion...

To die by (through the means of) the sword, by suicide, by overdose, by a bullet...

dilly-dally (around) with (someone or something)

To waste time with someone or something.

You spent so much time dilly-dallying with your friends that now you'll be up all night writing that paper.

A: "How long has Grandpa dilly-dallied with that old ham radio?" B: "Too long, considering it's still not working."

You've had enough time dilly-dallying around with your video games. Now, help me clean up.

proclivity

/prə'klɪvɪti/

noun

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

"a proclivity for hard work"

bank on

base one's hopes or confidence on something.

"the prime minister cannot bank on their support"

insufferable

/ɪn'sʌf(ə)rəbl/

adjective

too extreme to bear; intolerable.

"the heat would be insufferable by July"

Chance of rain

Chance of precipitation

precipitate

verb

/prɪ'sɪpɪteɪt/

1.

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

"the incident precipitated a political crisis"

precipitation

/prɪ,sɪpɪ'teɪʃn/

noun

1.

Chemistry

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

2.

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

"these convective processes produce cloud and precipitation"

pass the time

to do something to keep busy while waiting:

[T] We passed the time in the airport playing cards.

bungle

/'bʌŋɡl/

verb

carry out (a task) clumsily or incompetently.

"he bungled his first attempt to manage a group of professional players"

colic

/ˈkɒlɪk/

noun

severe pain in the abdomen caused by wind or obstruction in the intestines and suffered especially by babies.

varicose

/ˈvərɪkə(ʊ)s/

adjective

(of a vein, especially in the leg) swollen, twisted, and lengthened, as a result of poor circulation.

"varicose veins"

rugged adjective

/ˈrʌɡɪd/

[usually before noun] (approving) (of somebody's face) having strong, attractive features
She was attracted by his rugged good looks.

almirah

/əlˈmɪrə/

noun Indian

a free-standing cupboard or wardrobe.

Working at a PC all day? Here is how I create a bit of friction to avoid time-wasting websites.

She was on the computer taking notes for class.

This pretty much means that she was taking notes using her computer.

She was at the computer taking notes for class.

This could (but does not necessarily) mean that she was using the computer to take notes but it could also mean that she was using the computer to get the information for her notes but was actually writing them down on a piece of paper or in a notebook.

For the meaning "Dad is fixing the computer" I would say your alternative 'b': "Dad's working ON the computer."

I might also use 'on' if I meant that Dad was using the computer to do some work, write a report, for instance -- the meaning you give 'at the computer'.

I would also use 'at the computer' for this meaning, as you do.

to pose a threat: to constitute a threat or intimidation idiom UK US

"These marsupials pose little threat to humans."

brass monkey

/ˌbrɑːs ˈmʌŋki/

"it's brass monkey weather tonight"

brass monkeys | brass monkey weather

(British English, slang) if you say that it is brass monkeys or brass monkey weather, you mean that it is very cold weather

in all weathers

in all kinds of weather, good and bad

She goes out jogging in all weathers.

The lifeboat crews go out in all weather(s).

weather /'weðə(r)/ [uncountable]

the weather (informal) a report of what the weather will be like, on the radio or television, in the newspapers or online

to listen to/watch the weather

And now for the weather.

I checked the weather this morning.

scrape through (something)

to succeed in something but with a lot of difficulty:

He managed to scrape through his final exams.

show·er¹ /'ʃaʊə \$ ʃaʊr/ [countable]

the red carpet

(also the carpet)

a long, red floor covering that is put down for an important or famous person when they go on an official visit or attend a special event:

The red carpet has been laid out for 48 leaders who will be attending the conference.

She felt like an Oscar nominee getting out of her limo and walking down the carpet.

pistil

/ˈpɪst(ɪ)l/

noun Botany

the female organs of a flower, comprising the stigma, style, and ovary.

stamen

/ˈsteɪmən/

noun Botany

the male fertilizing organ of a flower, typically consisting of a pollen-containing anther and a filament.

I'm a size 9 in all my shoes so I figured a US 9/ UK 8 would fit me but I have this much space up top. Would you guys recommend sizing down to a US 8/ UK 7 ?

So if the reader is already aware that Mrs Smith is slightly agitated I would use the, if they do not I would use a.

The choice of article seems to me to reflect a different emphasis. "a slightly agitated Mrs. Smith" means, "Mrs. Smith, a slightly agitated person," while "the agitated Mrs. Smith" means the agitated version of Mrs. Smith in contrast to her normally cool and collected self.

"Patience is a virtue"

"they ran, sprinted, and jogged for four 15-minute intervals at two different times"

That is Bachmann's problem: she can be downright vicious and she seems to have little regard for honesty.

Jonathan Wilkinson chairman of Map said: "National Grid seems to have little regard for mid Wales with these destructive plans they have brought forward.

It's "final" (singular) for me too to refer the last, deciding, match in a competition.

When I talk about "finals" at Wimbledon and other tennis tournaments, that's because there's more than one final (a women's final, a men's final etc etc etc).

In British English, you say:

I like watching sport on TV.

Sport is an uncountable noun in this meaning.

• In American English, you say:

I like watching sports on TV.

Sports is a plural noun in this meaning.

Some online video creators upload new content every day.

Prolific creators manage their voluminous content with any of various content management systems.

content /'kɒntənt/

[uncountable] (computing) the information or other material contained on a Web site or CD-ROM

online content providers

a burden to somebody I don't want to become a burden to my children when I'm old.

If someone has a bright future, it is likely that they will be successful and happy:

She's an excellent student with a bright future.

I am still convinced that this country has a very bright future.

He thinks space tourism has a great future.

a string of bad luck

A period of continuous misfortune.

