

阅读核心词汇

众所周知，雅思考试是由剑桥考试委员会命题的，那么我们能不能抱着一本朗文或者牛津词典查单词备考？一般来说不是不可以，毕竟都是英语词典，都能查到单词的释义；但是严格来说，这种做法却是不可取的，因为有些单词，比如说 **plot**（在剑桥雅思 9 第 28 页 35 题考查，与 **record** 是同义词替换），一般词典上只有故事情节和密谋的意思，而 **Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary** 第 1173 页却在这两层的意思之外给出了额外的释义：[T] to mark or draw something on a piece of paper or a map. [T] to make marks to show the position, movement, or development of something, usually in the form of lines or curves between a series of points on a map or piece of paper.而这个释义正好可以与 **record** 进行同义词替换。所以下面列举的核心词汇的释义和例句均取自官方的 **Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary**。

另外，从 2015 年开始雅思成绩单总成绩后边一栏出现了 **CEFR Level** 字样的东西，很多同学对此很不解，其实这东西叫 **Common European Framework of Reference of Languages**，是欧盟搞出来统一语言水平标准的。**CEFR B1** 对应雅思 4-5 分，**B2** 对应雅思 5.0-6.5 分，**C1** 对应 7.0-8.0 分，**C2** 对应 8.5-9.0 分。而同学们在学习下面列出的核心词汇的时候不难发现大部分单词释义前面都有 **B2**，**C1**，**C2** 等字样，是不是觉得眼前一亮？没错，这些标示能够帮助大家了解所学单词的难度，并且能够顺便测试一下自己的水平。当然了，市面上只有 **Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary** 才有这些标示的哦！童鞋们，开始新一轮的学习吧！

comprehend / ˌkɒm.prɪˈhend / / ˌkɑːm- / verb [I or T , not continuous] FORMAL

to understand something completely:

I fail to comprehend their attitude.

He doesn't seem to comprehend the scale of the problem

domain / dəˈmeɪn / / dou- / noun [C] (AREA)

C1 an area of interest or an area over which a person has control:

She treated the business as her private domain.

These documents are in the public domain (= available to everybody) .

domestic / də'mes.tɪk / adjective **(COUNTRY)**

B2 relating to a person's own country:

domestic airlines/flights

Domestic opinion had turned against the war.

domestic / də'mes.tɪk / adjective **(HOME)**

B2 belonging or relating to the home, house, or family:

domestic chores/duties/arrangements

dramatic / drə'mæt.ɪk / / -'mæt- / adjective **(EXCITING)**

B2 very sudden or noticeable, or full of action and excitement:

a dramatic change/improvement

We watched scenes of the dramatic rescue on the news.

drought / draʊt / noun [C or U]

C2 a long period when there is little or no rain:

This year (a) severe drought has ruined the crops.

elaborate / ɪ'læb.ə.reɪt / / -ə- / adjective

C2 containing a lot of careful detail or many detailed parts:

You want a plain blouse to go with that skirt - nothing too elaborate.

They're making the most elaborate preparations for the wedding.

elaborate / ɪ'læb.ə.reɪt / verb [I] FORMAL

to add more information to or explain something that you have said:

The minister said he was resigning, but refused to elaborate on his reasons for doing so.

eliminate / ɪ'lɪm.ɪ.neɪt / verb

C1 [T] to remove or take away someone or something:

A move towards healthy eating could help eliminate heart disease.

We eliminated the possibility that it could have been an accident.

elusive / ɪ'lʊ:.sɪv / adjective

C2 difficult to describe, find, achieve, or remember:

The answers to these questions remain as elusive as ever.

Success, however, remained elusive for her.

emphasize (UK USUALLY **emphasise**) / 'em.fə.saɪz / verb [T]

B2 to show that something is very important or worth giving attention to:

You can use italics or capitals to emphasize a word in a piece of writing.

to make something more obvious:

Tight jeans will only emphasize any extra weight that you are carrying.

endanger / m'dem.dʒə ' / / -dʒə / verb [T]

to put someone or something at risk or in danger of being harmed, damaged, or destroyed:

He would never do anything to endanger the lives of his children.

We must be careful not to do anything that might endanger the economic recovery.

enormous / ɪ'nɔː.məs / / -'nɔːr- / adjective

B1 extremely large:

an enormous car/house

You've been an enormous help.

erode / ɪ'rəʊd / / -'rəʊd / verb [I or T] (**DAMAGE PHYSICALLY**)

C2 to rub or be rubbed away gradually:

Wind and rain have eroded the statues into shapeless lumps of stone.

The cliffs are eroding several feet a year.

erode / ɪ'rəʊd / / -'rəʊd / verb [I or T] (**HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECT**)

C2 to slowly reduce or destroy something:

His behaviour over the last few months has eroded my confidence in his judgment.

escape / ɪ'skeɪp / verb [I or T] (**GET FREE**)

B1 to get free from something, or to avoid something:

Two prisoners have escaped.

Nothing important escapes her notice/attention .

ethical / ˈeθ.ɪ.kəl / adjective

C2 relating to beliefs about what is morally right and wrong:

ethical and legal issues

the ethical dilemmas surrounding genetic research

C2 morally right:

ethical practice/trading

a medical procedure which most people believe to be ethical

subdivide / ˌsʌb.dɪ'vaɪd / verb [T]

to divide something into smaller parts:

Each chapter is subdivided into smaller sections.

substance / ˈsʌb.stəns / noun (**MATERIAL**)

B2 [C or U] material with particular physical characteristics:

An organic/chemical substance

What sort of substance could withstand those temperatures?

substitute / ˈsʌb.stɪ.tjuːt / / -tʊt / verb

B2 [T] to use something or someone instead of another thing or person:

You can substitute oil for butter in this recipe.

Dayton was substituted for Williams in the second half of the match.

substitute for sth

to perform the same job as another thing or to take its place:

Gas-fired power stations will substitute for less efficient coal-fired equipment.

substitute / 'sʌb.stɪ.tju:t / -tu:t / noun [C]

B2 a thing or person that is used instead of another thing or person:

Tofu can be used as a meat substitute in vegetarian recipes.

Vitamins should not be used as a substitute for a healthy diet.

subtle / 'sʌt. əl / -'sʌt- / adjective APPROVING

C2 not loud, bright, noticeable, or obvious in any way:

The room was painted a subtle shade of pink.

The play's message is perhaps too subtle to be understood by young children.

C2 achieved in a quiet way that does not attract attention to itself and is therefore good or clever:

a subtle plan/suggestion

subtle questions

sufficiency / sə'fɪʃ. ən.si / noun [S] FORMAL

an amount of something that is enough for a particular purpose:

"More ham, Mr Fletcher?" "No thank you - it was delicious, but I've had a sufficiency (= I have eaten enough) ."

superior / su:'piə.ri.ə / -'piɪ.i.ə / adjective (**BETTER**)

C1 better than average or better than other people or things of the same type:

This is clearly the work of a superior artist.

She was chosen for the job because she was the superior candidate.

supersede / ,su:.pə'si:d / -pə- / verb [T]

to replace something, especially something older or more old-fashioned:

Most of the old road has been superseded by the great interstate highways.

supplement / 'sʌp.li.mənt / noun [C]

C2 something that is added to something else in order to improve it or complete it; something extra:

The doctor said she should be taking vitamin supplements.

The money I get from teaching evening classes provides a supplement to my main income.

We paid a supplement (= an extra amount of money) so that we could have a cabin on board the ship.

supplement / 'sʌp.lɪ.ment / verb [T]

C2 to add something to something to make it larger or better:

He supplements (= adds to) his income by working in a bar in the evening.

Some vegetarians like to supplement their diets with iron tablets.

suppress / sə'pres / verb [T] **(END BY FORCE)**

C2 to end something by force:

The Hungarian uprising in 1956 was suppressed by the Soviet Union.

suppress / sə'pres / verb [T] **(PREVENT)**

C2 to prevent something from being seen or expressed or from operating:

She couldn't suppress her anger/annoyance/delight.

His feelings of resentment have been suppressed for years.

surround / sə'raʊnd / verb [T]

B1 to be everywhere around something:

She said that she wanted to die surrounded by the people she loves (= with them all present) .

Early this morning, armed police surrounded (= moved into a position so that they were

inaccurate / ɪ'næk.jʊ.rət / / -jə.ət / adjective

B2 not completely correct or exact, or not able to do something correctly or exactly:

Their estimate of the cost of the project was wildly (= extremely) inaccurate.

an inaccurate device/weapon

inadequacy / ɪ'næd.ɪ.kwə.sɪ / noun

[C or U] the fact that something is not good enough or is too small in amount:

Economic growth is hindered by the inadequacies of the public transport system.

The inadequacy of the budget is likely to cause problems.

[U] a lack of confidence that makes you feel unable to deal with a situation:

I always suffer from feelings of inadequacy when I'm with him.

inappropriate / ɪn.ə'prəʊ.pri.ət / / -'prɒ- / adjective

C1 unsuitable:

His casual behaviour was wholly inappropriate for such a formal occasion.

I think it would be inappropriate (for you) to invite her to a party so soon after her husband's death.

incentive / ɪn'sen.tɪv / / -tɪv / noun [C or U]

C2 something that encourages a person to do something:

Tax incentives have been very effective in encouraging people to save and invest more of their income.

Bonus payments provide an incentive to work harder.

induce / m'dju:s / / -'du:s / verb [T + obj + to infinitive] FORMAL **(PERSUADE)**

to persuade someone to do something:

They induced her to take the job by promising editorial freedom.

Nothing could induce me (= I definitely cannot be persuaded) to climb a mountain/ride a bike.

variation / ,veə.ri'eɪ.ʃən / / ,ver.i- / noun [C or U] **(CHANGE)**

B2 a change in amount or level:

The medical tests showed some variation in the baby's heart rate.

global temperature variations over the last 140 years

variation / ,veə.ri'eɪ.ʃən / / ,ver.i- / noun **(DIFFERENCE)**

C2 [C] something that is slightly different from the usual form or arrangement:

There are wide variations in the way pensioners have benefited from the system.

The films she makes are all variations on the same theme .

variety / və'raɪə.ti / / -ti / noun [U] **(CHANGE)**

B1 the characteristic of often changing and being different:

When preparing meals, you need to think about variety and taste as well as nutritional value.

versatile / 'vɜː.sə.taɪl / / 'vɜː.sə.t̪əl / adjective APPROVING

C2 able to change easily from one activity to another or able to be used for many different purposes:

He's a very versatile young actor who's as happy in horror films as he is in TV comedies.

A leather jacket is a timeless and versatile garment that can be worn in all seasons.

violent / 'vaɪə.l ənt / adjective **(CAUSING HURT)**

B2 using force to hurt or attack:

He shouts a lot but I don't think he's ever been physically violent towards her.

B2 describes a situation or event in which people are hurt or killed:

There was a violent clash/confrontation between rival supporters after the match.

violent / 'vaɪə.l ənt / adjective **(STRONG)**

C2 sudden and powerful:

He has a violent temper.

violent thunderstorms

visible / 'vɪz.ɪ.bəl / adjective

B2 able to be seen:

There are few visible signs of the illness that kept her in hospital for so long.

The comet should be visible to the naked eye .

visual / 'vɪʒ.u.əl / adjective

B2 relating to seeing:
visual stimulus/impact/abilities

appreciate / ə'pri:ʃi.ət / verb **(VALUE)**

B2 to recognize how good someone or something is and to value them:
There's no point buying him expensive wines - he doesn't appreciate them.
C2 [T] to understand a situation and realize that it is important:
We appreciate the need for immediate action.

appreciate / ə'pri:ʃi.ət / verb [I] **(INCREASE)**

to increase in value:
The value of our house has appreciated by 50 percent in the last two years.
Our house has appreciated (in value) by 50 percent in the last two years.

approve / ə'pru:v / verb [I] **(HAVE A GOOD OPINION)**

B2 to have a positive opinion of someone or something:
She doesn't approve of my friends.
I thoroughly approve of what the government is doing.

array / ə'reɪ / noun [C usually singular]

a large group of things or people, especially one that is attractive or causes admiration or has been positioned in a particular way:
There was a splendid array of food on the table.
They sat before an array of microphones and cameras.

array / ə'reɪ / verb [T usually passive]

to arrange a group of things in a particular way:
A large number of magazines were arrayed on the stand.
Arrayed (= standing in a group) before him were 40 schoolchildren in purple and green.

artificial / ˌɑ:tɪ'fiʃ. əl / / ˌɑ:r.tɪ- / adjective

B2 made by people, often as a copy of something natural:
clothes made of artificial fibres
artificial fur/sweeteners/flowers

phase / feɪz / noun [C]

B2 any stage in a series of events or in a process of development:
The project is only in the initial phase as yet, but it's looking quite promising.
We're entering a new phase in international relations.

physical / 'fɪz.i.k əl / adjective **(BODY)**

B2 connected with the body:
physical exercise/fitness/strength/disabilities
I'm not a very physical sort of person (= I don't enjoy physical activities) .

physical / 'fɪz.ɪ.kəl / adjective **(REAL)**

C2 relating to things you can see or touch, or relating to the laws of nature:

the physical world

All physical objects occupy space.

plagiarize (UK USUALLY **plagiarise**) / 'pleɪ.dʒə.raɪz / / -dʒə.raɪz / verb [I or T]

to use another person's idea or a part of their work and pretend that it is your own:

The book contains numerous plagiarized passages.

