

**abandon**

n. lacking restraint or control; feeling of extreme emotional intensity; unbounded enthusiasm

*With her parents out of town, Kelly danced all night with abandon.*

**abort**

v. stop; terminate before completion; terminate a pregnancy

*However, most women say that the decision to abort is a difficult one.*

**abortion**

n. termination of pregnancy; failure of a plan

*Instead of doing what many young Egyptian women in her situation do, that is, have an abortion, she went public and took the alleged father to court.*

**absurd**

a. preposterous; ridiculously incongruous or unreasonable; foolish

*Alice thought the whole thing very absurd, but they all looked so grave that she did not dare laugh.*

**abuse**

n. improper use or handling; misuse

*The commenter said that he had stopped seven years of girl abuse in this area, thanks to Vito.*

**academic**

a. related to school; not practical or directly useful; relating to the scholarly organization; based on formal education

*The dean's talk about reforming the college admissions system was only an academic discussion.*

**academy**

n. school for special instruction; society of scholars, scientists, or artists

*The mission of our academy is actually to ensure the health and well-being of all children.*

**access**

n. approach; entry; entrance

*The only access to the village is by boat.*

**account**

n. narrative or record of events; the reason given for a particular action or event

*What is the account for this loss?*

**accountant**

n. one who maintains and audits business accounts

*Our business and finance group is looking for a dynamic accountant to join the accounting team supporting the Company's new area.*

**accurate**

a. capable of providing a correct reading or measurement; performing with care and precision

*Can anyone tell me how accurate the English translation in the posted clip is?*

**accuse**

v. blame; say that someone has done something morally wrong, illegal, or unkind

*He then went on to accuse the West of hypocrisy in criticizing Russia's human rights record.*

**accused**

n. defendant or defendants in a criminal case; a person charged with an offense

*The testimony expected by the accused from the witness will be regarded as having been actually taken.*

## acid

n. sour; water-soluble compounds having a sour taste; quality of being sarcastic, bitter, or scornful

*There is a barrage of acid comments in today's newspapers.*

## acknowledge

v. declare to be true or admit; express obligation, thanks

*Although I acknowledge that the Beatles' tunes sound pretty dated today, I still prefer them to my brothers' songs.*

## address

v. make a formal speech to; deal with or discuss; direct efforts or attention of

*Brown planned to address the issue of low-income housing in his speech.*

## adjust

v. change something slightly, especially to make it more correct, effective, or suitable

*The opera house was handed over by the builders nearly a year ago, but it's taken many months to install new stage machinery and to adjust the acoustics.*

## administration

n. management; supervision; people who are in charge of management; the activity of government for powers and duties

*Obviously, the key person in administration is the man in the White House.*

## adopt

v. accept; take on; raise; take into one's family

*In a late-night session, the United States, which has blocked most recent efforts to adopt resolutions on the Middle East, put forward its own proposal.*

## adore

v. worship with profound reverence; pay divine honors to; regard with the utmost esteem and affection

*All the girls in our school adore the handsome mathematics teacher who happens to be a bachelor.*

## adult

n. one who has attained maturity or legal age; fully grown

*It is not clear from the video if the adult is a man or woman, but he or she is facing charges of endangering a child's welfare.*

## affect

v. have an emotional or cognitive impact upon

*The move is likely to affect women and girls worldwide as international brands such as Mango and Zara have signed up to the agreement.*

## affection

n. fondness; tender feeling toward another; fondness

*I happen to think that the physical expression of love and affection is just about the best thing we humans do.*

## afford

v. pay; provide; have the financial means for; bear the cost of

*The deal reduces the cost of certain AIDS drugs and gives developing countries the confidence to afford to treat citizens in the long-term.*

**agency**

n. a business that serves other businesses; an administrative unit of government

*The FDA press office tells me the agency is aware of the incident and is currently investigating.*

**agenda**

n. items of business at a meeting; list or program of things to be done or considered

*His agenda is certainly different from the President's and the administration's, but we will seek additional opportunities to work together with him.*

**aggressive**

a. making assaults; unjustly attacking; combative; hostile; tending to spread quickly

*During his tenure in Beijing, Huntsman was an aggressive advocate for human rights and pushed to expand U.S. economic ties with China.*

**agreement**

n. state of agreeing; harmony of opinion, statement, action, or character

*We are in agreement with their decision.*

**aid**

n. person or thing that promotes or helps in something done; helper; assistant

*The company has also asked for an additional 3.50 billion dollars in aid from the government.*

**air**

v. be broadcast on television or radio

*The tidbits that will air on tonight's 6 o'clock news.*

**aisle**

n. passageway between rows of seats, as in an auditorium or an airplane; the wing of a building

*I am glad that one side of the aisle is still trying to make this country work.*

**alarm**

n. any sound or information intended to give notice of approaching danger

*'Come, my head is free at last!' said Alice in a tone of delight, which changed into alarm in another moment.*

**album**

n. a list of names; a register for visitors; a blank book to insert autographs sketches, memorial writing, photographs

*My album of boyhood photographs often reminds me of past happiness.*

**alien**

a. dissimilar, inconsistent, or opposed in nature; very different place, society, or person

*If you think about it, that's totally alien to what a drug company might be expected to do because if you eradicate a disease, there's no need for that drug at all.*

**alliance**

n. state of being allied; the act of allying or uniting; a union of interests between families, states, parties

*Now sources close to Sharon and Peres say they could lead to a long-term alliance - or even a joint party.*