I've just had a string of bad luck lately. After losing my job, I found out that I won't be entitled to any social welfare payments while I look for work.

She broke up with him? Wow, the poor guy's string of bad luck continues.

That celebrity family is caught up in another scandal? Wow, they've certainly had a string of bad luck this year.

have the misfortune to do/of doing something

The French soldiers had the misfortune to be caught in the crossfire.

The correct term is "greenhouse gases," as it refers to a group of gases that contribute to the greenhouse effect by trapping heat in the Earth's atmosphere, not just a single gas; therefore, the plural form "gases" is used.

apartment noun /ə'pɑ:tment/

a set of rooms for living in, usually on one floor of a building

an apartment building

I was renting a two-bedroom apartment in an old building.

A group of developers wants to build a high-rise apartment complex.

I lived on the ground floor of an apartment block.

They left their fourth-floor apartment on Mott Street and walked to the bus.

a one-room apartment

I moved into a lovely little studio apartment.

He was evicted from his Manhattan apartment.

cry wolf

to keep asking for help when you do not need it, with the result that people think you do not need help when you really need it:

If you cry wolf too often, people will stop believing you.

sticking plaster

a piece of material that you can put over a small cut in the skin in order to protect it and keep it clean:

Timmy had sticking plasters on both knees.

as American as apple pie

on (the) set

The "the" is optional. It's perfectly acceptable to say "on set", as in: "Mr Clooney can't speak to you now, he's on set."

She did/has an MA in French literature

The Himalayas /ˌhɪmə'leɪ.ə, hɪ'mɑ:ləjə/

The River Thames (/tɛmz/ TEMZ)

Can I pay cash? Can I pay with cash? Can I pay in cash? Can I pay by cash?

You could also say "do you take cash?"

Why You Should Subscribe to a Newspaper

Do you subscribe to any newspapers? If so, how many and why did you choose those specific ones?

Yes, we say "set fire to a building". "Set a fire" is slightly ambiguous though as I know some people would use that to mean 'setting up a fire' e.g. clearing out a fire place, placing the tinder and logs, or setting up a bonfire ready to light it, but not actually lighting it. I'd suspect that's an older person's phrase.

You can also set things on fire, and set things alight.

If you're intentionally making a fire, such as in a fireplace or for camping, then you would say "make a fire" or "start a fire".

I've never heard "set a fire." But you can "set fire to" or "set on fire." These usually refer burning something that shouldn't be burned, like a house. Set fire to implies it was intentional. Set on fire could be accidental or intentional. Example: He set the house on fire while baking a pie this afternoon.

set fire to
cause to burn; ignite.
"the town's police station was set on fire"

minced meat
ground meat

What is the meaning of "out of office"?

The phrase "out of office" typically refers to a situation where someone is not available to perform their work duties, often due to being away from their workplace for reasons such as vacation, travel, or personal matters. In professional settings, it is common for individuals to set an "out of office" message in their email or other communication platforms to inform colleagues and clients that they are unavailable, provide alternative contacts, and indicate when they will return. This helps manage expectations regarding communication and response times.

Depending on the situation:

"Out of office" may refer to being on vacation or otherwise not able to (not going to) respond to your message, email, call within a reasonable amount of time. You may receive an "out of office" automated response with exact dates in those situations.

A person may have been voted "out of office." In this case, the person in question is no longer holding a particular role: mayor, board member, company president, etc.

It is also possible that someone has resigned his/her position and might be considered "out of office"/retired from said role.

risqué

/ˈrɪskeɪ, ɾɪˈskeɪ/

adjective

slightly indecent and liable to shock, especially by being sexually suggestive.

"his risqué humour"

bawdy

/ˈbɔːdi/

adjective

dealing with sexual matters in a comical way; humorously indecent.

"her work is characterized by irreverence and bawdy humour"

first aid /ˌfɜːrst ˈeɪd/

[uncountable]

simple medical treatment that is given to somebody before a doctor comes or before the person can be taken to a hospital

to give first aid

a first-aid course

At least one member of staff should be trained in first aid.

While one of you gives first aid, the other should call an ambulance.

customs /ˈkʌstəmz/

(usually Customs) (British English also Revenue and Customs) the government department that collects taxes on goods bought and sold and on goods brought into the country, and that checks what is brought in

The Customs have seized large quantities of smuggled heroin.

French Customs have arrested two men.

a customs officer

the place at a port or an airport where your bags are checked as you come into a country
to go through customs and passport control

If a girl says "He's history", about an old boyfriend it means he's no longer her boyfriend and it probably ended badly, and she's happy he's gone. If an employer says "He's history", about an employee, it means he's no longer there, or it could mean the boss plans on firing him soon. If you are watching something like an action movie, and one of the bad guys says "He's history", it probably means he plans on killing him.

The 7 Different Types of Plastic

Max size per piece of baggage is 62 inches.

The pipes should be made of plastic.

a sheet of clear plastic

[uncountable] (informal) a way of talking about credit cards
Do they take plastic?

slouch down

To allow one's posture to slump or droop downward.

I could see the kids starting to slouch down with boredom, so I knew it was time to start wrapping up the trip to the museum.

Please stop slouching down in your chair like that—it's not good for your back!

lean down

1. To bend lower or toward the ground.

Someone pushed me while I was leaning down to pick up a piece of paper.

I had to lean down to get through the tiny door.

2. To bend someone or something lower or toward the ground. In this usage, a noun or pronoun is used between "lean" and "down."

Would you mind leaning that lamp down so I can see what I'm working on?

I had leaned the toddler down so he could reach the toy he had dropped on the ground.

muesli

/ˈm(j)uːzli/

noun British

a mixture of oats and other cereals, dried fruit, and nuts, eaten with milk at breakfast.

granola

/grəˈnəʊlə/

a kind of breakfast cereal resembling muesli.

granule

/ˈgranjuːl/

noun

a small compact particle of a substance.