If you compare the two books side by side, it is clear that the author of the second has plagiarized (from the first).

plague / pleɪɡ / verb [T]

C2 to cause worry, pain, or difficulty to someone or something over a period of time:

Financial problems have been plaguing their new business partners.

My shoulder's been plaguing me all week.

plague / pleɪɡ / noun [C or U]

C2 bubonic plague , or any serious disease that kills many people

a plague of insects

HUMOROUS A plague of journalists descended on the town.

plan / plæn / noun **(DECISION)**

A2 [C] a set of decisions about how to do something in the future:

a company's business plan

What are your plans for this weekend?

plan / plæn / verb (**-nn-**) **(DECIDE)**

B1 [I + adv/prep , T] to think about and decide what you are going to do or how you are going to do something:

She helped them to plan their route.

If we plan carefully, we should be able to stay within our budget.

plot / plɒt / / plɑ:t / noun [C] **(STORY)**

B2 the story of a book, film, play, etc.:

The film has a very simple plot.

The plots of his books are basically all the same.

plot / plɒt / / plɑ:t / verb (**-tt-**) **(MARK)**

[T] to mark or draw something on a piece of paper or a map

[T] to make marks to show the position, movement, or development of something,

Radar operators plotted the course of the incoming missile.

We've plotted our projected costs for the coming year, and they show a big increase.

temperate / 'tem.pər.ət / / -prət / / -pə.ət / adjective **(WEATHER)**

(of weather conditions) neither very hot nor very cold:

a temperate climate

temperate / 'tem.pə.rət / / -prət / / -pə.rət / *adjective* FORMAL (BEHAVIOUR)

If someone's behaviour is temperate, it is calm and controlled.

pessimistic / ,pes.i'mis.tɪk / *adjective*

B2 thinking that bad things are more likely to happen or emphasizing the bad part of a situation:

The tone of the meeting was very pessimistic.

The doctors are pessimistic (= not hopeful) about his chances of recovery.

fluctuate / 'flʌk.tju.eɪt / *verb* [I]

C2 to change, especially continuously and between one level or thing and another:

Vegetable prices fluctuate according to the season.

Her wages fluctuate between £150 and £200 a week.

annual / 'æn.ju.əl / / -jʊl / *adjective* [before noun]

B1 happening once every year:

an annual event/visit/holiday

Companies publish annual reports to inform the public about the previous year's activities.

B1 relating to a period of one year:

annual income/salary/profit

impartial / ɪm'pɑː.ʃəl / / -'pɑːr- / *adjective*

not supporting any of the sides involved in an argument:

impartial advice

A trial must be fair and impartial.

rival / 'raɪ.vəl / *noun* [C]

C1 a person, group, etc. competing with others for the same thing or in the same area:

He beat his closest/nearest rival by 20 marks.

The companies produce rival versions of the toy.

rival / 'raɪ.vəl / *verb* [T] (-II- or US USUALLY -I-)

C2 to be as good, clever, beautiful, etc. as someone or something else:

No computer can rival a human brain for/in complexity.

The beauty of the country is only rivalled by (= is equal to) the violence of its politics.

coach / kəʊtʃ / / koutʃ / *verb* [I or T]

B2 to give special classes in sports or a school subject, especially privately, to one person or a small group:

She coaches students in French, usually for exams.

breeding / 'bri:diŋ / noun [U] (ANIMALS)

the keeping of animals or plants in order to breed from them:

The family's business was horse-breeding.

We used to keep pigs for breeding purposes.

the process in which animals have sex and produce young animals:

The penguins' breeding season has begun.

mammal / 'mæm. əl / noun [C]

C1 any animal of which the female feeds her young on milk from her own body. Most mammals give birth to live young, not eggs:

Humans, dogs, elephants, and dolphins are all mammals, but birds, fish, and crocodiles are not.

digest / daɪ'dʒest / verb [I or T] (EAT)

C1 to change food in your stomach into substances that your body can use:

I find that I don't digest meat easily.

Sit still and allow your meal to digest.

cultivate / 'kʌl.tɪ.veɪt / -tə- / verb [T] (USE LAND)

C1 to prepare land and grow crops on it, or to grow a particular crop:

Most of the land there is too poor to cultivate.

The villagers cultivate mostly maize and beans.

cultivate / 'kʌl.tɪ.veɪt / -tə- / verb [T] (DEVELOP)

C2 to try to develop and improve something:

She has cultivated an image as a tough negotiator.

If you cultivate a relationship, you make a special effort to establish and develop it, because you think it might be useful to you:

The new prime minister is cultivating relationships with East Asian countries.

domesticate / də'mes.tɪ.keɪt / verb [T often passive]

to bring animals or plants under human control in order to provide food, power, or company:

Dogs were probably the first animals to be domesticated.

variant / 'veə.ri.ənt / -i- / noun [C]

something that is slightly different from other similar things:

There are many colas on the market now, all variants on the original drink.

There are four variants of malaria, all transmitted to humans by a particular family of mosquitoes.

mutation / mju:'teɪ.ʃ ən / noun

[U] the way in which genes change and produce permanent differences:

It is well known that radiation can cause mutation.

[C] a permanent change in an organism, or the changed organism itself:

Environmental pressures encourage genes with certain mutations to persist and others to die out.

descend / dɪ'send / verb (POSITION)

B2 [I or T] FORMAL to go or come down:

The path descended steeply into the valley.

Jane descended the stairs.

specimen / 'spes.ə.mɪn / noun [C]

C2 something shown or examined as an example; a typical example:

Museums will pay large amounts of money for good dinosaur fossil specimens.

Astronauts brought back specimens of moon rock.

afflict / ə'flɪkt / verb [T]

If a problem or illness afflicts a person or thing, they suffer from it:

It is an illness that afflicts women more than men.

complaint / kəm'pleɪnt / noun [C] (ILLNESS)

an illness:

a heart/stomach complaint

migrate / maɪ'greɪt / / 'maɪ.greɪt / verb (TRAVEL/MOVE)

[I] When an animal migrates, it travels to a different place, usually when the season changes:

These animals migrate annually in search of food.

[I] If people migrate, they travel in large numbers to a new place to live temporarily:

Mexican farm workers migrate into the US each year to find work at harvest time.

evolutionary / ˌiː.və'ljuːʃən.ə.ri / / ˌev.ə' - / -er- / adjective

relating to the way in which living things develop over millions of years

involving a gradual process of change and development:

The change has been evolutionary rather than revolutionary.

mimic / 'mɪm.ɪk / verb [T] (PRESENT TENSE **mimicking** , PAST TENSE AND PAST PARTICIPLE

mimicked)

to copy the way in which a particular person usually speaks and moves, usually in order to make people laugh:

She was mimicking the various people in our office.

coin / kɔɪn / verb [T] (INVENT)

C2 to invent a new word or expression, or to use one in a particular way for the first time:

Allen Ginsberg coined the term "flower power".

innovative / ˈɪn.ə.və.tɪv / / -veɪ.tɪv / *adjective* (UK ALSO **innovatory** , / ˈɪn.ə.veɪ.t̬ə.ri /)

C1 using new methods or ideas:

Innovative ideas/methods

She was an imaginative and innovative manager.

unprecedented / ʌnˈpres.ɪ.den.tɪd / / -tɪd / *adjective*

C2 never having happened or existed in the past:

This century has witnessed environmental destruction on an unprecedented scale .

monumental / ˌmɒn.juˈmen.t̬əl / / ˌmɑːn.juˈmen.t̬əl / *adjective*

very big:

a monumental task

a monumental waste of time

attribute / ˈæt.rɪ.bjuːt / *noun* [C]

C2 a quality or characteristic that someone or something has:

Organizational ability is an essential attribute for a good manager.

primitive / ˈprɪm.ɪ.tɪv / / -tɪv / *adjective*

C1 relating to human society at a very early stage of development, with people living in a simple way without machines or a writing system:

Primitive races colonized these islands 2,000 years ago.

The spiny anteater is a mammal, although a very primitive one.

decline / dɪˈklaɪn / *verb* [I] (**GO DOWN**)

B2 to gradually become less, worse, or lower:

His interest in the project declined after his wife died.

The party's popularity has declined in the opinion polls.

peruse / pəˈruːz / *verb* [T] FORMAL

to read through something, especially in order to find the part you are interested in:

He opened a newspaper and began to peruse the personal ads.

investigate / ɪnˈves.tɪ.geɪt / *verb* [T]

B2 to examine a crime, problem, statement, etc. carefully, especially to discover the truth:

Police are investigating allegations of corruption involving senior executives.

courtship / ˈkɔːt.ʃɪp / / ˈkɔːrt- / *noun* [C or U] OLD-FASHIONED OR FORMAL

the time when people have a romantic relationship with the intention of getting married:

They had a passionate courtship and a long, loving marriage.

reproduction / ˌriː.prəˈdʌk.ʃən / *noun* [U] (**PRODUCING YOUNG**)

C2 the process of having babies, producing young, or producing new plants:

human/ sexual reproduction

We are researching reproduction in elephants/ the reproduction of elephants.

evaluate / ɪˈvæl.ju.eɪt / verb [T]

C1 to judge or calculate the quality, importance, amount, or value of something:

It's impossible to evaluate these results without knowing more about the research methods employed.

afford / əˈfɔːd / / -ˈfɔːd / verb **(HAVE ENOUGH)**

can afford

B1 to be able to buy or do something because you have enough money or time:

I don't know how he can afford a new car on his salary.

afford / əˈfɔːd / / -ˈfɔːd / verb [T] FORMAL **(GIVE)**

to allow someone to have something pleasant or necessary:

The hut afforded little protection from the elements.

thrive / θraɪv / verb [I] (**thrived** or US ALSO **throve** , **thrived** or US ALSO **thriven**)

C1 to grow, develop, or be successful:

His business thrived in the years before the war.

She seems to thrive on stress.

commercial / kəˈmɜː.ʃəl / / -ˈmɜː- / adjective

B2 related to buying and selling things:

a commercial organization/venture/success

The commercial future of the company looks very promising.

instruction / ɪnˈstrʌk.ʃən / noun [C usually plural] **(ORDER)**

C2 something that someone tells you to do:

The police who broke into the house were only acting on/under instructions.

ownership / ˈəʊ.nə.ʃɪp / / ˈoʊ.nə- / noun [U]

C1 the fact that you own something:

Do you have any proof of ownership of/for this car?

Rates of home ownership have remained relatively constant.

layout / ˈleɪ.aʊt / noun [C]

C1 the way that something is arranged:

I like the the layout of the house.

Application forms vary greatly in layout and length.

connection / kəˈnek.ʃən / noun **(JOIN)**

B1 [C or U] the act of joining or being joined to something else, or the part or process that makes this possible:

The electricity company guarantees connection within 24 hours.

phenomenon / fəˈnɒm.i.nən / / -ˈnɑː.mə.nɑːn / *noun* [C] (PLURAL **phenomena** / -ə /)

(EXISTING THING)

C1 something that exists and can be seen, felt, tasted, etc., especially something unusual or interesting:

Gravity is a natural phenomenon.

Do you believe in the paranormal and other psychic phenomena?

mystify / ˈmɪs.tɪ.faɪ / *verb* [T often passive]

to confuse someone by being or doing something very strange or impossible to explain:

I was mystified by her decision.

Most Americans seem totally mystified by cricket.

destruction / dɪˈstrʌk.ʃən / *noun* [U]

B2 the act of destroying something, or the fact of being destroyed:

Many people are very concerned about the destruction of the rainforests.

Unusually high winds left a trail of destruction over the area.

amount to sth (ADD UP TO) — *phrasal verb* with **amount** / əˈmaʊnt / *verb*

to become a particular amount:

The annual cost of income support to single parents amounted to £700 million in that year.

feasible / ˈfiː.zə.bəl / *adjective*

C1 able to be made, done, or achieved:

With the extra resources, the scheme now seems feasible.

urgent / ˈɜː.dʒ ənt / / ˈɜː- / *adjective* **(IMPORTANT)**

B1 needing attention very soon, especially before anything else, because important:

He's got to sign that paper - will you tell him it's urgent?

The most urgent thing in a fire is to make sure everyone is out of the building.

viable / ˈvaɪ.ə.bəl / *adjective*

C2 able to work as intended or able to succeed:

In order to make the company viable, it will unfortunately be necessary to reduce staffing levels.

I am afraid your plan is not commercially/economically/financially/politically viable.

survey / ˈsɜː.veɪ / / ˈsɜː- / *noun* [C] **(QUESTIONS)**

B2 an examination of opinions, behaviour, etc., made by asking people questions:

to conduct/carry out/do a survey

survey / 'sɜː.veɪ / / 'sɜː- / noun [C] (EXAMINING)

the measuring and recording of the details of an area of land:
a geological survey

approach / ə'prəʊtʃ / / -'prəʊtʃ / verb [T] (DEAL WITH)

B2 to deal with something:
I'm not sure how to approach the problem.

approach / ə'prəʊtʃ / / -'prəʊtʃ / noun [C] (DEALING WITH)

B2 a way of considering or doing something:
I've just read an interesting book which has a new approach to Shakespeare.
Michael is always very logical in his approach.

indicate / 'ɪn.dɪ.keɪt / verb [T] (SHOW)

B2 to show, point, or make clear in another way:
Exploratory investigations have indicated large amounts of oil below the sea bed.

accompanying / ə'kʌm.pə.ni.ɪŋ / adjective

appearing or going with someone or something else:
Children under twelve require an accompanying parent or guardian to see this movie.

sophistication / sə'fɪs.tɪ'keɪ.ʃən / noun [U]

the quality of being sophisticated:
Her sophistication is evident from the way she dresses.
The sophistication of computers is increasing.

sophisticated / sə'fɪs.tɪ.keɪ.tɪd / / -tɪd / adjective

B2 having a good understanding of the way people behave and/or a good knowledge of culture and fashion:

He was older than me and from London and I thought him very sophisticated.