**ally**

n. confederate; partner; collaborator

*The trouble is that selling arms to this particular ally regularly involves commissions - in plain language, bribes - to well-placed people.*

**alone**

a. solitary; by oneself, not with any other people

*Alice cried with a sudden burst of tears, 'I do wish they would put their heads down! I am so very tired of being all alone here!'*

**alternative**

n. one of two or more things, ideas, or courses of action that may be used; option or choice

*Electron Instruments believed its desktop SEM was vastly superior to the next best alternative from a Japanese competitor.*

**amaze**

v. astonish; affect with wonder

*Archaeologists amaze that such a fragile ancient document could have survived for so long and that it was then discovered as it could so easily have been overlooked.*

**ambassador**

n. authorized messenger or representative

*He was appointed ambassador to the United States.*

**ambulance**

n. field hospital organized as to follow an army in its movements; a wagon for conveying the wounded to hospital

*His breathing had become so labored she called an ambulance to send him to the hospital immediately.*

**amount**

n. total of two or more quantities; aggregate; sum

*The amount of money sent home by migrant workers to their families in Latin America has reached more than \$62 billion.*

**anniversary**

a. annual; yearly; annual return of the day on which any notable event took place

*He gave me a necklace as an anniversary gift.*

**annual**

a. occurring or payable every year

*It says that the Queen's role in the annual state opening of parliament should be changed.*

**anonymous**

a. having no name; having an unknown or unacknowledged name

*The buyer, who wished to remain anonymous, is a foreigner with homes in Europe.*

**antique**

n. any furniture old and valuable; out of fashion

*The woeful ongoing situation of open archaeological sites, which antique smugglers are systematically plundering, will be another priority issue.*

**anxiety**

n. concern something in a state of painful uneasiness; state of restlessness and agitation

*To wait in anxiety is perhaps the hardest thing in life; tea, tobacco, and hot baths are the possible anodynes.*

**anyhow**

ad. in any way or manner whatever; at any rate; in any event

*I couldn't think of the name of that man anyhow.*

**apart**

ad. separately, regarding space or company; in a state of separation as to place; aside

*In fact, I doubt anyone knew his real name apart from the security staff.*

**appeal**

n. attraction; charm; attract; fascinate; challenge

*Oxfam is making a big appeal for humanitarian aid to Darfur and neighboring Chad, where millions of people have been made homeless by fighting.*

**appetite**

n. instinctive physical desire, especially one for food or drink

*China's urban young are developing a growing appetite for the cool white look of platinum jewelry.*

**apply**

v. exert; put into service; avail oneself to;

*You cannot apply all money to your mortgage.*

**appointment**

n. act of putting a person into a non-elective position; arrangement

*His appointment as Foreign Secretary has triggered speculation in London about the Prime Minister's motives for the change.*

**appreciate**

v. be thankful for; increase in worth; be thoroughly conscious of

*I am truly thankful for the stocks, which would appreciate in value considerably in future years.*

**approach**

n. a way of considering or doing something

*Faced with an increasingly competitive jobs market, the army is becoming more sophisticated and corporate in its approach to recruitment.*

**appropriate**

v. acquire; take possession of for one's own use; set apart for specific use

*The ranch owners appropriate the lands that have originally been set aside for the Indians' use.*

**approval**

n. official approbation; endorsement; an act of approving

*First, Ehrlich knows it would be extremely unlikely to win approval from the Democratic-dominated General Assembly.*

**area**

n. a plane surface, as of the floor of a room; open space in a building; the enclosed space; extent; scope; range

*His special interest lies in the area of literature.*

**argue**

v. invent and offer reasons to support or overthrow a proposition, opinion, or measure; debate

*The United States should, they argue, attempt to remain aloof.*

**arrogant**

a. arising from feeling or assumption of one's superiority toward others

*He often speaks in an arrogant tone, which doesn't encourage others to discuss with him.*

**article**

n. essay; editorial; individual thing or element of a class

*An article in a national newspaper caused the protests.*

## **ashamed**

a. affected by shame; abashed or confused by guilt

*Are you ashamed for having lied?*

## **aside**

ad. on, or to, one side; out of a straight line, course, or direction; at a little distance from the rest

*All joking aside, can you swim 15 miles?*

## **aspirin**

n. white crystalline compound drug to relieve pain and reduce fever and inflammation

*Plavix, along with aspirin, is widely used to prevent heart attacks and strokes.*

## **assault**

n. a violent attack; an onslaught

*He's charged with interfering with the performance of a flight crew by assault or intimidation.*

## **assist**

v. give help or support to, especially as a subordinate

*A good way to assist is to bring entrepreneurial and business skills to them.*

## **associate**

v. connect or join together; combine

*The public is likely to associate a word or mark with a given company.*

## **assume**

v. suppose; presume; take on; bear

*He looked at me long and hard: I turned my eyes from him, fixed them on the fire, and tried to assume and maintain a quiet.*

## **assure**

v. tell someone confidently that something is true; guarantee; convince

*I know it, and I don't wish to palliate them, I assure you.*

## **attack**

n. offensive move; expression of strong criticism; hostile comment

*A national newspaper received an anonymous phone call warning about the attack just minutes before the first device exploded.*

## **attempt**

n. the action of trying at something

*I also want to claim that this attempt is a romantic one.*

## **attend**

v. be present at; go to; take care of; tend

*Britain's House of Lords has been described as the best club in London, and for many of the hereditary members who rarely attend debates, that's just what it is.*