"granules of sugar"

the millions

numbers between 1,000,000 and 1,000,000,000:

In wealthy areas, homes cost from €750,000 into the millions.

Her albums sell in the millions.

She oversees a staff of twenty and a budget in the millions.

The price of these services runs into the millions of dollars each year.

The population of meadow birds still numbers in the millions.

"By the millions" means in very large quantities, referring to a number that is in the millions, essentially signifying a huge amount of something.

Example: "The new video game is being played by the millions of people around the world."

pliant

/ˈplɪənt/

adjective

1.

easily bent.

"pliant willow stems"

2.

easily influenced or directed; yielding.

"a more pliant prime minister"

corrugate

/ˈkɒrʊgeɪt/

verb

contract or cause to contract into wrinkles or folds.

"Micky's brow corrugated in a simian frown"

porosity

/pɔːˈrɒsɪti/

noun

the quality or degree of having minute spaces or holes through which liquid or air may pass.

"clays may have twice the porosity of sands"

To "land on" something means to consider many available options and finally decide on one.

land on (one)

1. Literally, to descend from the air and set down on top of someone or something.

The wasp landed on me, so I had to stand perfectly still until it flew off again.

2. To become the burden or responsibility of someone, especially very suddenly, unceremoniously, or without prior notice.

It always lands on me to deal with the boss's stupid mistakes.

Blame for their loss has to land on the team's coaching staff.

extravagant

/ɪkˈstrævəɡ(ə)nt, ɛkˈstrævəɡ(ə)nt/

adjective

lacking restraint in spending money or using resources.

"it was rather extravagant to buy both"

cephalopod

/ˈkeɪf(ə)ləpɒd, ˈseɪf(ə)ləpɒd/

noun Zoology

an active predatory mollusc of the large class Cephalopoda, such as an octopus or squid.

strobe

/strəʊb/

flash intermittently.

"the light of the fireworks strobed around the room"

2.

exhibit or give rise to strobing.

"he explained that the stripes I was wearing would strobe"

envenom

/ɪnˈvɛnəm, ɛnˈvɛnəm/

verb

put poison on or into; make poisonous.

"the blades were envenomed with a fatal poison for which there is no antidote"

the only game in town

noun phrase

: the only available, desirable, or valuable thing

For serious home cooks, this stove is the only game in town.

Our company is no longer the only game in town. We now have serious competition.

predation

/prɪˈdeɪʃn/

noun

1.

the preying of one animal on others.

"an effective defence against predation"

2.

the action of attacking or plundering.

"the old story of male predation and female vulnerability"

femoral

/ˈfɛm(ə)rəl/

adjective

Anatomy•Zoology

relating to the femur or the thigh.

"the femoral artery"

incapacitate

/ˌɪnkəˈpæsɪteɪt/

verb

prevent from functioning in a normal way.

"he was incapacitated by a heart attack"

espouse

/ɪˈspauz, ɛˈspauz/

verb

1.

adopt or support (a cause, belief, or way of life).

"she espoused the causes of justice and freedom for all"

status quo

/ˌstetəs ˈkwəʊ/

noun

the existing state of affairs, especially regarding social or political issues.

"they have a vested interest in maintaining the status quo"

rub someone's nose in it

to say or do things that make someone remember that they failed or got something wrong:

Sue failed her exam, so just to rub her nose in it, I put my certificate up on the wall.

stature

/ˈstatʃə/

importance or reputation gained by ability or achievement.

"an architect of international stature"

wrap one's mind around

idiom

US, informal

: to find a way to understand or accept (something)

I just couldn't wrap my mind around what had happened.

Wound irrigation is the act of flushing a wound with a gentle stream of liquid in order to remove dead or necrotic tissue and other debris while keeping the wound hydrated.

a pink bathroom suite

three-piece suite (=a large seat and two chairs)

a suite of rooms for palace guests

There's a whole suite of reasons, using evidence accumulated over a century of behavioural genetics research.

fastidious

/fəˈstɪdiəs/

adjective

very attentive to and concerned about accuracy and detail.

"she dressed with fastidious care"

very concerned about matters of cleanliness.

"the child seemed fastidious about getting her fingers dirty"

postulate

verb

/ˈpɒstjuleɪt/

1.

suggest or assume the existence, fact, or truth of (something) as a basis for reasoning, discussion, or belief.

"his theory postulated a rotatory movement for hurricanes"

outright

adverb

/aʊtˈraɪt/

1.

wholly and completely.
"logging has been banned outright"
immediately or instantly.
"the impact killed four horses outright"

crackpot
/'krækpɒt/
informal
noun
an eccentric or foolish person.
"people who claim famous past identities are usually dismissed as crackpots"
adjective
eccentric; impractical.
"his head's full of crackpot ideas"

projecting voice
stage performers project their voice.

"His/Her voice is powerful and carries well."

take the piss (out of someone or something)
idiom UK offensive
to make a joke about someone or make someone look silly:
They're always taking the piss out of him because he's a Barry Manilow fan.

The Short Chute is unique to Super League Triathlon. This compelling element of Super League racing does exactly what it says it does. It creates a shortcut on the race course for those athletes who get one. This basically gives them a time bonus in real time.

particular
/pə'tɪkjʊlə/
a detail.
"he is wrong in every particular"

thuggery
/'θʌg(ə)rɪ/
noun
violent behaviour, especially of a criminal nature.
"a cowardly act of mindless thuggery"

thug
/θʌg/
noun
1.
a violent, aggressive person, especially one who is a criminal.
"he was attacked by a gang of thugs"

hedge /hedʒ/

avoid making a definite statement or commitment.