B2 clever in a complicated way and therefore able to do complicated tasks:
I think a more sophisticated approach is needed to solve this problem.

impair / ɪm'peə / / -'peɪ / verb [T]

to spoil something or make it weaker so that it is less effective:
A recurring knee injury may have impaired his chances of winning the tournament.

persistence / pə'sɪs.təns / / pə- / noun [U]

C2 the fact that someone or something persists:
Most financial analysts have been surprised by the persistence of the recession.
Her persistence and enthusiasm have helped the group to achieve its international success.

perception / pə'sep.ʃən / / pə- / noun (SIGHT)

[U] the quality of being aware of things through the physical senses, especially sight:

Drugs can alter your perception of reality.

[U] someone's ability to notice and understand things that are not obvious to other people:

She has extraordinary powers of perception for one so young.

asset / 'æ.s.ət / / -ɪt / *noun*

C1 [C] a useful or valuable quality, skill, or person:

He'll be a great asset to the team.

Knowledge of languages is a real asset in this sort of work.

C1 [C usually plural] something valuable belonging to a person or organization that can be used for the payment of debts:

A company's assets can consist of cash, investments, specialist knowledge, or copyright material.

contemporary / kən'tem.p ə.r. ə.r.i / / -pə.rer- / *adjective* **(EXISTING NOW)**

B2 existing or happening now:

contemporary music/literature/art/fashion

contemporary / kən'tem.p ə.r. ə.r.i / / -pə.rer- / *adjective* **(OF SAME PERIOD)**

belonging to the same or a stated period in the past:

Almost all of the contemporary accounts of the event have been lost.

bias / 'baɪ.əs / *noun* **(PREFERENCE)**

C2 [C usually singular , U] the action of supporting or opposing a particular person or thing in an unfair way, because of allowing personal opinions to influence your judgment:

The government has accused the media of bias.

Reporters must be impartial and not show political bias.

impoverished / ɪm'pɒv. ə.r.ɪʃt / / -'pɑː.və- / *adjective* **FORMAL**

very poor:

an impoverished young actor

participant / pɑː'tɪs.i.p ənt / / pɑːr'tɪs.ə- / *noun* [C]

C1 a person who takes part in or becomes involved in a particular activity

flaw / flɔː / / flɑː / *noun* [C]

C1 a fault, mistake, or weakness, especially one that happens while something is being planned or made, or that causes something not to be perfect:

I returned the material because it had a flaw in it.

plausible / 'plɔː.zə.bəl / / 'plɑː- / *adjective*

C2 seeming likely to be true, or able to be believed:

a plausible explanation/excuse

odour UK FORMAL (US **odor**) / 'əʊ.də / / 'oʊ.də / *noun* [C or U]

C2 a smell, often one that is unpleasant:

Inside the room there was the unmistakable odour of sweaty feet.

scent / sent / *noun*

B2 [C] a pleasant natural smell:

the scent of roses

respondent / rɪ'spɒn.d ənt / / -'spɑ:n- / *noun* [C]

a person who answers a request for information:

In a recent opinion poll, a majority of respondents were against nuclear weapons.

sensory / 'sen.s ər.i / / -sə- / *adjective* [before noun] SPECIALIZED

connected with the physical senses of touch, smell, taste, hearing, and sight

odourless UK FORMAL (US **odorless**) / 'əʊ.də.ləs / / 'oʊ.də- / *adjective*

without a smell:

an odourless gas

prodigy / 'prɒd.ɪ.dʒi / / 'prɑ:də- / *noun* [C]

someone with a very great ability that usually shows itself when that person is a young child:

The 16-year-old tennis prodigy is the youngest player ever to reach the Olympic finals.

gifted / 'ɡɪf.tɪd / *adjective*

C1 having special ability in a particular subject or activity:

a gifted dancer/musician

clever, or having a special ability:

Schools often fail to cater for the needs of gifted children .

ambivalent / æm'bɪv.ə.lənt / *adjective*

having two opposing feelings at the same time, or being uncertain about how you feel:

I felt very ambivalent about leaving home.

He has fairly ambivalent feelings towards his father.

intellectual / ɪn.t ə'l'ek.tʃu.əl / / -t ə'l'ek.tʃu- / *adjective*

B2 relating to your ability to think and understand things, especially complicated ideas:

Looking after a baby at home all day is nice but it doesn't provide much intellectual stimulation .

intellectual / ɪn.t ə'l'ek.tʃu.əl / / -t ə'l'ek.tʃu- / *noun* [C]

C2 a very educated person whose interests are studying and other activities that involve careful thinking and mental effort:

She was too much of an intellectual to find popular films interesting.

privileged / 'prɪv. əˈlɪdʒd / *adjective*

C1 having a privilege:

As an ambassador, she enjoys a very privileged status.

life expectancy *noun* [C usually singular]

the length of time that a living thing, especially a human being, is likely to live:

Life expectancy in Europe increased greatly in the 20th century.

bully / 'bʊl.i / *verb* [T]

C1 to hurt or frighten someone who is smaller or less powerful than you, often forcing them to do something they do not want to do:

Our survey indicates that one in four children is bullied at school.

mundane / mʌnˈdeɪn / *adjective*

C1 very ordinary and therefore not interesting:

Mundane matters such as paying bills and shopping for food do not interest her.

mediocre / ˌmiː.diˈəʊ.kə / / -'əʊ.kə / *adjective* DISAPPROVING

C2 not very good:

The film's plot is predictable and the acting is mediocre.

Parents don't want their children going to mediocre schools.

perseverance / ˌpɜː.sɪˈvɪə.rəns / / ˌpɜː.səˈvɪr. əns / *noun* [U] APPROVING

C2 continued effort and determination:

Through hard work and perseverance, he worked his way up from being a teacher in a village school to the headmaster of a large college.

mould UK (US **mold**) / məʊld / / maʊld / *noun* [C] (**SHAPE**)

a hollow container with a particular shape into which soft or liquid substances are poured, so that when the substance becomes hard it takes the shape of the container:

mould UK (US **mold**) / məʊld / / maʊld / *verb*

[T] to make a soft substance a particular shape:

This plastic is going to be moulded into plates.

contaminate / kənˈtæm.i.neɪt / *verb* [T]

to make something less pure or make it poisonous:

Much of the coast has been contaminated by nuclear waste.

manufacture / ˌmæn.jʊˈfæk.tʃə / / -tʃə / *verb* [T] (**PRODUCE**)

B2 to produce goods in large numbers, usually in a factory using machines:

He works for a company that manufactures car parts.

The report notes a rapid decline in manufactured goods .

instrument / 'ɪn.strə.mənt / noun [C] **(TOOL)**

C1 a tool or other device, especially one without electrical power, used for performing a particular piece of work:

generate / 'dʒen.ə.r.eɪt / / -ə- / verb [T] **(CREATE)**

B2 to cause something to exist:

Her latest film has generated a lot of interest/excitement .

These measures will increase the club's ability to generate revenue/income .

generate / 'dʒen.ə.r.eɪt / / -ə- / verb [T] **(MAKE ENERGY)**

B2 to produce energy in a particular form:

The wind farm may be able to generate enough electricity/power for 2,000 homes.

capacity / kə'pæs.ə.ti / / -ti / noun [C or S or U] **(AMOUNT)**

B2 the total amount that can be contained or produced, or (especially of a person or organization) the ability to do a particular thing:

manipulate / mə'nɪp.jʊ.leɪt / verb [T] **(USE HANDS)**

to control something using the hands:

The wheelchair is designed so that it is easy to manipulate.

to treat a part of the body, using the hands to push back bones into the correct position and put pressure on muscles:

The doctor manipulated the base of my spine and the pain disappeared completely.

manipulate / mə'nɪp.jʊ.leɪt / verb [T] MAINLY DISAPPROVING **(INFLUENCE)**

to control something or someone to your advantage, often unfairly or dishonestly:

Throughout her career she has very successfully manipulated the media.

accountable / ə'kaʊn.tə.bəl / / -tə- / adjective

C2 Someone who is accountable is completely responsible for what they do and must be able to give a satisfactory reason for it:

She is accountable only to the managing director.

The recent tax reforms have made government more accountable for its spending.

warrant / 'wɒr.ənt / / 'wɔːr- / verb [I or T] OLD-FASHIONED **(PROMISE)**

to say that you are certain about something

budget / 'bʌdʒ.ɪt / noun

B2 [C or U] a plan to show how much money a person or organization will earn and how much they will need or be able to spend:

The firm has drawn up a budget for the coming financial year.

revision / rɪ'vɪʒ.ən / noun [C or U] **(CHANGE)**

a change that is made to something, or the process of doing this:

These proposals will need a lot of revision.

demanding / dɪ'mɑːn.dɪŋ / / -'mæn- / *adjective*

B2 needing a lot of time, attention, or energy:

She's a very demanding child.

variable / 'veə.ri.ə.bəl / / 'ver.i- / *adjective*

C1 likely to change often:

a variable interest rate

British weather is perhaps at its most variable in the spring.

variable / 'veə.ri.ə.bəl / / 'ver.i- / *noun* [C] **SPECIALIZED**

C1 a number, amount, or situation that can change:

The variables in the equation are X, Y, and Z.

collapse / kə'læps / *verb* **(FALL)**

B2 [I] to fall down suddenly because of pressure or having no strength or support:

Thousands of buildings collapsed in the earthquake.

collapse / kə'læps / *verb* [I] **(FAIL)**

C2 (of people and business) to suddenly be unable to continue or work correctly:

Lots of people lost their jobs when the property market collapsed.

devastate / 'dev.ə.steɪt / *verb* [T] **(DESTROY)**

to destroy a place or thing completely or cause great damage

sway / sweɪ / *verb* **(MOVE)**

[I] to move slowly from side to side:

The trees were swaying in the wind.

tackle / 'tæk.l / *verb* [T] **(DEAL WITH)**

B2 to try to deal with something or someone:

There are many ways of tackling this problem.

I tackled him about his careless work.

adopt / ə'dɒpt / / -'dɑːpt / *verb* [T] **(START USING)**

B2 to accept or start to use something new:

I think it's time to adopt a different strategy in my dealings with him.

obtain / əb'teɪn / *verb* [T] **FORMAL (GET)**

B2 to get something, especially by asking for it, buying it, working for it, or producing it from something else:

Sugar is obtained by crushing and processing sugar cane.

coordinate (UK ALSO **co- 'ordinate**) / kəʊ'ɔː.dɪ.neɪt / / kou'ɔːr- / verb [T] (**COMBINE**)

to make various different things work effectively as a whole:

We need someone to coordinate the whole campaign.

A number of charities are coordinating their efforts to distribute food to the region.

mobility / məʊ'bɪl.ɪ.ti / / mou'bɪl.ə.ti / noun [U] (**MOVING**)

the ability to move freely or be easily moved:

Some neck injuries cause total loss of mobility below the point of injury.

constrain / kən'streɪn / verb [T often passive]

C2 to control and limit something:

The country's progress was constrained by a leader who refused to look forward.

refinement / rɪ'faɪn.mənt / noun (**CHANGE**)

[U] the process of making a substance pure:

The refinement of raw opium yields other drugs, such as morphine.

maintenance / 'meɪn.tɪ.nəns / noun [U] (**WORK**)

B2 the work needed to keep a road, building, machine, etc. in good condition:

The magazine offers tips on cutting your house maintenance costs.

efficiency / ɪ'fɪʃ. ə.n.si / noun [U]

B2 the use of time and energy in a good way, without wasting any:

What is so impressive about their society is the efficiency of the public services.

investment / ɪn'vest.mənt / noun [C or U]

B2 the act of putting money, effort, time, etc. into something to make a profit or get an advantage, or the money, effort, time, etc. used to do this:

Stocks are regarded as good long-term investments.

construction / kən'strʌk.ʃ ə.n / noun (**BUILDING**)

B2 [U] the work of building or making something, especially buildings, bridges, etc.:

She works in construction/in the construction industry .