## **attitude**

n. posture, action, or disposition of a figure or a statue

*One of the major reasons for this change in attitude is that there's more money around.*

## **attorney**

n. lawyer; one who is appointed by another to act in his place or stead; proxy

*Did this attorney mean to throw away his client's life without an effort?*

**attractive**

a. appealing; pleasing; inviting; tempting

*The mobile phone companies argue that reducing taxes will make legally imported phones more attractive than the cheaper smuggled models.*

**auction**

n. public sale of property to the highest bidder

*The auction is over, and the winning bid was 1000 dollars.*

**audience**

n. a group of people within hearing; crowd seeing a stage performance

*You should have a clear idea about who your audience is and how you can exploit your product through the correct platform.*

**authority**

n. jurisdiction; power to enforce laws, exact obedience, command, determine, or judge; government

*The laws will reinforce Australia's authority to turn boats away from Australia.*

**available**

a. convenient for use or disposal; not busy, free; obtainable; accessible

*Vaccines are available but are costly and only offer relatively short-term protection, so the animals need regular booster vaccinations.*

**avoid**

v. shield away from; prevent

*If you are the press secretary to the President of the United States, the main thing to avoid is becoming the story yourself.*

**aware**

a. knowing; having knowledge or cognizance

*As you're likely aware, BPA is a chemical commonly found in plastics, food cans, and water bottles.*

**awful**

a. causing fear, dread, or terror; extremely bad or unpleasant; terrible

*He says the budget is in awful shape, and we need to take steps to fix it.*

**awkward**

a. difficult to handle or manage

*John Kerry recently spoke of his faith, but he's more awkward about it than President Bush's born again.*

**bachelor**

n. unmarried men; the first or lowest academic degree conferred by universities and colleges

*A soon-to-be-married man's friends throw him the ultimate bachelor party.*

**backward**

a. directed to the back or rear; unwilling; averse; reluctant; hesitating; undeveloped

*Although he is clever, he is backward in giving his views.*

**bacon**

n. back and sides of a pig salted and smoked

*They built a fire against the side of a great log and then cooked some bacon in the frying-pan for supper.*

**badge**

n. a distinctive mark, token, or sign worn on the person

*He was awarded a merit badge for his bravery in the battle.*

## **baggage**

n. trunks, bags, parcels, and suitcases in which one carries one's belongings while traveling; luggage

*When you fully engage in the present, there is no room for baggage from the past or fear of the future.*

## **bait**

v. harass; tease; lure, entice, or entrap

*The school bully will bait the smaller children, terrorizing them.*

## **bake**

v. prepare, as food, by cooking in dry heat, either in an oven or under coals, or on heated stone or metal

*In some places, people still bake bricks in the sun.*

## **balance**

n. being in equilibrium; equilibrium; symmetry; stability

*Many here see the ruling against US cotton subsidies as just the first step in tipping the balance of future world trade talks in favour of developing countries.*

## **balcony**

n. platform projecting from the wall of a building

*He planted some flowers on the balcony that projects over the street.*

## **bald**

a. hairless; lacking a natural or usual covering

*Although he carried, under his wig, a perfectly bald and shiny head, he had only reached middle age.*

## **ballet**

n. a sort of theatrical representation by dancers

*That school strives to be an international leader in ballet training.*

## **band**

n. orchestra; team; strip; ribbon; belt; unite; ally

*The band, made up of four previously unknown young actors, has provoked hysteria across Asia since starring in the Taiwanese TV series.*

## **bang**

n. a vigorous blow; a conspicuous success

*But there are fears that if the Egyptian side doesn't play well, the crowds will stay away, and the African Cup may go off with a whimper rather than a bang.*

## **banner**

n. flag; sign; a newspaper headline that runs across the full page

*The red top refers to the color of the banner at the top of the paper.*

## **bar**

n. a counter where you can obtain food or drink; cafe; strip; stick

*For low-paid male workers the cafeterias are a social focus: the equivalent of a bar or pub in non-Muslim countries, a place to meet friends and workmates.*

## **barbecue**

n. a rack to hold meat for cooking over hot charcoal usually out of doors

*The authorities believe it could have been started by a barbecue that had not been put out properly and have announced that they will be questioning suspects in the morning.*



**bare**

a. lacking the usual or appropriate covering or clothing

*Silent in bare feet, he swiftly crossed the cold marble floor, sliding into bed just as the door creaked open.*

**barely**

ad. just; only; hardly; scarcely

*Only a few years ago, there were no mobile phones, landlines barely worked.*

**bargain**

n. agreement between parties concerning the sale of property

*'A part of me you must become,' he answered steadily; 'otherwise, the whole bargain is void.'*

**barn**

n. an outlying farm building for storing grain or animal feed and housing farm animals

*I daresay it is only a rat scrambling along the rafters of the adjoining schoolroom: it was a barn before I had it repaired and altered, and rats generally haunt them.*

**barrel**

n. vessel; large cylindrical container

*With the oil price soaring above thirty dollars a barrel and the pumps going nearly at full capacity, Gulf Arab coffers are overflowing with unforeseen wealth.*

**baseball**

n. game played with a bat and ball by two opposing teams of nine players; ball used in this game

*Baseball is more popular than any other sport in Japan.*

**basement**

n. cellar; a part of a building that is below the level of the first floor

*There are so many things of India which are either lying in the basement of the Victoria and Albert Museum or in the India Office Library.*