"he hedged at every new question"

derogatory /dɪˈrɒɡət(ə)ri/

full of oneself

very self-satisfied and with an exaggerated sense of self-worth.

"he'd always been very full of himself"

matter of fact

unemotional and practical.

"she tried to keep her tone light and matter-of-fact"

"it's a matter of fact that they had a relationship"

arresting

/əˈrɛstɪŋ/

adjective

1.

striking; eye-catching.

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

quintessential

/ˌkwɪntɪˈsɛnʃl/

adjective

representing the most perfect or typical example of a quality or class.

"he was the quintessential tough guy—strong, silent, and self-contained"

flatline

/ˈflætlaɪn/

verb

1.

fail to increase; remain static.

"their share of the vote has flatlined at about 3%"

2.

informal

(of a person) die.

"they injected themselves with a deadly drug and flatlined"

infantile

/ˈɪnfəntaɪl/

adjective

of or occurring among babies or very young children.

"infantile colic"

I was in the zone today.

zone out (informal)

to fall asleep, become unconscious, or stop paying attention

Sorry, I just zoned out for a moment.

lump someone/something together

to put different groups together and think about them or deal with them in the same way:

All the children are lumped together in one class, regardless of their ability.

pick apart

1. To subject someone or something to intense or excessive analysis or criticism, especially in order to find flaws or negative aspects.

Every time I show my brother one of my stories, he just picks it apart without saying anything that he liked about it.

Critics picked his performance apart, but fans of the franchise seemed to love it.

2. To defeat, overcome, or dominate someone or something with intense, methodical power or skill.

Their offense just picked us apart in the second half of the game.

With its sheer size and superior equipment, the government's military was able to pick apart the rebellion in less than half a year.

obligatory

/əˈblɪɡət(ə)ri/

adjective

required by a legal, moral, or other rule; compulsory.

"use of seat belts in cars is now obligatory"

often humorous

so customary or fashionable as to be expected of everyone or on every occasion.

"it was a quiet little street with the obligatory pub at the end"

"The highest number of fish caught was six."

chalet

/ˈʃalet/

noun

a wooden house with overhanging eaves, typically found in the Swiss Alps.

leave someone hanging

to keep someone waiting for your answer or decision

Examples:

They promised to respond within a week! I can't believe they left me hanging.

If you leave them hanging, they could withdraw the offer.

hydraulic

/hʌɪˈdrɒlɪk/

saw at

: to try to cut (something) by moving a saw, knife, etc., backwards and forwards

She was sawing (away) at the turkey with a dull knife.

—sometimes used figuratively

The violinist sawed (away) at the strings

bolas

/ˈbəʊləs/

noun

noun: bola

(especially in South America) a weapon consisting of a number of balls connected by strong cord, which when thrown entangles the limbs of the quarry.

hit on

discover or think of something, especially by chance.

"she hit on a novel idea for fundraising"

fasten

/ˈfɑːsn/

shin up

(informal) to climb up or down something quickly, using your hands and legs

He shinned down the drainpipe and ran off.

wattle1

/ˈwɒtl/

a coloured fleshy lobe hanging from the head or neck of the turkey and some other birds.

moult

/məʊlt/

verb

(of an animal) shed old feathers, hair, or skin to make way for a new growth.

"the adult birds were already moulting"

bolt2

/bəʊlt/

(of a horse or other animal) run away suddenly, typically from fear.

"the horses shied and bolted"

(of a person) move or run away suddenly in an attempt to escape.

"they bolted down the stairs"

schooner

/ˈskuːnə/

noun

1.

a sailing ship with two or more masts, typically with the foremast smaller than the mainmast.

overboard

/ˈəʊvəbɔːd/

adverb

from a ship into the water.

"the severe storm washed a man overboard"

stern¹

/stɜːn/

the rearmost part of a ship or boat.

"he stood at the stern of the yacht"

all manner of

many different kinds of.

"echinacea is used by American Indians for all manner of ailments"

jabber

/'dʒabə/

verb

talk in a rapid, excited, and often incomprehensible way.

"he jabbered on about football"

duck shot

noun

: a medium-heavy lead shot used in duck hunting

An alcohol burner or spirit lamp is a piece of laboratory equipment used to produce an open flame. It can be made from brass, glass, stainless steel or aluminium.

pitch¹

/pɪtʃ/

a place where a street vendor or performer stations themselves or sets up a stall.

"the traders had already reserved their pitches"

heathen

/'hiːðn/

derogatory

noun

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

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

informal

a person regarded as lacking culture or moral principles.

"eat your chips, you little heathen!"

high-octane

/ˌhʌɪ'ɒkteɪn/

adjective

denoting petrol having a high octane number and thus good anti-knock properties.

powerful or dynamic.

"a high-octane forty-year-old"

square

/skweː/

an open, typically four-sided, area surrounded by buildings in a village, town, or city.
"a market square"

That film needs more action.

give (one) an/the edge on (someone or something)

To cause someone to be in a favorable or superior position when compared to someone or something else.

That team has so many injuries right now that it's given us the edge on them.

I don't want to do anything that might give Sarah an edge on me in this competition.

Our vast resources give us an edge on all the other companies out there. That's how we ensure we have the best and most up-to-date information.

pander to someone/something

to do or provide exactly what a person or group wants, especially when it is not acceptable, reasonable, or approved of, usually in order to get some personal advantage:

It's not good the way she panders to his every whim.

Political leaders almost inevitably pander to big business.

pander

/ˈpandə/

verb

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

"newspapers are pandering to people's baser instincts"

You'll see people saying the phrase "match my freak" and other variations, or "get your freak on" as another example.

pish posh

old-fashioned informalUK

used to express disagreement or to say that something is nonsense:

Oh, pish posh! Ridiculous.