The bridge is a marvellous work of engineering and construction.

harness / 'hɑː.nəs / / 'hɑːr- / verb [T]

to control something, usually in order to use its power:

There is a great deal of interest in harnessing wind and waves as new sources of power.

artificial / ˌɑː.tɪ'fɪʃ. ə.l / / ˌɑːr.tɪ- / adjective

B2 made by people, often as a copy of something natural:

artificial fur/sweeteners/flowers

genuine / 'dʒen.ju.ɪn / adjective

B2 If something is genuine, it is real and exactly what it appears to be:

If it is a genuine Michelangelo drawing, it will sell for millions.

grind / graɪnd / verb [T] (**ground** , **ground**) (**RUB**)

to rub something against a hard surface, in order to make it sharper or smoother:

He ground down the sharp metal edges to make them smooth.

polish / 'pɒl.ɪʃ / / 'pɑːl.ɪʃ / verb [T]

to rub something using a piece of cloth or brush to clean it and make it shine:

to polish the furniture

refine / rɪ'faɪn / verb [T]

C2 to improve an idea, method, system, etc. by making small changes:

Engineers spent many months refining the software.

measurement / 'meʒ.ə.mənt / / -ə- / noun

C2 [C or U] the act or process of measuring:

The test is based on the measurement of blood levels.

precarious / prɪ'keəri.əs / / -'ker.i- / adjective

in a dangerous state because not safe or firmly fixed:

The lorry was lodged in a very precarious way, with its front wheels hanging over the cliff.

capricious / kə'prɪʃ.əs / adjective LITERARY

changing mood or behaviour suddenly and unexpectedly:

a capricious child

He was a cruel and capricious tyrant.

deteriorate / dɪ'tɪəri.ə.reɪt / / -'tɪr.i- / verb [I]

C1 to become worse:

She was taken into hospital last week when her condition suddenly deteriorated.

obstruct / əb'strʌkt / verb [T]

to block a road, passage, entrance, etc. so that nothing can go along it, or to prevent something from happening correctly by putting difficulties in its way:

After the earthquake many roads were obstructed by collapsed buildings.

expose / ɪk'spəʊz / / -'spəʊz / verb [T] (**UNCOVER**)

to remove what is covering something so that it can be seen:

The plaster on the walls has been removed to expose the original bricks underneath.

integrate / 'ɪn.tɪ.greɪt / / -tə- / verb

C1 [I or T] to mix with and join society or a group of people, often changing to suit their way of life, habits, and customs:

It's very difficult to integrate your self into a society whose culture is so different from your own.

consume / kən'sju:m / / -'su:m / verb [T] **(USE RESOURCE)**

C1 to use fuel, energy, or time, especially in large amounts:

Our high living standards cause our present population to consume 25 percent of the world's oil.

isolate / 'aɪ.sə.leɪt / verb [T]

to separate something or someone from other things or people with which they are joined or mixed, or to keep them separate:

He was isolated from all the other prisoners.

A high wall isolated the house from the rest of the village.

regional / 'riː.dʒ ən. əl / adjective

B2 relating to or coming from a particular part of a country:

a regional accent/dialect /newspaper

disrupt / dɪs'rʌpt / verb [T]

B2 to prevent something, especially a system, process, or event, from continuing as usual or as expected:

A heavy fall of snow had disrupted the city's transport system.

degrade / dɪ'greɪd / verb [T] **(LOSE RESPECT)**

to cause people to feel that they or other people have no value and do not have the respect or good opinion of others:

Pornography degrades women.

jeopardize (UK USUALLY **jeopardise**) / 'dʒep.ə.daɪz / / -ə- / verb [T]

to put something such as a plan or system in danger of being harmed or damaged:

She knew that by failing her exams she could jeopardize her whole future.

disastrous / dɪ'zɑː.strəs / / -'zæs.trəs / adjective

C1 extremely bad or unsuccessful:

Such a war would be disastrous for the country.

fertilizer (UK USUALLY **fertiliser**) / 'fɜː.tɪ.laɪ.zə / / 'fɜː.tɪ ə'l.aɪ- / noun [C or U]

a natural or chemical substance that is spread on the land or given to plants, to make plants grow well:

organic fertilizer

vanish / 'væn.ɪʃ / verb [I]

B2 to disappear or stop being present or existing, especially in a sudden, surprising way:

The child vanished while on her way home from school.

repair / rɪˈpeə / / -ˈper / verb [T]

A2 to put something that is damaged, broken, or not working correctly, back into good condition or make it work again:

to repair a roof after a storm

C2 If you repair something wrong or harmful that has been done, you do something to make it right:

Is it too late to repair the damage we have done to our planet?

habitat / ˈhæb.ɪ.tæt / noun [C or U]

C1 the natural environment in which an animal or plant usually lives:

With so many areas of woodland being cut down, a lot of wildlife is losing its natural habitat.

emission / ɪˈmɪʃ.ən / noun

C1 [U] the act of sending out gas, heat, light, etc.:

Environmental groups want a substantial reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases.

C1 [C] an amount of gas, heat, light, etc. that is sent out:

carbon dioxide emissions

comprise / kəmˈpraɪz / verb [T , L only + noun , not continuous] FORMAL

C1 to have as parts or members, or to be those parts or members:

The course comprises a class book, a practice book, and a CD.

memorable / ˈmem.ə.r.ə.bəl / adjective

B2 likely to be remembered or worth remembering:

I haven't seen them since that memorable evening when the boat capsized.

purify / ˈpjʊə.rɪ.faɪ / / ˈpjʊr- / verb [T] **(NOT MIXED)**

to remove bad substances from something to make it pure:

Plants help to purify the air.

One of the functions of the kidneys is to purify the blood.

adaptable / əˈdæp.tə.bəl / adjective

able or willing to change in order to suit different conditions:

The survivors in this life seem to be those who are adaptable to change.

pollutant / pəˈluː.tənt / / -t̪ənt / noun [C]

a substance that pollutes:

Sulphur dioxide is one of several pollutants that are released into the atmosphere by coal-fired power stations.

preserve / prɪˈzɜːv / / -ˈzɜːv / verb [T]

B2 to keep something as it is, especially in order to prevent it from decaying or being damaged or destroyed:

We want to preserve the character of the town while improving the facilities.

The agreement preserved our right to limit trade in endangered species.

harmonize (UK USUALLY **harmonise**) / 'hɑ:mə.naɪz / / 'hɑ:r- / verb [I or T] (**MATCH**)

to be suitable together, or to make different people, plans, situations, etc. suitable for each other:

The garden has been designed to harmonize with the natural landscape.

evaporate / ɪ'væp. ə.r.eɪt / / -ə- / verb [I or T] (**BECOME GAS**)

to cause a liquid to change to a gas, especially by heating:

The high concentration of sugars forms a syrup when the sap evaporates.

Plants keep cool during the summer by evaporating water from their leaves.

evaporate / ɪ'væp. ə.r.eɪt / / -ə- / verb [I] (**DISAPPEAR**)

to disappear:

Halfway through the film reality evaporates and we enter a world of pure fantasy.

erupt / ɪ'rʌpt / verb [I] (**VOLCANO**)

C2 When a volcano erupts, it explodes and flames and rocks come out of it:

Since the volcano last erupted, many houses have been built in a dangerous position on its slopes.

deforestation / diːfɒr.ɪ'steɪ.ʃ ə n / / -fɔ:r- / noun [U]

the cutting down of trees in a large area, or the destruction of forests by people:

Deforestation is destroying large areas of tropical rain forest.

famine / 'fæm.ɪn / noun [C or U]

C2 a situation in which there is not enough food for a great number of people, causing illness and death, or a particular period when this happens:

Another crop failure could result in widespread famine.

There were reports of refugees dying of famine.

synthetic / sm'θet.ɪk / / -'θet- / adjective

describes products that are made from artificial substances, often copying a natural product:

synthetic fibres

revolution / ˌrev.ə'lju:ʃ ə n / noun [C or U] (**POLITICS**)

B2 a change in the way a country is governed, usually to a different political system and often using violence or war:

The French Revolution changed France from a monarchy to a republic.

revolution / ˌrev.ə'lju:ʃ ə n / noun [C] (**CHANGE**)

B2 a very important change in the way that people do things:

Penicillin produced a revolution in medicine.

recognition / ˌrek.əɡˈnɪʃ.ən / noun (ACCEPTING)

C2 [S or U] agreement that something is true or legal:

It's a new country, hoping for diplomatic recognition from the international community.

C2 [S or U] If you are given recognition, people show admiration and respect for your achievements:

Ella complained that the company never gave her any recognition for her work.

redundant / rɪˈdʌn.dənt / adjective UK (NOT EMPLOYED)

B2 having lost your job because your employer no longer needs you:

To keep the company alive, half the workforce is being made redundant.

reinforcement / ˌriː.mˈfɔːs.mənt / / -fɔːrs- / noun

[U] the act of making something stronger:

The harbour walls need urgent reinforcement.

appraisal / əˈpreɪ.zəl / noun [C or U]

the act of examining someone or something in order to judge their qualities, success, or needs:

The newspaper gave an editorial appraisal of the government's achievements of the past year.

scrutinize (UK USUALLY **scrutinise**) / ˈskruː.tɪ.naɪz / / -tʃən.aɪz / verb [T]

to examine something very carefully in order to discover information:

He scrutinized the men's faces carefully/closely, trying to work out who was lying.

tempt / tempt / verb [T]

to make someone want to have or do something, especially something that is unnecessary or wrong:

The offer of free credit tempted her into buying a new car.

disproportionate / ˌdɪs.prəˈpɔːʃən.ət / / -lɪpɔːr- / adjective

too large or too small in comparison to something else, or not deserving its importance or influence:

There are a disproportionate number of girls in the class.

disseminate / dɪˈsem.ɪ.neɪt / verb [T] FORMAL

to spread or give out something, especially news, information, ideas, etc., to a lot of people:

One of the organization's aims is to disseminate information about the disease.

compensation / ˌkɒm.penˈseɪ.ʃən / / ˌkɑːm- / noun [U] (MONEY)

money that is paid to someone in exchange for something that has been lost or damaged or for some problem:

She received £40,000 in compensation for a lost eye.

memorize (UK USUALLY **memorise**) / 'mem.ə.raɪz / verb [T]

to learn something so that you will remember it exactly:

When I was at school, we were required to memorize a poem every week.

priority / praɪ'ɒr.i.ti / / -'ɔɪ.ə.ti / noun [C or U]

B2 something that is very important and must be dealt with before other things:

The management did not seem to consider office safety to be a priority.

My first/top priority is to find somewhere to live.

Official business requirements obviously take/have priority over personal requests (= official business matters will be dealt with first) .

provision / prə'vɪʒ. ə n / noun (**SUPPLY**)

C1 [C or U] the act of providing something:

The provision of good public transport will be essential for developing the area.

Of course there's provision in the plan for population increase.

monitor / 'mɒn.i.tə ɹ / / 'mɑː.nɪ.tə ɹ / verb [T]

C1 to watch and check a situation carefully for a period of time in order to discover something about it:

The new findings suggest that women ought to monitor their cholesterol levels.

The CIA were monitoring (= secretly listening to) his phone calls.

confine / kən'faɪn / verb

C2 [T] to limit an activity, person, or problem in some way:

Let's confine our discussion to the matter in question, please!

Please confine your use of the phone to business calls.

discard / dɪ'skɑːd / / -'skaːrd / verb

[T] to throw something away or get rid of it because you no longer want or need it:

Discarded food containers and bottles littered the streets.

allocate / 'æl.ə.keɪt / verb [T]

C1 to give something to someone as their share of a total amount, for them to use in a particular way:

The government is allocating £10 million for health education.

auditory / 'ɔː.dɪ.t ər.i / / 'ɑː.də.tɔɪr.i / adjective SPECIALIZED

of or about hearing:

It's an artificial device that stimulates the auditory areas of the brain.

accuracy / 'æk.jʊ.rə.si / noun [U]

B2 the fact of being exact or correct:

We can predict changes with a surprising degree of accuracy.

schooling / 'sku:lɪŋ / *noun* [U]

C2 education at school:

Jack didn't receive much formal schooling.

elaborate / ɪ'læb.ə.reɪt / *verb* [I] FORMAL

to add more information to or explain something that you have said:

The minister said he was resigning, but refused to elaborate on his reasons for doing so.

compulsory / kəm'pʌl.sɪ.ri / / -sə- / *adjective*

B2 If something is compulsory, you must do it because of a rule or law:

Swimming was compulsory at my school.

The law made wearing seat belts in cars compulsory.

attainment / ə'teɪn.mənt / *noun*

[U] FORMAL the act of achieving something:

the attainment of a goal

attainment targets

diversity / daɪ'vɜ:si.ti / / dɪ'vɜ:si.ti / *noun* [S or U]

C1 the fact of many different types of things or people being included in something:

Does television adequately reflect the ethnic and cultural diversity of the country?

There is a wide diversity of opinion on the question of unilateral disarmament.

attempt / ə'tempt / *verb* [T]

B1 to try to do something, especially something difficult:

He attempted a joke, but no one laughed.

There's no point in even attempting an explanation - he'll never listen.

aptitude / 'æp.tɪ.tju:d / / -tu:d / *noun* [C or U]

a natural ability or skill:

My son has no/little aptitude for sport.

We will take your personal aptitudes and abilities into account.

perceive / pə'si:v / / pə- / *verb* [T] (BELIEVE)

C1 to come to an opinion about something, or have a belief about something:

How do the French perceive the British?

Women's magazines are often perceived to be superficial.

illustration / ɪl.ə'streɪ.ʃən / *noun* [C or U] (EXAMPLE)

C2 an example that explains or proves something:

This delay is a perfect illustration of why we need a new computer system.