**battery**

n. beating or pounding; set of guns or heavy artillery; a dry cell that produces an electric current

*I'm hoping the battery is just dead and that a quick charge will solve everything.*

**bay**

n. an inlet of the sea, usually smaller than a gulf; a small body of water set off from the main body

*In the library, the books on history are all kept in one bay.*

**beam**

n. ray of light; a long piece of metal or wood; long piece fixed or movable in structure, machine, or tool

*During a severe earthquake, each beam will absorb the shock by crumpling, thereby preventing severe damage to the tower.*

**bear**

v. support; sustain; carry; have; yield; give birth; hold up or support

*They studied the ways in which the relativity theory can bear on the history of science.*

**bearing**

n. carrying another part; patient endurance; suffering without complaint; the act of producing or giving birth

*The U.S. Mint is set to unveil a new \$1 coin bearing President Abraham Lincoln's image.*

**beat**

v. whip; strike; defeat; hit repeatedly

*Speak roughly to your little boy; And beat him when he sneezes; He only does it to annoy; Because he knows it teases.*

**beaten**

a. formed or made thin by hammering; totally worn-out; exhausted

*Finally we saw a village located well off the beaten path.*

**behalf**

n. represent; advantage, benefit, the interest of someone

*And I'm going to work to assure that that voice that is heard on their behalf is a roar and not a whisper.*

**behave**

v. perform; conduct oneself in a proper way

*How we behave is up to us, □ but Nikolai believes that one's particular circumstances predetermine everything.*

**belly**

n. part of the human body which extends downward from breast to thighs, and contains bowels; womb

*His belly is like a cooking pot, Which happens when you eat a lot.*

**beloved**

a. greatly loved; dear to the heart

*But if I go on until my beloved is my bride, and she has taken up my fate, and we are one, and the world knows no difference, what then?*

**bend**

v. strain or move out of a straight line; curve; turn toward some certain point

*Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events.*

**benefit**

n. advantage; something that aids or promotes well-being; welfare; gain

*Another benefit for business is the elimination of currency risk in the Euro area: the possibility that you might lose money in cross-border trade.*

**bent**

a. determined to do or have

*We are bent on going to the theater no matter how heavy the snow is.*

**bet**

n. stake or pledge upon the event of a contingent issue; amount or object risked in a wager

*I truly believe this setback; my bet is they will recover and move on, hopefully, sooner than soon.*

**betray**

v. be unfaithful; reveal unconsciously or unwillingly

*The two spies betray their country by selling military secrets to the enemy.*

**bid**

v. make an offer of; propose; offer in words; declare, as a wish, a greeting, a threat, or defiance

*'Then you and I must bid good-bye for a little while?' 'I suppose so, sir.'*

**bite**

v. pierce the skin with teeth; seize with the teeth; sting with a stinger; eat into; have a sharp taste

*Our laws must bite; that is the only language that the criminals will understand.*

**bitter**

a. harsh or corrosive in tone; painful; acrid; acrimonious

*He is perhaps the best-qualified person for many years to solve a long-standing and bitter dispute.*

**bizarre**

a. fantastic; violently contrasting; strangely unconventional in style or appearance

*The plot of the novel was too bizarre to be believed.*

**blame**

v. condemn; rebuke; find fault with; censure

*The doctor says that natural variability in the weather is probably to blame, but human influence can't be ruled out.*

**blank**

a. of white or pale color; without color; empty; void

*But he stares out over my shoulder at the skyline, his expression blank, seemingly disinterested in whether I choose to go with him or not.*

**blast**

n. explode; burst; gale; a powerful gust of wind or air

*The blast is the deadliest incident since a series of ones killed three people in Bangkok on New Year's Eve in 2006.*

**bleed**

v. emit blood; lose blood; withdraw blood from the body

*All the young soldiers are ready to bleed for the country.*

**bless**

v. make or pronounce holy; consecrate; make happy

*My family and I will be praying along with Rick that God will again bless your country.*

**block**

v. hinder; obstruct; indicate broadly without great detail; sketch

*He failed to get enough allies to block the reform.*

**blonde**

a. of a fair color; light-colored; as, blond hair; a blond complexion.

*The wig this woman wore during a two-day robbery across New York earned her the name blonde bandit.*

**board**

n. a committee having supervisory powers; a flat piece of material designed for a special purpose

*Instruments on the board include the Neutral Gas and Ion Mass Spectrometer, which will analyze the comet nucleus's chemical composition - the icy core in the comet's head.*

**boarding**

n. wooden boards collectively; act of entering a ship; supplying with meals and lodgings for pay

*If I had a kid like that, I'd put him in boarding school.*

**bold**

a. brave; daring; intrepid; impudent

*After five months of detention without trial, the release of the bold young newspaper editor-in-chief marks a significant victory.*

## **bolt**

v. dash or dart off; move or jump suddenly

*Jack was set to bolt out the front door.*

## **bond**

n. link; connection; uniting force or tie; binding agreement; duty

*Last year, the average short-term bond fund gained about 9%, according to Morningstar.*

## **bonus**

n. an extra dividend to the shareholders; money paid in addition to a stated compensation

*She's very dissatisfied with not getting a bonus.*

## **boom**

n. bonanza; prosperity; prosper; expand; flourish

*It is a hi-tech boom town, the center for dozens of successful biotech and IT firms, and the home to an ever-expanding middle class.*

## **booth**

n. house or shed built for temporary occupation; covered stall or temporary structure