Some people think singing is frivolous, to which I say pish posh!

"I think Rory likes you." "Oh, pish posh, he's only interested in himself."

They take their ceremonies so seriously but it's all pish posh really.

"We've ruined your lovely carpet." "Oh, pish posh, we can clean it."

run the gauntlet

go through an intimidating or dangerous crowd or experience in order to reach a goal.

"they had to run the gauntlet of television cameras"

historical

undergo the military punishment of receiving blows while running between two rows of men with sticks.

work over

1. To revise or begin something again in order to improve it. A noun or pronoun can be used between "work" and "over."

To be honest, your thesis is such a mess that I would suggest working it over from scratch.

Taking my editor's notes onboard, I began working over the first draft of my latest novel.

2. To subject someone to intense verbal or physical assault. A noun or pronoun can be used between "work" and "over."

Man, the boss really worked me over for messing up that client's account.

The mafia leader sent a couple of goons to work over the witness so that she wouldn't testify in court.

copulation

/ˌkɒpjʊˈleɪʃn/

noun

sexual intercourse.

"males may seek copulation with the breeding female"

fornicate

/ˈfɔːnɪkeɪt/

verb formal • humorous

have sexual intercourse with someone one is not married to.

ever so slightly

idiom

: only by a very small amount

The snake moved ever so slightly.

ever so

informal • British

very; very much.

"I am ever so grateful"

working-over

/wɜːkɪŋˈəʊvə/

noun informal

a punishment or assault in which the victim is hit repeatedly; a beating.

"she told him to give me a good working-over as payback"

apprehensive

/ˌapɪˈhensɪv/

adjective

1.

anxious or fearful that something bad or unpleasant will happen.

"he felt apprehensive about going home"

precocious

/prɪˈkeʊʃəs/

adjective

(of a child) having developed certain abilities or inclinations at an earlier age than is usual or expected.

"a precocious, solitary boy"

take root

(of a plant) begin to grow and draw nourishment from the soil through its roots.

Economists believe that economic recovery will begin to take root next year.

exacerbate

/ɪgˈzæsəbeɪt, ɛgˈzæsəbeɪt/

verb

make (a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling) worse.

"the exorbitant cost of land in urban areas only exacerbated the problem"

exasperate

/ɪgˈzasp(ə)reɪt, ɪgˈzɑːsp(ə)reɪt, ɛgˈzasp(ə)reɪt, ɛgˈzɑːsp(ə)reɪt/

verb

irritate and frustrate (someone) intensely.

"this futile process exasperates prison officers"

get one's head round

idiom

British

: to understand (something)

She couldn't get her head round why he had to leave.

strike up a friendship He gets really jealous if his girlfriend strikes up a friendship with another man.

strike up a conversation It can be difficult to strike up a conversation with a complete stranger.

when it comes to (someone or something)

When considering some particular person, thing, or action.

John is a bit of a blowhard, but when it comes to pushing sales, no one in the company is better.

There's nothing she doesn't know when it comes to computers.

He's a sweet guy, but he's a bit useless when it comes to kids.

oesophagus /ɪˈsɒfəɡəs / <US> esophagus I. noun the part of the alimentary canal which connects the throat to the stomach. In humans and other vertebrates it is a muscular tube lined with mucous membrane.

Any dispensaries sell by the gram?

Bubble tea also known as pearl milk tea, bubble milk tea, tapioca milk tea, boba tea, or boba

hands-on

/ˌhɑn(d)zˈɒn/

adjective

involving direct involvement or intervention.

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

involving or offering active participation rather than theory.

"hands-on in-service training"

[+ doing sth] Both men admitted taking illegal drugs.

[+ to + doing sth] She admitted to stealing the keys.

I was wrong - I admit it.

No one has owned up to stealing the money.

putt off

distract someone.

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

cause someone to lose interest or enthusiasm.

"she wanted to be a nurse, but the thought of night shifts put her off"

negative imperative

atoll

/ 'atol, ə 'tɒl/

noun

a ring-shaped reef, island, or chain of islands formed of coral.

sustenance

/ 'sʌstɪnəns/

noun

food and drink regarded as a source of strength; nourishment.

"poor rural economies turned to potatoes for sustenance"

call to (one)

1. To shout to one in an attempt to draw their attention.

I called to my best friend when I saw her walking down the street, but she had headphones on and couldn't hear me.

I had so many grocery bags to bring inside that I had to call to my husband to come help.

Panicked, I called to a police officer, who ran right to my aid and apprehended the mugger.

2. To beckon, tempt, or attract one; to be inviting or enticing to one.

After living in this small town my whole life, the thought of exploring the world is calling to me.

The promise of easy money has called to many a misguided youth.

I'm going to the mall. There is a big sale that has been calling to me for a while now.

Work Hand in Glove Work closely and effectively Work hand in glove means to collaborate very closely and effectively. The imagery of a hand fitting perfectly in a glove conveys seamless and efficient cooperation.

Get Something Off Your Chest Express thoughts that were held back

In the Driver's Seat In control or in charge

Cut the Gordian Knot Solve a complex problem with a bold move
On the Horns of a Dilemma Faced with two difficult choices

fall through

come to nothing; fail.

"the project fell through due to lack of money"

touch off

phrasal verb of touch

1.

cause something to happen suddenly.

"there was concern that the move could touch off a trade war"

cause something to ignite or explode by touching it.

"the soldier who touched off the mine was injured in the right foot"

The CEO's remarks touched off a major dispute over who was to blame.

The Legal Department is drawing up a contract.

we need to hammer out an agreement in three days.