A couple of examples are included, by way of illustration (= to show the meaning more clearly) .

synthesis / 'sɪn.θə.sɪs / *noun* [U] SPECIALIZED **(CHEMICAL PRODUCTION)**

the production of a substance from simpler materials after a chemical reaction

synthesis / 'sɪn.θə.sɪs / *noun* [C] (PLURAL **syntheses**) FORMAL **(MIX)**

the mixing of different ideas, influences, or things to make a whole that is different, or new:

He describes his latest record as 'a synthesis of African and Latin rhythms'.

prescribe / prɪ'skraɪb / *verb* [T often passive] **(GIVE MEDICINE)**

C2 (of a doctor) to say what medical treatment someone should have:

The drug is often prescribed for ulcers.

preventable / prɪ'ven.tə.bəl / / -tə- / *adjective*

able to be prevented:

preventable accidents/injuries

preventive / prɪ'ven.tɪv / / -tɪv / *adjective* [before noun] (ALSO **preventative**)

C2 intended to stop something before it happens:

In the past ten years, preventive measures have radically reduced levels of tooth decay in children.

preventative medicine

imbalance / ɪm'bæl. əns / *noun* [C]

a situation in which two things that should be equal or that are normally equal are not:

There is huge economic imbalance between the two countries.

alternative / ɒl'tɜː.nə.tɪv / / ɔːl'tɜː.nə.tɪv / *adjective*

B2 (US ALSO **alternate**) An alternative plan or method is one that you can use if you do not want to use another one:

The opposition parties have so far failed to set out an alternative strategy.

alternative / ɒl'tɜː.nə.tɪv / / ɔːl'tɜː.nə.tɪv / *noun* [C]

B2 something that is different from something else, especially from what is usual, and offering the possibility of choice:

an alternative to coffee

There must be an alternative to people sleeping on the streets.

altitude / 'æɪ.lɪ.tjuːd / / -tjuːd / *noun* [C]

height above sea level:

We are currently flying at an altitude of 15,000 metres.

Mountain climbers use oxygen when they reach higher altitudes.

analyse UK (US **analyze**) / 'æn. əˈlaɪz / verb [T]

B2 to study or examine something in detail, in order to discover more about it:

Researchers analysed the purchases of 6,300 households.

Water samples taken from streams were analysed for contamination by chemicals.

assess / əˈses / verb [T]

B2 to judge or decide the amount, value, quality, or importance of something:

The insurers will need to assess the flood damage.

They assessed the cost of the flood damage at £1,500.

assess / əˈses / verb [T]

B2 to judge or decide the amount, value, quality, or importance of something:

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They assessed the cost of the flood damage at £1,500.

consistent / kənˈsɪs.t ənt / adjective (**NOT CHANGING**)

C2 always behaving or happening in a similar, especially positive, way:

There has been a consistent improvement in her attitude.

Her work is sometimes good, but the problem is she's not consistent.

liable / ˈlaɪ.ə.bəl / adjective [after verb] SPECIALIZED (**RESPONSIBLE**)

C1 having (legal) responsibility for something or someone:

The law holds parents liable if a child does not attend school.

If we lose the case we may be liable for (= have to pay) the costs of the whole trial.

subject / səbˈdʒekt / verb [T]

to defeat people or a country and then control them against their wishes and limit their freedom:

The invaders quickly subjected the local tribes.

subject sb/sth to sth — phrasal verb with **subject** / səbˈdʒekt / verb [T]

C2 to make someone or something experience an unpleasant or worrying thing:

The inquiry found that they had been subjected to unfair treatment.

"I didn't want to subject him to such a long journey," she said.

bear / beə ˈ / / ber / verb (**bore** , **borne** or US ALSO **born**) (**ACCEPT**)

B2 [T] to accept, tolerate, or endure something, especially something unpleasant:

The strain must have been enormous but she bore it well.

Tell me now! I can't bear the suspense !

abstract / 'æb.strækt / adjective (**GENERAL**)

B2 existing as an idea, feeling, or quality, not as a material object:

Truth and beauty are abstract concepts.

d

accelerate / ək'sel.ə.reɪt / / -ə.ɪt / verb

C2 [I] When a vehicle or its driver accelerates, the speed of the vehicle increases:

I accelerated to overtake the bus.

C1 [I or T] to happen or make something happen sooner or faster:

Inflation is likely to accelerate this year, adding further upward pressure on interest rates.

adjust / ə'dʒʌst / verb (**MAKE CHANGES**)

B2 [T] to change something slightly, especially to make it more correct, effective, or suitable:

If the chair is too high you can adjust it to suit you.

As a teacher you have to adjust your methods to suit the needs of slower children.

admit / əd'mɪt / verb (**-tt-**) (**ACCEPT**)

B1 [T or I] to agree that something is true, especially unwillingly:

He admitted his guilt/mistake.

adversity / əd'vɜː.sə.ti / / -'vɜː.sə.ti / noun [U or C]

a difficult or unlucky situation or event:

She was always cheerful in adversity.

The road to happiness is paved with adversities.

aggression / ə'ɡreʃ. ən / noun [U]

C1 spoken or physical behaviour that is threatening or involves harm to someone or something:

Some types of dog are bred for aggression.

agreeable / ə'ɡriː.ə.bəl / adjective FORMAL (**PLEASANT**)

pleasant or pleasing:

We spent a most agreeable evening by the river.

alter / 'ɒl.tə / / 'ɑːl.tə / verb (**CHANGE**)

B2 [I or T] to change something, usually slightly, or to cause the characteristics of something to change:

We've had to alter some of our plans.

Giving up our car has radically altered our lifestyle.

beneficial / ˌben.ɪ'fɪʃ. əl / adjective

B2 helpful, useful, or good:

The improvement in sales figures had a beneficial effect /influence on the company as a whole.

A stay in the country will be beneficial to his health.

blight / blɑːt / *noun*

[S or U] something that spoils or has a very bad effect on something, often for a long time:

His arrival cast a blight on the wedding day.

plight / plaɪt / *noun* [S]

C2 an unpleasant condition, especially a serious, sad, or difficult one:

the plight of the poor/homeless

Few of us can be unmoved by the plight of the refugees.

boundary / 'baʊn.d̩r.i / / -dri / / -dər- / *noun* [C]

C1 a real or imagined line that marks the edge or limit of something:

The Ural mountains mark the boundary between Europe and Asia.

Residents are opposed to the prison being built within the city boundary.

C1 the limit of a subject or principle:

Electronic publishing is blurring the boundaries between dictionaries and encyclopedias.

calculate / 'kæ1.kjʊ.1ert / *verb* [T]

B2 to judge the number or amount of something by using the information that you already have, and adding, taking away, multiplying, or dividing numbers:

The cost of the damage caused by the recent storms has been calculated as/at over £5 million.

The new tax system would be calculated on the value of property owned by an individual.

setting / 'set.ɪŋ / / 'set- / *noun* (**POSITION**)

B2 [C usually singular] the position of a house or other building:

Their cottage is in an idyllic rural setting.

B2 [C usually singular] the time and the place in which the action of a book, film, play, etc. happens:

The play has its setting in a wartime prison camp.

shade / ʃeɪd / *noun* (**SLIGHT DARKNESS**)

B1 [U] slight darkness caused by something blocking the direct light from the sun:

The sun was hot, and there were no trees to offer us shade.

The children played in/under the shade of a large beach umbrella.

shade / ʃeɪd / *noun* (**DEGREE**)

B2 [C] a type or degree of a colour:

Their kitchen is painted an unusual shade of yellow/an unusual yellow shade.

This hair colouring comes in several shades.

shift / ʃɪft / verb **(MOVE/CHANGE)**

C1 [I or T] to (cause something or someone to) move or change from one position or direction to another, especially slightly:

She shifted (her weight) uneasily from one foot to the other.

The wind is expected to shift (to the east) tomorrow.

shift / ʃɪft / noun [C , + sing/pl verb] **(GROUP)**

B2 a group of workers who do a job for a period of time during the day or night, or the period of time itself:

As the night shift leave/leaves, the day shift arrive/arrives.

signal / 'sɪɡ.nəl / noun [C] **(ACTION)**

B2 an action, movement, or sound that gives information, a message, a warning, or an order:

When she gave (them) the signal, they all cheered.

signal / 'sɪɡ.nəl / verb [I or T] (**-II-** or US USUALLY **-I-**) **(ACTION)**

C2 to make a movement, sound, flash, etc. that gives information or tells people what to do:

Flashing lights on a parked car usually signal a warning (to other motorists).

cater / 'keɪ.tə / / -tʃə / verb [I or T]

C1 to provide, and sometimes serve, food:

I'm catering for twelve on Sunday, all the family are coming.

Which firm will be catering at the wedding reception?

certify / 'sɜː.tɪ.faɪ / / 'sɜː.tə- / verb

[I or T] to say in a formal or official way, usually in writing, that something is true or correct:

The meat has been certified (as) fit for human consumption.

certify / 'sɜː.tɪ.faɪ / / 'sɜː.tə- / verb

[I or T] to say in a formal or official way, usually in writing, that something is true or correct:

As a young man, he had been certified and sent to a hospital for the mentally ill.

chronic / 'krɒn.ɪk / / 'krɑː.nɪk / adjective **(LONG-LASTING)**

C2 (especially of a disease or something bad) continuing for a long time:

chronic diseases/conditions

There is a chronic shortage of teachers.

cognitive / 'kɒɡ.nɪ.tɪv / / 'kɑːɡ.nɪ.tɪv / adjective [before noun] SPECIALIZED

connected with thinking or conscious mental processes:

Some of her cognitive functions have been impaired.

cognitive behaviour/development

coin / kɔɪn / verb [T] **(INVENT)**

C2 to invent a new word or expression, or to use one in a particular way for the first time:

Allen Ginsberg coined the term "flower power".

comment / 'kɒm.ent / / 'kɑː.ment / noun [C or U]

B1 something that you say or write that expresses your opinion:

I don't want any comments on/about my new haircut, thank you!

He made negative comments to the press.

comment / 'kɒm.ent / / 'kɑː.ment / verb [I or T]

B2 to make a comment:

My mum always comments on what I'm wearing.

The official refused to/declined to comment on the matter.

communal / 'kɒm.jʊ.n əl / / kə'mjuː- / / 'kɑː.mjə- / adjective **(SHARED)**

belonging to or used by a group of people rather than one single person:

communal facilities/food/property

We each have a separate bedroom but share a communal kitchen.

communal / 'kɒm.jʊ.n əl / / kə'mjuː- / / 'kɑː.mjə- / adjective **(IN A COMMUNITY)**

involving different social or religious groups within a community:

Communal riots/disturbances have once again broken out between the two ethnic groups.

complicate / 'kɒm.plɪ.keɪt / / 'kɑːm- / verb [T]

C1 to make something more difficult to deal with, do, or understand:

It will only complicate the situation if we invite his old girlfriend as well.

The rescue operation has been complicated by bad weather.

accessible / ək'ses.ə.bəl / adjective

B2 able to be reached or easily got:

The resort is easily accessible by road, rail, and air.

The problem with some of these drugs is that they are so very accessible.

C2 easy to understand:

Covent Garden has made some attempt to make opera accessible to a wider public.

acknowledge / ək'nɒl.ɪdʒ / / -'nɑː.lɪdʒ / verb [T]

C1 to accept, admit, or recognize something, or the truth or existence of something:

Historians generally acknowledge her as a genius in her field.

The government won't even acknowledge the existence of the problem.

C1 to tell someone, usually in a letter or email, that you have received something they sent you:

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter.

contemporary / kən'tem.p 'r. ɔːi / / -pə.rer- / adjective **(EXISTING NOW)**

B2 existing or happening now:

contemporary music/literature/art/fashion

Although the play was written hundreds of years ago, it still has a contemporary (= modern) feel to it.

controversial / ˌkɒn.trə'vɜːʃ əl / / ˌkɔːn.trə'vɜː- / adjective

B2 causing disagreement or discussion:

a controversial issue/decision/speech/figure

The book was very controversial.

crash / kræʃ / verb [I or T] **(HAVE AN ACCIDENT)**

B1 to have an accident, especially one that damages a vehicle:

The plane crashed into a mountainside.

Her brother borrowed her motorbike and crashed it.

credibility / ˌkred.ə'bɪl.ɪ.ti / / -ə.ti / noun [U]

C2 the fact that someone can be believed or trusted:

His arrest for lewd behaviour seriously damaged his credibility as a religious leader.

He complained that we had tried to undermine his credibility within the company.

crisis / 'kraɪ.sɪs / noun (PLURAL **crises** / -sɪːz /)

B2 [C or U] a time of great disagreement, confusion, or suffering:

The country's leadership is in crisis .

I've got a family crisis on my hands - my 16-year-old sister is pregnant.

criterion / kraɪ'tɪə.ri.ən / / -'tɪr.i- / noun [C] (PLURAL **criteria** / -ri.ə / / -'tɪr.i.ə /)

C1 a standard by which you judge, decide about, or deal with something:

The Health Service should not be judged by financial criteria alone.

criticism / 'krɪt.ɪ.sɪ.z əm / / 'krɪt- / noun [C or U]

B2 the act of saying that something or someone is bad:

The designs for the new mosque have attracted widespread criticism.

I have a few criticisms to make of/about your speech.

cue / kjuː / noun [C] **(SIGNAL)**

a word or action in a play or film that is used as a signal by a performer to begin saying or doing something

a signal for someone to do something:

disrupt / dɪs'rʌpt / verb [T]

B2 to prevent something, especially a system, process, or event, from continuing as usual or as expected:

A heavy fall of snow had disrupted the city's transport system.

The meeting was disrupted by a group of protesters who shouted and threw fruit at the

distinguish / dɪ'stɪŋ.gwɪʃ / verb

B2 [I or T , not continuous] to notice or understand the difference between two things, or to make one person or thing seem different from another:

He's colour-blind and can't distinguish (the difference) between red and green easily.