*There is a telephone booth near the cinema.*

## **border**

n. outer part or edge of anything, as of a garment, a garden; margin; verge; brink; boundary

*This table had a cover made out of beautiful oilcloth, with a red eagle painted on it and a painted border all around.*

## **bore**

v. drill; make a hole in or through, with or as if with a drill

*Three types of protein that enable the cells to bore in and out of blood vessels.*

## **bother**

v. annoy; trouble; make agitated or nervous; fluster

*But that doesn't bother me because I don't want love; I want my music.*

## **bounce**

v. jolt; rebound after having struck an object or a surface

*All patients bounce back to good health with that particular medicine.*

## **bound**

n. tied; held; committed; limit; constraint; leap; jump

*Supreme Court ended a term bound to affect our lives in significant ways in the months ahead.*

## **boutique**

n. small shop within a large department store or supermarket

*Located in historic Fabric Row, the boutique is a good place for gem buyers.*

## **brand**

n. a burning piece of wood; mark made by burning with a hot iron; distinctive mark upon in any way

*He has his own brand of humor and always brings laugh for us.*

## **break**

n. opportunity to do something; pause or interval, as from work; a sudden change

*A former boxer, he got his break as an actor when he replaced Marlon Brando in the Broadway production of A Streetcar Named Desire.*

## **breakdown**

n. process of failing to function or continue; a sudden collapse in physical or mental health; summary of itemized data

*His frequent depressions were the prelude to a complete mental breakdown.*

## **breeze**

n. light current of air; gentle wind; progress swiftly and effortlessly

*Tomorrow Night: A light, but the steady breeze from the southwest keeps temperatures warmer than tonight.*

## **bribe**

n. something serving to influence or persuade; reward or gift to prevent judgment

*It was easy to see the gift as a sort of bribe.*

## **brief**

a. short in time, duration, length, or extent; concise

*When my brief career as a pop star ended, I found I had done fairly well.*

## **briefcase**

n. portable, often flat case with a handle, used for carrying papers or books

*After each campaign stop, he returned to his car, where his black-leather briefcase is always in its place beside him.*

## **brilliant**

a. full of light; shining; bright; sharp and clear in tone

*The refreshing meal, the brilliant fire, the presence, and kindness of her beloved instructress had roused her powers among them.*

## **brutal**

a. like a brute; savage; cruel; inhuman; merciless

*In many cases, a rich businessman reached the top by trampling others in the most brutal way.*

## **bubble**

n. foam; dome-shaped covering made of transparent glass or plastic; fantastic or impracticable idea or belief

*This is the most anticipated public offering since the dot-com bubble burst four years ago.*

## **buck**

v. move quickly and violently; jump vertically; strive with determination

*John is trying to buck for a promotion.*

## **bucket**

n. vessel for drawing up water from a well; a vessel for hoisting and conveying coal, ore, grain

*It may be a drop in the bucket, but any drop is a dangerous one when it comes to violence.*

## **bud**

n. one that is not yet fully developed; sprout

*The first thing to be thought of is to pluck the disease in its bud, which is best done by injections.*

## **budget**

n. estimate; a sum of money allocated for a particular purpose

*Earlier this week, EU governments voted to bend the rules so that France and Germany wouldn't be penalized for breaking the rules on budget deficits.*

**bug**

n. general name applied to various insects

*It might have seemed to him a waste of ammunition to kill a bug with a battery of artillery.*

**bull**

n. male of any species of cattle; large, strong, and aggressive person; optimist regarding business conditions

*We are in a medium-term bull market, a corrective move within a long-term bear market.*

**bully**

n. noisy, blustering fellow; one who is threatening and quarrelsome; insolent, tyrannical fellow

*I found early in life that the best way to defeat a bully is a punch to the nose.*

**bump**

n. impact as from a collision; lump on the body caused by a blow

*Have you ever found a small lump or a bump on your body?*

**bunch**

n. clump; cluster; gathering

*They found the sharp new heap they sought and ensconced themselves within the protection of three great elms that grew in a bunch within a few feet of the grave.*

**bush**

n. place abounding in trees or shrubs; the wild forest

*When they got pretty close on to us, we dodged into the bush and let them go by and then dropped in behind them.*

**business**

n. rightful concern or responsibility; occupation, work, or trade-in which a person is engaged; commercial enterprise

*I think that women doing big things in business are inspirational to others because it helps eliminate role discrimination.*

**bust**

n. the occasion for excessive eating or drinking; complete failure; sculpture of the head and shoulders of a person

*With major debt repayments due over in 18 months, the business could go bust.*

**buzz**

n. confusion of activity and gossip; the sound of rapid vibration

*Still, despite the robust growth, if you listen closely to the analysts and bankers, you can pick up a low buzz of concern over some economic areas.*

**cabin**

n. a small room on a ship or boat where people sleep

*British Airways says passengers reported a slight smell of petrol in the cabin of BA flight 003 bound for New York.*

**cabinet**

n. group of persons appointed by a head of state or a prime minister; hut; cottage; small house; small room; a closet

*On Wednesday, the Indian cabinet deferred the anti-corruption legislation.*

**cable**

n. solid thick rope made of twisted steel or metal wire

*It provides cable television services and high-speed internet services to the community.*

**cafe**

n. coffee house; restaurant where coffee and liquors are served

*The police came and ejected the noisy youths from the cafe room.*

**cafeteria**

n. a restaurant where you serve yourself and pay a cashier

*The Medicine Hat College cafeteria offers a wide range of food services.*

**calendar**

n. the orderly arrangement as years, months, weeks, and days; a table showing months, weeks, and days