Can you copy me in on your email?

depreciation write-off

head up

be in charge or control of something.

"she headed up two Fraud Squad teams within the City of London police"

2.

Sailing

steer towards the wind.

by the scruff of the/your neck

Add to word list

by the back of the neck:

She picked the cat up by the scruff of its neck.

by every measure

According to the information that is available; based on all indications.

I don't know how they survived that plane crash. By every measure, they should be dead right now!

By every measure, this film is shaping up to be the best one of the year!

People in the financial sector think that, by every measure, we're headed for a recession.

sludge

/slʌdʒ/

noun

1.

thick, soft, wet mud or a similar viscous mixture of liquid and solid components, especially the product of an industrial or refining process.

"the dumping of sewage sludge"

infernally

/ɪnˈfəːnl/

adjective

1.

relating to or characteristic of hell or the underworld.

"the infernal regions"

informally

irritating and tiresome (used for emphasis).

"you're an infernal nuisance"

British English here. I would say 'My house is opposite the school' and 'My opinion is opposite to his'.

far-flung

/ˌfɑːˈflʌŋ/

adjective

distant or remote.

"the far-flung corners of the world"

widely distributed.

"newsletters provided an important link to a far-flung membership"

brush up

improve one's existing knowledge or skill in a particular area.

"these private lessons will give them a chance to brush up on their technique"

strike a bargain/deal

to agree to do something for someone if they do something for you

There are rumors that the president struck a private deal with the corporation's chairman.

flout

/flaʊt/

verb

1.

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

"the advertising code is being flouted"

ameliorate

/əˈmiːliəreɪt/

verb

make (something bad or unsatisfactory) better.

"the reform did much to ameliorate living standards"

adherent

/əd'hiərənt/

noun

someone who supports a particular party, person, or set of ideas.

"he was a strong adherent of monetarism"

regimen

/ˈrɛdʒɪmən/

noun

1.

a prescribed course of medical treatment, diet, or exercise for the promotion or restoration of health.

"a regimen of one or two injections per day"

2.

archaic

a system of government.

take the fall

phrase of fall

informal•North American

incur blame or punishment in the place of another person.

"he kept his mouth shut and let McFarlane take the fall"

incendiary

/ɪn'sɛndɪəri/

adjective

1.

(of a device or attack) designed to cause fires.

"incendiary bombs"

tending to stir up conflict.

"incendiary rhetoric"

what's it to you?

used to tell someone angrily that something does not concern them

That's right, I didn't pass. What's it to you, anyway?

'How did he die?' Suddenly Emily was angry. 'What's it to you?'

What's in it for (one)?

What does one stand to gain from some action or activity situation?

A: "We want you to throw the fight in the third round." B: "Hmm. What's in it for me?"

I just don't understand why the company would do this. What's in it for them?

ribald

/ˈrɪbld/

adjective

referring to sexual matters in an amusingly coarse or irreverent way.

"a ribald comment"

browbeat

/ˈbraʊbi:t/

verb

intimidate (someone), typically into doing something, with stern or abusive words.

"a witness is being browbeaten under cross-examination"

quixotic

/kwɪkˈsɒtɪk/

adjective

extremely idealistic; unrealistic and impractical.

"a vast and perhaps quixotic project"

brooding

/ˈbruːdɪŋ/

adjective

engaged in or showing deep thought about something that makes one sad, angry, or worried.

"he stared with brooding eyes"

appearing darkly menacing.

"the brooding moorland"

orchid

/ˈɔːkɪd/

noun

a plant with complex flowers

glean

/gli:n/

verb

1.

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

"the information is gleaned from press cuttings"

cuttlefish

/ˈkʌtlɪʃ/

noun

a swimming marine mollusc that resembles a broad-bodied squid, having eight arms and two long tentacles that are used for grabbing prey. Its internal skeleton is the familiar cuttlebone, which it uses for adjusting buoyancy.

populace

/ˈpɒpjʊləs/

noun

the people living in a particular country or area.

"the party misjudged the mood of the populace"

foray

/ˈfɒreɪ/

noun

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

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

bearing

/ˈbeɪrɪŋ/

noun

1.

a person's way of standing or moving.

"a man of precise military bearing"

get the memo

idiom

Add to word list

US informal

to know something that everyone else knows:

Everybody seems to be wearing green today - I guess I didn't get the memo.

twenty-twenty

adjective

twen·ty·twen·ty ˈtwen-tē-ˈtwen-tē ˈtwən-tē-ˈtwən-tē

variants or 20/20

1

of the human eye : meeting a standard of normal visual acuity

twenty-twenty vision

2

: marked by facilely accurate discernment, judgment, or assessment

hindsight is twenty-twenty

ride something out

to continue to exist during a difficult situation and until it ends, without serious harm:

Many companies did not manage to ride out the recession.

If a ship rides out a period of bad weather, it continues to float during it, without serious damage:

The ship managed to ride out the storm.

fanatic

/fəˈnætɪk/

noun

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

"religious fanatics"

put two and two together

phrase of two

draw an obvious conclusion from what is known or evident.

draw a plausible but incorrect conclusion from what is known or evident.

boon

/bu:n/

noun

1.

a thing that is helpful or beneficial.

"the route will be a boon to many travellers"

revolt

/rɪ'veʊlt/

verb

1.

take violent action against an established government or ruler; rebel.

"the Iceni revolted and had to be suppressed"

lecherous

/'lɛtʃ(ə)rəs/

adjective

having or showing excessive or offensive sexual desire.

"she ignored his lecherous gaze"

"One rung at a time" means to make progress gradually, taking each small step or level (like a rung on a ladder) one at a time, rather than trying to jump ahead or achieve something all at once; it emphasizes a steady and focused approach to reaching a goal.

give it the old college try

idiom

US, old-fashioned

: to use one's very best effort : to try very hard

We can win this game if we give it the old college try!

short of

without going so far as (some extreme action).