It's not the beauty so much as the range of his voice that distinguishes him from other tenors.

distract / dɪ'strækt / verb [T]

B2 to make someone stop giving their attention to something:

Don't distract her (from her studies).

He tried to distract attention from his own illegal activities.

distribute / dɪ'strɪb.jʊt / / 'dɪs.trɪ.bjʊt / -jʊt / verb [T]

B2 to give something out to several people, or to spread or supply something:

The books will be distributed free to local schools.

Several people were arrested for distributing racist leaflets/pamphlets (to the spectators).

eventually / ɪ'ven.tʃu.əl.i / adverb

B2 in the end, especially after a long time or a lot of effort, problems, etc.:

Although she had been ill for a long time, it still came as a shock when she eventually died.

exaggerate / ɪɡ'zædʒ.ə.reɪt / / -ʒ.ɪt / verb [I or T]

C1 to make something seem larger, more important, better, or worse than it really is:

The threat of attack has been greatly exaggerated.

Don't exaggerate - it wasn't that expensive.

exceptional / ɪk'sep.ʃən.əl / adjective APPROVING

B2 much greater than usual, especially in skill, intelligence, quality, etc.:

an exceptional student

exceptional powers of concentration

exchange / ɪks'tʃeɪndʒ / noun **(GIVING AND GETTING)**

B1 [C or U] the act of giving something to someone and them giving you something else:

an exchange of ideas/information

They were given food and shelter in exchange for work.

exclusive / ɪk'sklʉː.sɪv / adjective **(ONLY FOR SOME)**

C1 limited to only one person or group of people:

This room is for the exclusive use of guests.

exhausted / ɪɡˈzɔːstɪd / / -'zɑː- / adjective

B1 extremely tired:

Exhausted, they fell asleep.

By the time they reached the summit they were exhausted.

expertise / ˌek.spɜː'tiːz / / -spɜː- / noun [U]

a high level of knowledge or skill:

I have no expertise in sewing/sewing expertise.

She has considerable expertise in French history.

comply / kəmˈplaɪ / verb [I] FORMAL

C1 to act according to an order, set of rules, or request:

He's been ordered to have the dog destroyed because it's dangerous, but he refuses to comply.

There are serious penalties for failure to comply with the regulations.

component / kəmˈpəʊ.nənt / / -'pou- / noun [C]

C1 a part that combines with other parts to form something bigger:

television/aircraft/computer components

The factory supplies electrical components for cars.

conceal / kənˈsiːl / verb [T]

C2 to prevent something from being seen or known about:

The listening device was concealed in a pen.

I tried to conceal my surprise when she told me her age.

concentrate / ˈkɒn.s ə n.treɪt / / ˈkɑːn- / verb [I or T] (GIVE ATTENTION)

B1 to direct your attention or your efforts towards a particular activity, subject, or problem:

Come on, concentrate! We haven't got all day to do this.

I can't concentrate on my work with all that noise.

concur / kənˈkɜː / / -'kɜː- / verb [I] (-rr-) FORMAL

to agree or have the same opinion:

The new report concurs with previous findings.

If two or more events concur, they happen at the same time.

confer / kənˈfɜː / / -'fɜː- / verb [T] (-rr-) (GIVE)

to give an official title, honour, or advantage to someone:

An honorary doctorate was conferred on him by Edinburgh University.

confidential / ˌkɒn.fɪˈden.ʃ ə l / / ˌkɑːn- / adjective

C1 secret, often in a formal, business, or military situation:

All information will be treated as strictly confidential.

confuse / kən'fju:z / verb [T]

B2 to mix up someone's mind or ideas, or to make something difficult to understand:

You're confusing him! Tell him slowly and one thing at a time.

B2 to mix up two separate things or people in your mind, imagining that they are one:

You're confusing me with my sister - she's the one studying drama.

conscious / 'kɒn.ʃəs / / 'kɑ:n- / adjective (**NOTICING**)

B2 to notice that a particular thing or person exists or is present:

The tooth doesn't exactly hurt, but I'm conscious of it (= I can feel it) all the time.

considerable / kən'sɪd. ə r.ə.bəl / / -ə- / adjective

B2 large or of noticeable importance:

The fire caused considerable damage to the church.

finite / 'faɪ.naɪt / adjective (**LIMITED**)

C2 having a limit or end:

The funds available for the health service are finite and we cannot afford to waste money.

We only have a finite amount of time to complete this task - we can't continue indefinitely.

foe / fəʊ / / fəʊ / noun [C] LITERARY

an enemy:

The two countries have united against their common foe.

Foes of the government will be delighting in its current difficulties.

format / 'fɔ:.mæt / / 'fɔ:r- / noun [C or U]

C1 a pattern, plan, or arrangement:

The meeting will have the usual format - introductory session, group work and then a time for reporting back.

fragile / 'frædʒ.əl / / 'frædʒ. ə l / adjective

C2 easily damaged, broken, or harmed:

Be careful with that vase - it's very fragile.

The assassination could do serious damage to the fragile peace agreement that was signed last month.

freeze / fri:z / verb (**froze , frozen**) (**COLD**)

B1 [I or T] If you freeze something, you lower its temperature below 0°C, causing it to become cold and often hard, and if something freezes, its temperature goes below 0°C:

Water freezes to ice at a temperature of 0°C.

Our pipes froze (up) (= the water in them turned to ice) several times last winter.

fulfil (-II-) (US USUALLY **fulfill**) / fʊlˈfɪl / verb [T] (**MAKE HAPPEN**)

C1 to do something that is expected, hoped for, or promised, or to cause it to happen:

A school fails if it does not fulfil the needs/requirements of its pupils.

At the age of 45, she finally fulfilled her ambition to run a marathon.

fund / fʌnd / verb [T]

C1 to provide the money to pay for an event, activity, or organization:

The company has agreed to fund my trip to Australia.

The new college is being privately funded (= money for it is not being provided from taxes) .

fundamental / ˌfʌn.dəˈmen.təl / / -təl / adjective

C2 forming the base, from which everything else develops:

We need to make fundamental changes to the way in which we treat our environment.

The school is based on the fundamental principle that each child should develop its full potential.

grant / grɑːnt / / grænt / noun [C]

B1 an amount of money given especially by the government to a person or organization for a special purpose:

a student/research grant

a local authority/government grant

guarantee / ˌɡær.ənˈtiː / verb [T] (**PROMISE**)

If a product is guaranteed, the company that made it promises to repair or change it if a fault develops within a particular period of time:

The fridge is guaranteed for three years.

B2 to promise that something will happen or exist:

harbour UK (US **harbor**) / ˈhɑː.bə / / ˈhɑːr.bə / verb [T] (**HAVE IN MIND**)

to think about or feel something, usually over a long period:

He's been harbouring a grudge against her ever since his promotion was refused.

Powell remains non-committal about any political ambitions he may harbour.

hazard / ˈhæz.əd / / -əd / noun [C]

C1 something that is dangerous and likely to cause damage:

The busy traffic entrance was a hazard to pedestrians.

hinder / ˈhɪn.də / / -də / verb [T]

C2 to limit the ability of someone to do something, or to limit the development of something:

High winds have hindered firefighters in their efforts to put out the blaze.

Her progress certainly hasn't been hindered by her lack of experience.

identify / aɪ'den.tɪ.faɪ / / -tə- / verb [T]

B2 to recognize someone or something and say or prove who or what they are:

Even the smallest baby can identify its mother by her voice.

The gunman in Wednesday's attack has been identified as Lee Giggs, an unemployed truck driver.

ignore / ɪg'nɔː / / -nɔː / verb [T]

B2 to intentionally not listen or give attention to:

She can be really irritating but I try to ignore her.

How can the government ignore the wishes of the majority?

harsh / hɑːʃ / / hɑːrʃ / adjective (**UNKIND**)

C1 unpleasant, unkind, cruel, or more severe than is necessary:

The children had had a harsh upbringing.

He said some harsh words (= spoke unkindly) about his brother.

budget / 'bʌdʒ.ɪt / noun

B2 [C or U] a plan to show how much money a person or organization will earn and how much they will need or be able to spend:

The firm has drawn up a budget for the coming financial year.

Libraries are finding it increasingly difficult to remain within (their) budget.

burden / 'bɜː.dən / / 'bɜː- / noun [C]

a heavy load that you carry:

The little donkey struggled under its heavy burden.

C1 something difficult or unpleasant that you have to deal with or worry about:

the burden of responsibility

My elderly mother worries that she's a burden to me.

imitate / 'ɪm.ɪ.teɪt / verb [T]

C1 to behave in a similar way to someone or something else, or to copy the speech or behaviour, etc. of someone or something:

Some of the younger pop bands try to imitate their musical heroes from the past.

They produce artificial chemicals which exactly imitate particular natural ones.

immediate / ɪ'miː.di.ət / adjective

B2 happening or done without delay or very soon after something else:

We must make an immediate response.

Dioxin is a poison that takes immediate effect.

impressive / ɪm'pres.ɪv / adjective

B2 If an object or achievement is impressive, you admire or respect it, usually because it is special, important, or very large:

That was an impressive performance from such a young tennis player.

indulge / ɪnˈdʌldʒ / verb

C2 [I or T] to allow yourself or another person to have something enjoyable, especially more than is good for you:

The soccer fans indulged their patriotism, waving flags and singing songs.

inevitable / ɪˈnev.ɪ.tə.bəl / -tə- / adjective

C1 certain to happen and unable to be avoided or prevented:

The accident was the inevitable consequence/result/outcome of carelessness.

inherit / ɪnˈher.ɪt / verb [I or T] **(FROM DEAD PERSON)**

C2 to receive money, a house, etc. from someone after they have died:

Who will inherit the house when he dies?

inherit / ɪnˈher.ɪt / verb [T] **(QUALITY)**

C2 to be born with the same physical or mental characteristics as one of your parents or grandparents:

Rosie inherited her red hair from her mother.

initial / ɪˈnɪʃ. əl / adjective [before noun]

B2 of or at the beginning:

My initial surprise was soon replaced by delight.

Initial reports say that seven people have died, though this has not yet been confirmed.

innate / ɪˈneɪt / adjective

C2 An innate quality or ability is one that you were born with, not one you have learned:

Cyril's most impressive quality was his innate goodness.

instalment UK (US **installment**) / ɪnˈstɔːl.mənt / -ˈstɑːl- / noun [C]

so that each part happens or is paid at different times until the end or total is reached:

We agreed to pay for the car by/in instalments.

intense / ɪnˈtens / adjective

C1 extreme and forceful or (of a feeling) very strong:

intense cold/heat/hatred

an intense flavour/colour

interaction / ɪnˌtɜːræk.ʃ ən / -tʃə- / noun [C or U]

C1 an occasion when two or more people or things communicate with or react to each other:

There's not enough interaction between the management and the workers.

Language games are usually intended to encourage student interaction.

interference / ɪnˌtɜːfɪə.ɪ əns / -tʃəˈfɪr. əns / noun [U]

C1 an occasion when someone tries to interfere in a situation:
She seems to regard any advice or help from me as interference.
government's interference in the strike has been widely criticized.

impact / ˈɪm.pækt / *noun* [C usually singular , U]

C2 the force or action of one object hitting another:
The impact of the crash reduced the car to a third of its original length.
The bullet explodes on impact (= when it hits another object) .

interpret / ɪnˈtɜː.pɪt / / -ˈtɜː- / *verb* [I or T] **(BETWEEN LANGUAGES)**

B2 to change what someone is saying into another language:
We had to ask our guide to interpret for us.

interpretation / ɪnˈtɜː.pɪˈteɪ.ʃən / / -ˈtɜː.pɪˈteɪ- / *noun* [C or U] **(EXPLANATION)**

C2 an explanation or opinion of what something means:
The dispute is based on two widely differing interpretations of the law.
It is difficult for many people to accept a literal interpretation of the Bible.

interrupt / ˌɪn.təˈrʌpt / / -ʃə- / *verb* **(STOP SPEAKING)**

B1 [I or T] to stop a person from speaking for a short period by something you say or do:
She tried to explain what had happened but he kept interrupting her.

interrupt / ˌɪn.təˈrʌpt / / -ʃə- / *verb* **(STOP HAPPENING)**

B2 [T] to stop something from happening for a short period:
We had to interrupt our trip when we heard John's mother had had an accident.

keen / kiːn / *adjective* **(EAGER)**

B1 very interested, eager, or wanting (to do) something very much:
They were very keen to start work as soon as possible.

label / ˈleɪ.bəl / *noun* [C] **(SIGN)**

B1 a piece of paper or other material that gives you information about the object it is fixed to:

Remember to put some address labels on the suitcases.

C2 a word or a phrase that is used to describe the characteristics or qualities of people, activities, or things, often in a way that is unfair:

He seems to be stuck with the label of 'troublemaker'.

legal / ˈliː.gəl / *adjective* **(LAW)**

B2 connected with the law:
your legal rights
legal action/proceedings

legitimate / ˌləʒɪt.ɪ.mət / / -ˈdʒɪt- / *adjective*

C2 allowed by law:

The army must give power back to the legitimate government.