*He didn't like the desk calendar and put it on the shelf.*

**campaign**

n. battle; a series of actions advancing a principle or tending toward a particular end

*The Clinton campaign has raised more money in the first three months of this year than all nine Democratic candidates combined.*

**campus**

n. the field where the buildings of a university are situated

*Usually, a campus includes libraries, lecture halls, student residential areas, and park-like settings.*

**cancel**

v. revoke; call off; omit or delete

*The meeting in Addis Ababa has heard Chinese promises to cancel debts and increase Chinese investments in Africa.*

**candidate**

n. a person who is considered for something; a person who is nominated for an office, prize, or honor

*The European Union is welcoming these ten candidate countries with open arms and broad smiles.*

**capable**

a. having the ability required for a specific task

*Canadian politicians have been capable of ending this primitive practice.*

**capacity**

n. mental or physical ability; ability to accommodate

*Mike had the capacity to handle several jobs at once.*

**cape**

n. piece or point of land, extending beyond the adjacent coast into the sea or a lake; sleeveless outer garment

*Out on the cape is a fine lighthouse that we admired as we came up the coast on the ship.*

**capital**

n. wealth in the form of money or property; assets available for use; a city that is the official seat of government

*It has so far received \$45 billion in capital from the Treasury, and the Treasury is insuring 300 billion dollars of its assets.*

**capture**

n. act of seizing by force, or getting possession of by superior power; thing taken by force, surprise, or stratagem

*He presently got safely beyond the reach of capture and punishment.*

**carrot**

n. the root of cultivated varieties of the plant, usually spindle-shaped and of a reddish yellow color

*The dish of boiled beef and carrot tastes good.*

**carry**

v. convey or transport in any manner from one place to another; hold or support while moving; bear

*They carry the news by word of mouth to every settlement in a few days.*

**cart**

n. common name for various kinds of vehicles; two-wheeled vehicle; light business wagon

*The horse pulled a cart loaded with potatoes.*

**carton**

n. pasteboard for paper boxes; pasteboard box

*The kids drink up a whole big carton of juice after the play in the hot sun.*

**cash**

n. money paid at the time of purchase; money in the form of bills or coins; currency

*You must pay cash there; we don't offer credit.*

**cast**

v. assign the roles of; choose at random

*They're going to use a television reality show to cast the three actors who will play Evo Morales in the different stages of his life.*

**casual**

a. informal; purposeless; occurring by chance

*The wildlife officer, in casual conversation, asks Hunter Joe where that deer came from.*

**catch**

v. capture or seize, especially after a chase; take by or as if by trapping; reach just in time

*A person's genetic makeup has a strong influence on the likelihood that they catch HIV.*

**catching**

a. act of seizing or taking hold of; captivating; alluring

*That is the appeal in catching them; I think it is amazing to pull something massive out of muddy water that few people actually see.*

**catholic**

a. broadly sympathetic; universal; related to Roman Catholic Church

*He was extremely catholic in his taste and read everything he could find in the library.*

**cellar**

n. room or rooms under a building, and usually below the surface of the ground

*The New Zealand wineries are similar to the American wineries and welcome visitors to what they call the cellar door.*

**cemetery**

n. place or ground set apart for the burial of the dead; graveyard

*A vehicle for conveying a coffin is to a church or cemetery.*

**cereal**

n. grass such as wheat, oats, or corn, the starchy grains of which are used as a food

*I have a bowl of cereal every morning.*



**ceremony**

n. a formal act or set of acts performed as prescribed by ritual or custom

*This afternoon, a swearing ceremony is set for a man who will replace the late Senator Ted Kennedy.*

**certificate**

n. the document attesting to the truth of certain stated facts; document issued to a person completing a course

*A diploma or certificate is given on graduation from university.*

**challenge**

v. assert a right; raise a formal objection; take exception to

*Nowadays no one will challenge the fact that the earth is round.*

**chamber**

n. cell; compartment; room

*Before being taken to the execution chamber, he acknowledged that he deserved punishment, but he said it was unfair that only he paid the ultimate price.*

**champagne**

n. light wine, of several kinds, originally made in the province of Champagne, in France

*Why don't we crack open a bottle of champagne to celebrate?*

**champion**

v. protect or fight for the first place

*They believe he could champion the oppressed in their struggle for equality.*

**channel**

n. passage for water or other fluids to flow through; bed of a stream or river; route of communication or access

*You should take her request through the official channel, and there is no private room for her issue.*

**chaos**

n. disorder; condition or place of great disorder or confusion; disorderly mass

*Their job is to stop a repeat of the chaos that blighted the last election in 2002.*

**chapel**

n. place of worship that is smaller than and subordinate to a church; service conducted in a chapel

*Slightly smaller than the shrine, the chapel is also a domed structure cruciform in plan.*

**chapter**

n. division of a book or treatise; assembly of monks; bishop's council; organized branch of some society

*A new chapter in a novel is something like a new scene in a play.*

**charge**

v. set or ask for a certain price; load to capacity; fill; instruct or urge authoritatively; command

*The barbers share the same haircut service price: they charge six dollars for boys and ten for girls.*

**charity**

n. activity or gift that benefits the public at large

*This is potentially embarrassing for those involved in the concerts, as the rock stars use charity to disguise self-promotion.*

**charm**

n. power or quality of pleasing or delighting; attractiveness; item worn for its supposed magical benefit