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

bore into (someone)

To look at someone with interest and intensity.

Once I got on stage and could feel all of their eyes boring into me, I completely forgot what I was going to say.

I know you think that girl's cute, but you're practically boring into her, man—you're gonna freak her out.

When you've been a CEO for as long as I have, you get used to everyone's eyes boring into you when you enter a room.

bore1

/bɔ:/

verb

1.

make (a hole) in something with a tool or by digging.

"bore a hole in the wall to pass the cable through"

wryly

/ˈrɪli/

adverb

in a way that expresses dry, especially mocking, humour.

"he reflects wryly on his life and work"

lucre

/ˈl(j)u:kə/

noun

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

"officials getting their hands grubby with filthy lucre"

coach noun /kəʊtʃ/

[uncountable] (North American English) the cheapest seats in a plane

to fly coach

coach fares/passengers/seats

cow /kaʊ/

cause (someone) to submit to one's wishes by intimidation.

"the intellectuals had been cowed into silence"

abject

/ˈædʒɛkt/

adjective

1.

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

"his letter plunged her into abject misery"

2.

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

"an abject apology"

on the up and up

phrase of up

informal

1.

British

becoming more successful.

"his career is certainly on the up and up"

2.

North American

honest or legal.

"investigators wanted to make sure everything we did was on the up and up"

blithe

/blɪt̪ð/

adjective

showing a casual and cheerful indifference considered to be callous or improper.

"a blithe disregard for the rules of the road"

Water polo is a competitive team sport played in water between two teams of seven players each. The game consists of four quarters in which the teams attempt to score goals by throwing the ball into the opposing team's goal.

sea legs

noun

a person's ability to keep their balance and not feel seasick when on board a moving ship.

"now I've found my sea legs I'll be much more useful"

celibacy

/ˈsɛlɪbəsi/

noun

the state of abstaining from marriage and sexual relations.

"a priest who had taken a vow of celibacy"

bust (one's) balls

rude slang "Balls" is slang for the testicles, so the phrase in each meaning is usually (but not solely) said of or by a man.

1. To exert a significant amount of energy to do, accomplish, or complete something, especially with great haste.

I've been busting my balls all night long to get this presentation ready for tomorrow's meeting.

She's going to have to bust her balls if she wants a place on the varsity team.

We busted our balls cleaning the house before Mom got here, and she still said her room was dusty!

2. To harass, nag, or upbraid one to do, accomplish, or complete something.

The boss is busting everyone's balls to get the project ready by next week.

Quit busting my balls! I'll get it done eventually!

I wouldn't have to bust your balls if you would just do your chores like you're supposed to!

cherubic

/tʃɪˈruːbɪk/

adjective

having the innocence or plump prettiness of a young child.

"a round, cherubic face"

the tables are turned

A major change has happened, especially one that results in the opposite of an earlier situation.

I spent years as John's supervisor, but with his recent promotion, the tables are turned and now I report to him!

chuffed

adjective informal • British

very pleased.

"I'm dead chuffed to have won"

"In a broader sense" means considering something from a more general or inclusive perspective, taking into account a wider range of factors and not focusing on specific details; essentially, looking at the bigger picture rather than the specifics.

smarmy

/ˈsmɑːmi/

adjective informal

ingratiating and wheedling in a way that is regarded as insincere or excessive.

"a smarmy, unctuous reply"

A dive bar is typically a small, unglamorous, eclectic, old-style drinking establishment with inexpensive drinks; it may feature dim lighting, shabby or dated decor, neon beer signs, packaged beer sales, cash-only service, and local clientele.

lapse into

1

: to begin using or doing (something that should be avoided) for a short period of time

He's a good writer, but he occasionally lapses into jargon.

2

: to begin to be in (a worse or less active state or condition)

The crowd lapsed into silence.

The patient lapsed into a coma.

The society lapsed into decline.

Trim tabs are small surfaces connected to the trailing edge of a larger control surface on a boat or aircraft, used to control the trim of the controls, i.e. to counteract hydro- or aerodynamic forces and stabilise the boat or aircraft in a particular desired attitude without the need for the operator to constantly apply a control force. This is done by adjusting the angle of the tab relative to the larger surface.

"Well put together" is an expression that means something or someone is organized, neat, and stylish. It can also describe something that is well-constructed or well-organized.

"He is a well put together man with a charming smile".

"The plan was well put together".

"The piece of writing was well put together".

bejesus

/bɪˈdʒiːzəs/

exclamation informal • Irish

exclamation: bejeezus

used to express surprise or for emphasis.

A storm cell is a section of air that contains up and down drafts, and is the smallest unit of a storm system. Storm cells move and react as a single unit.

acrid

/ˈakrɪd/

adjective

unpleasantly bitter or pungent.

"acrid smoke"

look daggers at

glare very angrily at.

"she flung the fork down, looking daggers at him"

beat someone to it

succeed in doing something or getting somewhere before someone else.

"you'd better get a move on or they'll beat you to it"

Kid leather is a soft, thin leather that comes from the skin of a young goat. It's often used for gloves, footwear, and clothing.

"Qué rico" is a Spanish phrase that translates to "how delicious" or "how lovely" in English. It can also be used to express delight or disgust.

mirth

/mɜːθ/

noun

amusement, especially as expressed in laughter.

"his six-foot frame shook with mirth"

sabotage noun /ˈsæbətɑːʒ/

[uncountable]

the act of doing deliberate damage to equipment, transport, machines, etc. to prevent an enemy from using them, or to protest about something

an act of economic/military/industrial sabotage

Police investigating the train derailment have not ruled out sabotage.