C2 reasonable and acceptable:

He claimed that the restaurant bill was a legitimate business expense.

likelihood / 'laɪ.kli.hʊd / noun [U]

C2 the chance that something will happen:

This latest dispute greatly increases the likelihood of a strike.

limb / lɪm / noun [C]

an arm or leg of a person or animal, or a large branch of a tree:

The accident victims mostly had injuries to their lower limbs (= legs) .

lopsided / ˌlɒp'saɪd.ɪd / / ˌlɔːp- / adjective

with one side bigger, higher, etc. than the other; not equally balanced:

a charming, lopsided grin

magnetic / mæɡ'net.ɪk / / -'net- / adjective **(OBJECT)**

C1 with the power of a magnet

magnetic / mæɡ'net.ɪk / / -'net- / adjective **(ATTRACTIVE)**

C1 describes someone whose personality attracts a lot of people

mainly / 'meɪn.li / adverb

B1 usually or to a large degree:

I mainly go to bed around midnight.

The group is made up of mainly young people.

malfunction / ˌmæl'fʌŋk.ʃən / noun [C] FORMAL

a failure to work or operate correctly:

Shortly before the crash the pilot had reported a malfunction of the aircraft's navigation system.

limitation / ˌlɪm.ɪ'teɪ.ʃən / noun

C1 [U] the act of controlling and especially reducing something:

the limitation of nuclear weapons

linguistic / lɪŋ'ɡwɪs.tɪk / adjective

C1 connected with language or the study of language:

I'm particularly interested in the linguistic development of young children.

manifest / 'mæn.ɪ.fest / verb [T] FORMAL

to show something clearly, through signs or actions:

The workers chose to manifest their dissatisfaction in a series of strikes.

Lack of confidence in the company manifested itself in a fall in the share price.

marine / məˈriːn / *adjective* [before noun]

related to the sea or sea transport:

The oil slick seriously threatens marine life around the islands.

Marine biologists are concerned about the effects of untreated sewage that is flowing into coastal waters.

massive / ˈmæs.ɪv / *adjective*

B2 very large in size, amount, or number:

She died after taking a massive overdose of drugs.

If the drought continues, deaths will occur on a massive scale.

mate / meɪt / *verb* [I or T]

to have sex and produce young, or to make animals do this:

Tigers mate repeatedly over a period of several days.

Mating a horse with a donkey produces a mule.

measure / ˈmeɪʒ.ə / / -ə / *verb* [L only + noun , T] **(SIZE)**

B2 to discover the exact size or amount of something, or to be of a particular size:

This machine measures your heart rate.

He measured the flour into the bowl.

mechanism / ˈmek.ə.nɪ.z ə m / *noun* [C] **(MACHINE PART)**

C1 a part of a machine, or a set of parts that work together:

These automatic cameras have a special focusing mechanism.

mechanism / ˈmek.ə.nɪ.z ə m / *noun* [C] **(SYSTEM)**

C1 a way of doing something that is planned or part of a system:

The mechanism for collecting taxes needs revising.

norm / nɔːm / / nɔːrɪm / *noun* [C usually plural]

C1 an accepted standard or a way of behaving or doing things that most people agree with:

Europe's varied cultural, political and ethical norms

notoriety / ˌnəʊ.t ə ˈrɪ.ə.ɪ.ti / / ˌnou.təˈrɪ.ə.ɪ.ti / *noun* [U]

the state of being famous for something bad:

He achieved/gained notoriety for being difficult to work with as an actor.

nourishment / 'nʌr.ɪʃ.mənt / / 'nɜː- / noun [U]

food that someone needs to make them grow and keep them healthy:

Young babies obtain all the nourishment they need from their mother's milk.

objective / əb'dʒek.tɪv / noun [C]

B2 something that you plan to do or achieve:

Her main/prime objective now is simply to stay in power.

Can the sales force achieve/meet its financial objectives?

obligation / ɒb.lɪ'geɪ.ʃən / / ɔː.blə- / noun

B2 [C or U] the fact that you are obliged to do something:

You have a legal obligation to (= the law says you must) ensure your child receives a proper education.

obstacle / ɒb.stɪ.kl / / ɔːb- / noun [C]

C1 something that blocks you so that movement, going forward, or action is prevented or made more difficult:

The biggest obstacle in our way was a tree trunk in the road.

offensive / ə'fɛn.sɪv / adjective (**UPSETTING**)

B2 causing offence:

This programme contains language that some viewers might find offensive.

mental / 'men.təl / / -təl / adjective

B2 [before noun] relating to the mind, or involving the process of thinking:

The family has a history of mental disorder.

A doctor was asked about the mental state of the prisoner.

migrate / maɪ'greɪt / / 'maɪ.greɪt / verb (**TRAVEL/MOVE**)

[I] When an animal migrates, it travels to a different place, usually when the season changes:

These animals migrate annually in search of food.

In September, these birds migrate 2,000 miles south to a warmer climate.

military / 'mɪl.ɪ.tər.i / / -ter- / adjective

B2 relating to or belonging to the armed forces:

foreign military intervention

military targets/forces

minimize (UK USUALLY **minimise**) / 'mɪn.i.maɪz / verb [T]

C1 to reduce something to the least possible level or amount:

We must minimize the risk of infection.

Environmentalists are doing everything within their power to minimize the impact of the oil spill.

modify / 'mɒdɪ.fəɪ / / 'mɑːdɪ- / verb [T] (**CHANGE**)

C1 to change something such as a plan, opinion, law, or way of behaviour slightly, usually to improve it or make it more acceptable:

Instead of simply punishing them, the system encourages offenders to modify their behaviour.

moisture / 'mɔɪs.tʃə / / -tʃə / noun [U]

a liquid such as water in the form of very small drops, either in the air, in a substance, or on a surface:

These plants need a rich soil which retains moisture.

original / ə'rɪdʒɪ.nəl / adjective (**FIRST MADE**)

B1 [usually before noun] existing since the beginning, or being the earliest form of something:

The gardens have recently been restored to their original glory.

B2 [usually before noun] describes a piece of work, such as a painting, etc. produced by the artist and not a copy:

an original drawing/manuscript

overcome / ˌəʊ.və'kʌm / / ˌəʊ.və- / verb [I or T] (**overcame** , **overcome**) (**DEAL WITH**)

B2 to defeat or succeed in controlling or dealing with something:

Juventus overcame Ajax in a thrilling match.

to overcome difficulties/obstacles/problems/resistance

overtake / ˌəʊ.və'teɪk / / ˌəʊ.və- / verb (**overtook** , **overtaken**) (**GO PAST**)

C1 [T] to go past something by being a greater amount or degree:

Our US sales have now overtaken our sales in Europe.

Always check your rear view mirror before you overtake (another car).

paramount / 'pær.ə.maʊnt / / 'per- / adjective FORMAL

C2 more important than anything else:

There are many priorities, but reducing the budget deficit is paramount/is of paramount importance .

participate / pɑː'tɪs.i.pet / / pɑːr'tɪs.ə- / verb [I]

B2 to take part in or become involved in an activity:

She never participates in any of our discussions, does she?

pattern / 'pæt. ən / / 'pæt.ən / noun [C] (**ARRANGEMENT**)

B1 any regularly repeated arrangement, especially a design made from repeated lines, shapes, or colours on a surface:

Look, the frost has made a beautiful pattern on the window.

The curtains had a floral pattern.

optimum / 'ɒp.tɪ.məm / / 'ɑ:p- / *adjective* [before noun] (ALSO **optimal**)

best; most likely to bring success or advantage:

A mixture of selected funds is an optimum choice for future security and return on investment.

option / 'ɒp.ʃən / / 'ɑ:p- / *noun*

B1 [C or U] one thing that can be chosen from a set of possibilities, or the freedom to make a choice:

The best option would be to cancel the trip altogether.

There are various options open to someone who is willing to work hard.

peripheral / pə'rif.ərəl / / -'rif.ə- / *adjective*

describes something that is not as important as something else:

The book contains a great deal of peripheral detail.

happening at the edge of something:

A figure came into my peripheral vision.

permit / pə'mɪt / / pə- / *verb* (**-tt-**)

B1 [T] FORMAL to allow something:

The regulations do not permit much flexibility.

persuade / pə'sweɪd / / pə- / *verb* [T]

B1 to make someone do or believe something by giving them a good reason to do it or by talking to them and making them believe it:

If she doesn't want to go, nothing you can say will persuade her.

portable / 'pɔ:table / / 'pɔ:r.tə- / *adjective*

C1 light and small enough to be easily carried or moved:

a portable radio/phone/computer

potential / pə'ten.ʃəl / / pou- / *adjective* [before noun]

B2 possible when the necessary conditions exist:

A number of potential buyers have expressed interest in the company.

The accident is a grim reminder of the potential dangers involved in North Sea oil production.

poverty / 'pɒv.ə.ti / / 'pɑ:v.ə.ti / *noun* [U]

B2 the condition of being extremely poor:

Two million people in the city live in abject (= very great) poverty.

He emigrated to Australia to escape the grinding (= very great) poverty of his birthplace.

praise / preɪz / verb [T] (**SHOW APPROVAL**)

B2 to express admiration or approval about the achievements or characteristics of a person or thing:

He should be praised for his honesty.

My parents always praised me when I did well at school.

preferential / ˌpref. ə'ren.ʃ əl / / -ə'ren- / adjective [before noun]

describes something you are given that is better than what other people receive:

Inmates claimed that some prisoners had received preferential treatment .

pressing / 'pres.ɪŋ / adjective

urgent or needing to be dealt with immediately:

a pressing need for housing

The most pressing question is what do we do next?

primary / 'praɪ.mə.ri / / -mə.i / adjective (**MAIN**)

B2 more important than anything else; main:

The Red Cross's primary concern is to preserve and protect human life.

property / 'prɒp.ə.ti / / 'prɑː.pə.ʃi / noun (**THINGS OWNED**)

B1 [U] an object or objects that belong to someone:

The club does not accept responsibility for loss of or damage to club members' personal property.

property / 'prɒp.ə.ti / / 'prɑː.pə.ʃi / noun [C] (**QUALITY**)

a quality in a substance or material, especially one that means that it can be used in a particular way:

One of the properties of copper is that it conducts heat and electricity very well.

We value herbs for their taste, but we forget that they also have medicinal properties.

proportion / prə'pɔːʃ ən / / -'pɔːr- / noun (**AMOUNT**)

C1 [C , + sing/pl verb] the number or amount of a group or part of something when compared to the whole:

Children make up a large proportion of the world's population.

prosper / 'prɒs.pə ' / / 'prɑː.spə / verb [I]

(of a person or a business) to be or become successful, especially financially:

A lot of microchip manufacturing companies prospered at that time.

provision / prə'vɪʒ. ən / noun (**SUPPLY**)

C1 [C or U] the act of providing something:

The provision of good public transport will be essential for developing the area.

radical / ˈræd.ɪ.kəl / adjective **(SUPPORTING CHANGE)**

C2 believing or expressing the belief that there should be great or extreme social or political change:

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

range / reɪndʒ / noun **(LIMIT)**

B2 [S] the amount, number, or type of something between an upper and a lower limit:

The price range is from \$100 to \$500.

The product is aimed at young people in the 18–25 age range.

depression / dɪˈpreʃ.ən / noun **(UNHAPPINESS)**

B2 [U] the state of feeling very unhappy and without hope for the future:

I was overwhelmed by feelings of depression.

designate / ˈdez.ɪɡ.neɪt / verb [T]

to choose someone officially to do a particular job:

Traditionally, the president designates his or her successor.

Thompson has been designated (as/to be) team captain.

detain / dɪˈteɪn / verb [T often passive]

to force someone officially to stay in a place:

A suspect has been detained by the police for further questioning.

to delay someone for a short length of time:

I'm sorry I'm late - I was unavoidably detained.

detect / dɪˈtekt / verb [T]

C1 to notice something that is partly hidden or not clear, or to discover something, especially using a special method:

Some sounds cannot be detected by the human ear.

Financial experts have detected signs that the economy is beginning to improve.

recognize (UK USUALLY **recognise**) / ˈrek.əɡ.naɪz / verb [T] **(KNOW)**

B1 to know someone or something because you have seen, heard, or experienced them before:

I hadn't seen her for 20 years, but I recognized her immediately.

Doctors are trained to recognize the symptoms of different diseases.

reduction / rɪˈdʌk.ʃən / noun

B2 [C or U] the act of making something, or of something becoming, smaller in size, amount, degree, importance, etc.:

a reduction in traffic

huge price reductions

regulate / ˈreg.ju.leɪt / verb [T]

C1 to control something, especially by making it work in a particular way:
You can regulate the temperature in the house by adjusting the thermostat.

rehearsal / rɪ'hɜːs əl / / -'hɜː- / *noun* [C or U]

B2 a time when all the people involved in a play, dance, etc. practise in order to prepare for a performance:

They didn't have time for (a) rehearsal before the performance.

reject / rɪ'dʒekt / *verb* [T]

B2 to refuse to accept, use, or believe something or someone:

The appeal was rejected by the High Court.

Coin-operated machines in England reject euros.

relevant / 'rel.ə.v ənt / *adjective*

B2 connected with what is happening or being discussed:

Education should be relevant to the child's needs.

For further information, please refer to the relevant leaflet.

reliance / rɪ'laɪ.əns / *noun* [U]

C2 the state of depending on or trusting in something or someone:

The region's reliance on tourism is unwise.

You place too much reliance on her ideas and expertise.

reluctant / rɪ'lʌk.t ənt / *adjective*

C1 not willing to do something and therefore slow to do it:

Many parents feel reluctant to talk openly with their children.