*Her spirit and charm is going to be a great lesson to all young women and teens*

**chart**

n. graph; diagram; map showing coastlines, water depths, or other information of use to navigators

*A fisherman's chart may be the crucial evidence that finally helps to rest the mystery of what happened to Roald Amundsen.*

**chase**

v. pursue to kill or take; hunt; follow as if to catch

*He saw the policeman chase the mugger down the alley.*

**chat**

n. talk without exchanging too much information; informal conversation

*Inviting others into the chat is as simple as sending them a human-readable URL, and nobody has to sign up or answer an invitation email.*

**check**

v. stop motion; curb or restrain

*Young man, you'd better check your temper.*

**cheer**

n. the lightness of spirits or mood; source of joy or happiness; festive food and drink; refreshment

*The best way to spread Christmas cheer is to sing loud for everyone to hear!*

**cherish**

v. harbor; treasure; treat with affection and tenderness; hold dear

*One aspect of my marriage that I truly cherish is how Darrell and I work together as a team.*

**chew**

v. bite and grind with the teeth

*You must chew your food well before you swallow it.*

**chief**

a. highest in office or rank; principal; head

*The chief difficulty Alice found at first was in managing her flamingo.*

**chill**

a. cool; freeze; a feeling of cold

*Mists as chill as death wandered to the impulse of east winds along those purple peaks.*

**chin**

n. the central forward portion of the lower jaw; bottom of the face

*The face is mild and weak, especially in the thin short chin and feeble mouth.*

**chip**

v. cut small pieces from; diminish or reduce to shape; break or crack

*The snow stopped, and they began to chip ice from the windows.*

**choir**

n. band or organized company of singers, especially in church service

*Some people will say that being in a choir is lots of involvement because you have both rehearsals and services, which is true.*

**choke**

v. breathe with great difficulty, as when experiencing a strong emotion; reduce the air supply

*Children can choke on peanuts.*

**circuit**

n. electrical device that provides a path for electrical current to flow

*On rare occasions, microscopic metal particles can lead to a short circuit within the cell, causing overheating and potentially flames.*

**circus**

n. public entertainment of performances by acrobats, clowns, and trained animals

*I am not an animal rights person, but training animals to perform in a circus is cruel.*

**civil**

a. having to do with citizens or the state; courteous and polite

*Although Internal Revenue Service agents are civil servants, they are not always courteous to suspected tax cheats.*

**civilian**

a. of or relating to non-military life

*The first is integrating former rebels back into civilian life.*

**claim**

n. demand for something as rightful or due

*They struck in support of their claim for a shorter workday.*

**classic**

n. work of acknowledged excellence and authority, or its author; creation of the highest excellence

*His face was like a Greek face, very pure in outline: quite a straight, classic nose; quite an Athenian mouth and chin.*

**clearance**

n. act of clearing; space cleared; permission to proceed or trust

*Professors who wish to work with human genetic material need clearance from their university's review board.*

**click**

v. make a slight, sharp noise by gentle striking; tick

*Students prefer to click the mouse rather than to strike the keyboard.*

**client**

n. someone who pays to get goods or services

*Gentlemen, my plan is broken up: what this lawyer and his client say is true: I have been married, and the woman to whom I was married lives!*

**clinic**

n. healthcare facility for outpatient care

*In one of the worst-hit villages in the Bachu area, authorities say about a thousand homes collapsed and at least one school and a clinic.*

**clip**

n. a small section of filmed or filed material

*Phil's job at Fox Sports involved selecting the most important clip of the day's sporting highlights for later broadcast.*

**closet**

n. a small room or apartment; room for privacy

*Please put the coats back into the closet.*

## **clue**

n. a ball of thread or cord; thread; something guides or directs anything of a doubtful or intricate nature

*The main clue is a sample of blood that was found at the scene.*

## **coach**

n. tutor; teacher; a vehicle carrying many passengers

*When the players and coach arrive back later today, they'll be greeted as national heroes in the stadium where the first modern Olympics were held.*

## **cocaine**

n. drug extracted from coca leaves as a surface anesthetic or taken for pleasure, that can become addictive

*The dog sniffed out more than \$1.6 million in cocaine from a sports utility vehicle, officials said.*

## **code**

n. body of law; system of rules or regulations relating to one subject; system of symbols, letters, or words

*Do you know the postal code of this postal district?*

## **coin**

v. make pieces of money from metal; invent or fabricate

*Slanderers coin nasty rumors.*

## **coincidence**

n. two or more things occurring at the same time by chance

*Was it just a coincidence that she and John had chanced to meet at the market, or was he deliberately trying to seek her out?*

## **column**

n. pillar; cylindrical or polygonal support for roof; anything resembling, in form or position; upright body or mass

*This column is the latest in our series of interview articles.*

## **combat**

v. struggle as with an opposing force; fight with

*The ship has to combat the wind and waves this morning.*

## **combine**

v. blend; fuse; merge

*Re-branded as one-army recruitment, the latest drive will, for the first time, combine recruiting to both the regular and territorial army.*

## **comedy**

n. light and humorous drama with a happy ending

*Anne Bancroft was also a regular in the comedy films made by her beloved second husband, Mel Brooks.*

## **comic**

a. arousing or provoking laughter; ridiculous; amusing; humorous

*And, because the comic strips take place in superhero land, there are hints of the super-human.*