They conducted a campaign of economic sabotage.

The fire may have been an act of sabotage.

chasing tail

Share definition

The pursuit of casual sexual relations, especially a male's pursuit of a female.

"I usually spend my weekends drinking at the bar and chasing tail"

"This time" suggests that what's being spoken about has happened before, but the result is different. Or it can suggest that someone plans to do something differently than they have been.

Ex - I tried the lock with a few different keys, but none of them worked. This time I tried the lock with the spare key and the door opened.

Ex - I have planted 3 seeds in the soil I bought from the store, but none of them have grown. This time, I'm going to use different soil.

"This time around" also suggests a reference to something that has happened before but with a different result, or that someone plans to do something differently than they have been doing them. The addition of "around" is used to add more emphasis to "this time". The speaker is trying to show that they really want a change.

Ex - Every year we go to Florida on vacation, and see the same things. I told my wife that this time around, I want to go to Hawaii. (By adding "around", the speaker is subtly revealing a little of his frustration with visiting the same location every year).

Ex - Every year we enter this competition, and we never win. This time around, we are going to win. (By using "around", the speaker is subtly emphasizing that "this time" will be different than the other times because they will win).

In rhetoric, litotes (/laɪˈtɒtiːz, ˈlɪtətiːz/, US: /ˈlɪtətiːz/),^[1] also known classically as antenanthiosis or moderatour, is a figure of speech and form of irony in which understatement is used to emphasize a point by stating a negative to further affirm a positive, often incorporating double negatives for effect.

fling /flɪŋ/

a short, spontaneous sexual relationship.

"I had a fling with someone when I was at college"

I hit rough weather once passing the Corinth Canal.

If you hit rough weather, you experience difficulties or problems.

Native speakers of English generally say 'hit rough weather'. The idiom is mostly used to mean to run into difficulties or experience problems.

Kick back

(informal, intransitive) To relax; to laze.

Synonyms: take it easy, lie back, kick it

I'm going to stay at home on Saturday and just kick back.

To covertly pay in it the proceeds of a transaction in return for mediating it.

Synonym: retrocede

It was the insurer's practice to kick back to the broker approximately 0.12% of the premium paid by the policyholder.

To return (something) to its original or rightful owner.

They'll kick it back to you if it turns up.

To drink (something).

We'll kick back some beers.

"Throw back" describes the movement of the head, hand and glass when swallowing a short drink. E.g. "He poured a shot of whisky and threw it back in a single gulp".

throw back

1. To toss something in order to return it. A noun or pronoun is used between "throw" and "back."

He tried to throw the ball back to the others across the river, but it landed in the water instead.

I reeled in the fish, but it was too small so I threw it back.

2. To cast, fling, or jerk something backward. A noun or pronoun can be used between "throw" and "back."

She threw her head back and howled with laughter.

I threw back my arm so he couldn't reach the book in my hand.

3. To obstruct, hinder, or delay the progress of someone or something. A noun or pronoun is used between "throw" and "back."

That computer virus wiped out our data and threw our project back by nearly a month.

He was supposed to arrive by 9, but the traffic jam threw him back a bit.

(transitive) To drink quickly, especially alcoholic beverages.

We threw back drinks until the next morning.

throw something (back) in somebody's face

to be unkind to someone after they have been kind to you or helped you

I felt that everything I'd done for them was thrown back in my face.

throw back

1. to check or stop from advancing

2. to revert to an earlier or more primitive type or condition

"There were 10 kids in our family and we ate a lot of fish. We didn't throw too many back,"

sure-fire /'ʃʊ:fɪə/

certain to succeed.

"bad behaviour is a sure-fire way of getting attention"

paradise noun /'pærədəɪs/

[uncountable] (in some religions) a perfect place where people are said to go when they die

[countable] a place that is extremely beautiful and that seems perfect, like heaven

a tropical paradise

a paradise of golden beaches

skittish

/ˈskɪtɪʃ/

adjective

(of an animal, especially a horse) nervous or excitable; easily scared.

"a skittish chestnut mare"

In-flight crew relief (commonly referred in noun form as the relief aircrew, relief flight crew, or just relief crew), is a term used in commercial aviation when referring to the members of an aircrew intended to temporarily relieve active crew members of their duties during the course of a flight.

"My girlfriend cancelled on me" means she didn't go to her date with you.

spare /spɜː/

to save someone/yourself from having to go through an unpleasant experience

spare somebody/yourself from something She was spared from the ordeal of appearing in court.

angst

/aŋ(k)st/

noun

a feeling of deep anxiety or dread, typically an unfocused one about the human condition or the state of the world in general.

"the existential angst of the middle classes"

"Mijo" is a Spanish term of endearment that means "my son". It is a contraction of the words "mi" and "hijo".

mope

/məʊp/

verb

feel dejected and apathetic.

"no use moping—things could be worse"

Hair usually means the hair on your body or head = too many strands to count. You can count strands of hair though.

A beard is type of hairstyle. So you can count hairstyles.

"I saw two men with beards. They had no hair on their head"

"What do you do for a living?"

To "hazard a guess" is an idiom that means that the speaker is willing to take the risk of being wrong with their prediction. It's a great expression. I'll hazard a guess that you are learning English. If so, you should add this idiom to your phrase/vocabulary list.

have someone pegged

to understand someone well

Examples:

When it comes to politics, he has the candidate's true intentions pegged.

After meeting her, I had her personality pegged within minutes.

speculate

/ˈspɛkjʊleɪt/

invest in stocks, property, or other ventures in the hope of gain but with the risk of loss.

"he didn't look as though he had the money to speculate in shares"

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