She persuaded her reluctant husband to take a trip to Florida with her.

rudimentary / ˌruː.dɪ'men.t ər.i / / -tə- / *adjective* FORMAL

basic:

Her knowledge is still only rudimentary.

secrete / sɪ'kriːt / *verb* [T] SPECIALIZED (**PRODUCE**)

(of animals or plants or their cells) to produce and release a liquid:

Saliva is a liquid secreted by glands in or near the mouth.

separate / 'sep. ər.ət / / -ə- / *adjective*

B1 existing or happening independently or in a different physical space:

The art department and the main college are in two separate buildings.

I have my public life and my private life, and as far as possible I try to keep them separate.

soar / sɔː ˈ / / sɔːr / *verb* (**RISE QUICKLY**)

C2 [I usually + adv/prep] to rise very quickly to a high level:

All night long fireworks soared into the sky.

Temperatures will soar over the weekend, say the weather forecasters.

sophisticated / sə'fɪs.tɪ.keɪ.tɪd / / -tɪd / *adjective*

B2 having a good understanding of the way people behave and/or a good knowledge of culture and fashion:

She was slim, svelte, and sophisticated.

I don't suppose I have any books that would suit your sophisticated tastes.

specific / spə'sɪf.ɪk / *adjective* (**PARTICULAR**)

B2 relating to one thing and not others; particular:

The virus attacks specific cells in the brain.

The money is intended to be used for specific purposes.

standard / 'stæn.dəd / / -dəd / *noun* (**USUAL**)

[C usually singular] a pattern or model that is generally accepted:

This program is an industry standard for computers.

steer / stɪə ' / / stɪr / *verb*

B2 [I or T] to control the direction of a vehicle:

She carefully steered the car around the potholes.

[T usually + adv/prep] to take someone or something, or cause them to go, in the direction in which you want them to go:

She steered her guests into the dining room.

tension / 'ten.ʃ ə n / *noun* (**FEELING**)

B2 [U] a feeling of nervousness before an important or difficult event:

You could feel the tension in the room as we waited for our exam results.

B2 [C usually plural or U] a feeling of fear or anger between two groups of people who do not trust each other:

ethnic/racial tension

term / tɜ:m / / tɜ:m / *noun* (**DESCRIPTION**)

B2 [C] a word or expression used in relation to a particular subject, often to describe something official or technical:

'Without let or hindrance' is a legal term that means 'freely'.

threat / θret / *noun* [C]

B2 a suggestion that something unpleasant or violent will happen, especially if a particular action or order is not followed:

The threat of jail failed to deter him from petty crime.

toxic / 'tɒk.sɪk / / 'tɔ:k- / *adjective* (**POISONOUS**)

B2 poisonous:

toxic waste/chemicals/effluent

trace / treɪs / verb [T] (**FIND**)

C1 to find someone or something that was lost:

The police are trying to trace the mother of a newborn baby found abandoned outside a car.

C1 to find the origin of something:

The phone company were unable to trace the call.

track / træk / noun (**PATH**)

B1 [C] a path or rough road that is made of soil rather than having a surface covered with stone or other material:

The house is at the end of a dirt/an unmade track.

track / træk / verb (**FOLLOW**)

C2 [T] to follow a person or animal by looking for proof that they have been somewhere, or by using electronic equipment:

It's difficult to track an animal over stony ground.

trait / treɪt / noun [C]

C2 a particular characteristic that can produce a particular type of behaviour:

His sense of humour is one of his better traits.

Arrogance is a very unattractive personality/character trait.

tremendous / trɪ'men.dəs / adjective

B2 very great in amount or level, or extremely good:

They were making the most tremendous amount of noise last night.

She's been a tremendous (= very great) help to me over the last few months.

trigger / 'trɪg.ə / / -ə / verb [T]

C1 to cause something bad to start:

Some people find that certain foods trigger their headaches.

The racial killings at the weekend have triggered off a wave of protests.

unbiased / ʌn'biəɪst / adjective

C2 able to judge fairly because you are not influenced by your own opinions:

unbiased advice

an unbiased opinion

underlie / ʌn.də'laɪ / / -dʌ- / verb [T] (PRESENT PARTICIPLE **underlying** , PAST TENSE

underlay , PAST PARTICIPLE **underlain**)

to be a hidden cause of or strong influence on something:

Psychological problems very often underlie apparently physical disorders.

uniform / 'juː.nɪ.fɔːm / / -fɔːrm / noun [C or U]

A2 a particular set of clothes that has to be worn by the members of the same organization or group of people:

military/school uniform

uniform / 'juː.nɪ.fɔːm / / -fɔːrm / *adjective*

the same; not changing or different in any way:

As in so many offices that you see, the walls and furniture are a uniform grey.

dazzle / 'dæz.əl / *verb*

C2 [T] If light dazzles you, it makes you unable to see for a short time:

I was dazzled by the sunlight.

C2 [T usually passive] If you are dazzled by someone or something, you think they are extremely good and exciting:

I was dazzled by his charm and good looks.

deadline / 'ded.laɪn / *noun* [C]

B2 a time or day by which something must be done:

There's no way I can meet that deadline.

I'm afraid you've missed the deadline - the deadline for applications was 30 May .

deficiency / dɪ'fɪʃ. ə.n.si / *noun* [C or U]

C1 a state of not having, or not having enough, of something that is needed:

Pregnant women often suffer from iron deficiency.

Deficiencies in the education system have been much in the news.

democratic / ,dem.ə'kræt.ɪk / / -'krætʃ- / *adjective*

B2 based on the principles of democracy:

We must accept the results of a democratic election (= an election in which all people can

democracy / dɪ'mɒk.rə.si / / -'mɑː.krə- / *noun*

B2 [U] the belief in freedom and equality between people, or a system of government based on this belief, in which power is either held by elected representatives or directly by the people themselves:

The government has promised to uphold the principles of democracy.

surveillance / sə'veɪ.ləns / / sə- / *noun* [U]

the careful watching of a person or place, especially by the police or army, because of a crime that has happened or is expected:

The police have kept the nightclub under surveillance because of suspected illegal drug activity.

suspicious / sə'spɪʃ.əs / *adjective* **(SEEM GUILTY)**

B2 making you feel that something illegal is happening or that something is wrong:

The fire at the bank is being treated as suspicious.

suspicious / səˈspɪʃ.əs / adjective (**DOUBT**)

B2 feeling doubt or no trust in someone or something:

My mother has a very suspicious nature (= does not trust people) .

sustenance / ˈsʌs.tɪ.nəns / noun [U] FORMAL (**FOOD**)

food:

During this freezing weather, the food put out by householders is the only form of

swift / swɪft / adjective

C2 happening or moving quickly or within a short time, especially in a smooth and easy way:

The local police took swift action against the squatters.

assign / əˈsaɪn / verb [T] (**CHOOSE**)

C1 [often passive] to give a particular job or piece of work to someone:

The case has been assigned to our most senior officer.

attitude / ˈæt.ɪ.tjuːd / / ˈæf.ɪ.tuːd / noun [C or U] (**OPINION**)

B1 a feeling or opinion about something or someone, or a way of behaving that is caused by this:

It's often very difficult to change people's attitudes.

authority / ɔːˈθɒr.ɪ.ti / / əˈθɔːr.ɪ.ti / noun (**POWER**)

B2 [U] the moral or legal right or ability to control:

The United Nations has used/exerted/exercised its authority to restore peace in the area.

We need to get the support of someone in authority (= an important or high-ranking person) .

avoid / əˈvɔɪd / verb [T]

B1 to stay away from someone or something:

I try to avoid supermarkets on Saturdays - they're always so busy.

B2 to prevent something from happening or to not allow yourself to do something:

The report studiously avoided any mention of the controversial plan.

damp / dæmp / adjective

B2 slightly wet, especially in a way that is not pleasant or comfortable:

The grass is still damp.

This shirt still feels a bit damp.

diminish / dɪˈmɪn.ɪʃ / verb [I or T]

C1 to reduce or be reduced in size or importance:

I don't want to diminish her achievements, but she did have a lot of help.

We've seen our house diminish greatly/sharply/substantially in value over the last six months.

reproduce / ˌriː.prəˈdjuːs / / -ˈduːs / verb **(COPY)**

C1 [I or T] to produce a copy of something, or to be copied in a production process:

His work was reproduced on leaflets and magazines.

They said the printing was too faint to reproduce well.

resemble / rɪˈzem.bl / verb [T]

C1 to look like or be like someone or something:

You resemble your mother very closely.

After the earthquake, the city resembled a battlefield.

resistance / rɪˈzɪs.t əns / noun

C2 [U] the act of fighting against something that is attacking you, or refusing to accept something:

resistance to disease

Government troops offered no resistance (to the rebels).

responsible / rɪˈspɒn.sɪ.bl / / -ˈspɑːn- / adjective **(DUTY)**

B1 to have control and authority over something or someone and the duty of taking care of it or them:

Paul is directly responsible for the efficient running of the office.

Her department is responsible for overseeing the councils.

restrict / rɪˈstrɪkt / verb [T]

C1 to limit the movements or actions of someone, or to limit something and reduce its size or prevent it from increasing:

measures to restrict the sale of alcohol

Having small children really restricts your social life.

retain / rɪˈteɪn / verb [T]

C2 FORMAL to keep or continue to have something:

She has lost her battle to retain control of the company.

He managed to retain his dignity throughout the performance.

private / ˈpraɪ.vət / adjective **(PERSONAL)**

B1 only for one person or group and not for everyone:

She has a small office that is used for private discussions.

I caught him looking through my private papers.

profit / ˈprɒf.ɪt / / ˈprɑː.fɪt / noun

B2 [C or U] money that is earned in trade or business, after paying the costs of producing and selling goods and services:

She makes a big profit from selling waste material to textile companies.

A year ago the Tokyo company had a pretax profit of 35 million yen.

prohibit / prə'hɪb.ɪt / verb

B2 [T often passive] to officially refuse to allow something:

Motor vehicles are prohibited from driving in the town centre.

The government introduced a law prohibiting tobacco advertisements on TV.

prolong / prə'lɒŋ / / -'lɔːŋ / verb [T]

C1 to make something last a longer time:

We were having such a good time that we decided to prolong our stay by another week.

She chewed each delicious mouthful as slowly as she could, prolonging the pleasure.

promote / prə'məʊt / / -'mɔʊt / verb [T] (**ENCOURAGE**)

B2 to encourage people to like, buy, use, do, or support something:

Advertising companies are always having to think up new ways to promote products.

Greenpeace works to promote awareness of the dangers that threaten our planet today.

prompt / prɒmpt / / prɑːmpt / adjective

B2 (of an action) done quickly and without delay, or (of a person) acting quickly or arriving at the arranged time:

They've written back already - that was a very prompt reply.

They're usually fairly prompt in dealing with enquiries.

explicit / ɪk'splɪt / adjective

C2 clear and exact:

I gave her very explicit directions how to get here.

I wasn't aware that I would be paying - you certainly didn't make it explicit (= state it clearly) .

exploit / ɪk'splɔɪt / verb [T] (**USE WELL**)

B2 to use something for advantage:

We need to make sure that we exploit our resources as fully as possible.

exploit / ɪk'splɔɪt / verb [T] (**USE UNFAIRLY**)

B2 to use someone or something unfairly for your own advantage:

Laws exist to stop companies exploiting their employees.

extend / ɪk'stend / verb [T] (**STRETCH**)

to stretch something out:

We've extended a washing line (= made it reach) between two trees in the garden.

extend / ɪk'stend / verb [I usually + adv/prep] (**REACH**)

B2 to reach, stretch, or continue:

The Sahara Desert extends for miles.

extinct / ɪk'stɪŋkt / *adjective*

C1 not now existing:

There is concern that the giant panda will soon become extinct.

Many tribes became extinct when they came into contact with Western illnesses.

extract / ɪk'strækt / *verb* [T]

B2 to remove or take out something:

They used to extract iron ore from this site.

The oil which is extracted from olives is used for cooking.

extreme / ɪk'stri:m / *adjective* (**GREAT**)

B2 very large in amount or degree:

extreme pain/stupidity/wealth

faculty / 'fæk. əl.ti / / -ti / *noun* (**ABILITY**)

C1 [C usually plural] a natural ability to hear, see, think, move, etc.:

Even at the age of 100, she still had all her faculties.

faculty / 'fæk. əl.ti / / -ti / *noun* (**IN A COLLEGE**)

B2 [C or S] US the people who teach in a department in a college

feasible / 'fi:.zə.bəl / *adjective*

C1 able to be made, done, or achieved:

With the extra resources, the scheme now seems feasible.

feature / 'fi:.tʃə / / -tʃə / *noun* (**QUALITY**)

B2 [C] a typical quality or an important part of something:

Our latest model of phone has several new features.

A unique feature of these rock shelters was that they were dry.

fertilize (UK USUALLY **fertilise**) / 'fɜ:.tɪ.laɪz / / 'fɜ:.t̪ əl.aɪz / *verb* [T] (**LAND**)

to spread a natural or chemical substance on land or plants, in order to make the plants grow well

fertilize (UK USUALLY **fertilise**) / 'fɜ:.tɪ.laɪz / / 'fɜ:.t̪ əl.aɪz / *verb* [T] (**EGG/SEED**)

to cause an egg or seed to start to develop into a new young animal or plant by joining it with a male cell:

Bees fertilize the flowers by bringing pollen.

financial / fɑ'næn.ʃ əl / / fɪ- / *adjective*

B1 relating to money or how money is managed:
financial difficulties/success