## **comment**

v. express an opinion; remark

*She refused to comment about David Beckham's eye injury.*

**commercial**

a. money-making; involved in work that is intended for the mass market

*China's economic growth has been fuelled by investment in new factories and other commercial premises, many of them producing low-cost goods.*

**commission**

n. fee for services; a group of people appointed to find out about something; authorize

*China has hit back, its foreign ministry urging the Congressional commission to wipe out its prejudice, respect the truth.*

**commit**

v. do something that cannot be changed; cause to be admitted

*And small bands of extremists may again commit heinous crimes in the name of faith.*

**commitment**

n. pledge, undertaking; an act of binding yourself to a course of action

*My main commitment is to promote human values; this is what I consider the key factor for a happy life at the individual level, family level, and community level.*

**committee**

n. special group delegated to consider some matter

*He was director of the central bank's monetary policy committee, which sets Brazil's interest rates.*

**communicate**

v. send information about; make known; impart; reveal clearly

*It came to me that the best way to communicate is to have direct, personal contact with people.*

**communication**

n. the activity of communicating; the activity of conveying information

*They predict that mobile communication devices' vast majority of internet connections will be closer to pocket computers than portable telephones.*

**community**

n. society; a group of people living in the same locality and under the same government

*Where governments manage public life, human freedom in a community is compromised.*

**company**

n. team; guard team; group of persons; business enterprise

*I slipped out of the room, unobserved by any eye - for the company were gathered in one mass about the trembling trio just returned.*

**compare**

v. examine and note the similarities or differences of

*We compare the copy with the original, but there was not much difference.*

**competition**

n. struggle; rivalry; an act of competing as for a profit prize

*There she's against tough competition such as Meryl Streep, but this award will give her extra momentum towards what's undoubtedly the bigger prize in movies.*

**competitive**

a. of or pertaining to competition; producing competition; showing a fighting disposition

*Nobody can entirely keep away from this competitive world.*

**complex**

a. complicated in structure; a whole structure, as a building, made up of interconnected or related structures

*Prescott's speech comes as ministers worldwide struggle to overcome complex arguments about how the Kyoto agreement on cutting greenhouse gas emissions should work.*

**complicated**

a. difficult to analyze or understand

*Legally this is a hugely complicated case, and it will take months for the judge to reach the verdict.*

**compliment**

n. praise; commendation; say something to someone that expresses praise

*A compliment is a gift, not to be thrown away carelessly unless you want to hurt the giver.*

**compromise**

v. adjust or settle by making mutual concessions; endanger the interests or reputation of

*Sometimes the presence of a neutral third party can help adversaries compromise their differences.*

**concentrate**

v. bring to or direct toward a common center; unite more closely; gather into one body

*I was now able to concentrate my attention on the group by the fire.*

**concept**

n. something formed in mind; thought or notion

*The local chain concept is simple: identify your customer, cater to their tastes and once successful, expand within a neighborhood.*

**concern**

n. interest in any person or thing; regard; solicitude; anxiety

*There is no telling what might have happened, now, but luckily the concern passed out of Aunt Polly's face.*

**concrete**

n. solid mass; covering with cement; hard, strong construction material consisting of sand, conglomerate, and gravel

*The anti-nuclear campaigners used concrete blocks to attach themselves to the line; it is difficult to release them without damaging the rails.*

**condition**

n. mode or state of being; fitness; existing circumstances

*The Organization Man survives as a modern classic because it captures a permanent part of our social condition.*

**conduct**

v. direct the course of; manage or control; lead or guide

*You cannot conduct business like this.*

**confess**

v. acknowledge; admit that you have done something wrong

*When any vicious simpleton excites my disgust by his paltry ribaldry, I cannot flatter myself that I am better than he: I am forced to confess that he and I are on a level.*

**confidence**

n. feeling secure or certain about something

*He said the aim was to restore baseball fans' confidence, but the new penalties for players who test positive for drugs fall far short of those in other sports.*

## **confident**

a. assured; having or marked by assurance

*They don't sound confident about the future of the industry.*

## **confidential**

a. treated with confidence; trusted in; trustworthy; secret

*He has been on confidential missions to Berlin; all of us don't know his secret trip.*

## **confirm**

v. support or establish the certainty or validity of; verify

*In the aftermath of Saturday's mass poisoning, the authorities imposed a virtual news blackout, refusing even to confirm how many people had died.*

## **conflict**

n. fight; struggle; incompatibility of dates or events

*According to the United Nations, malnutrition rates have now been cut by half since the start of the conflict.*

## **confront**

v. be face to face with; oppose in hostility or competition; deal with

*Here in the heart of conservative Texas, young criminals, murderers and thugs are forced to confront military-style discipline, a traditional view of right and wrong.*

## **confusion**

n. a mistake that results from taking one thing to be another; lack of clarity or order

*My uncle got into the back of the car, scratching his head in confusion, having missed the episode completely.*

## **congress**

n. meeting of elected or appointed representatives

*Just a day after congress granted him special powers, he has begun turning the screws on the international oil companies.*

## **conscience**

n. motivation deriving logically from ethical or moral principles; source of moral or ethical judgment

*The truth in conscience is immediately near to me, as near the seed that rests upon the wayside.*

## **conscious**

a. awake, thinking, and knowing what is happening around you; alert

*I was conscious that a moment's mutiny had already rendered me liable to strange penalties, and, like any other rebel slave, I felt resolved.*

## **conspiracy**

n. plot; intrigue; agreement to perform together an illegal, wrongful, or subversive act

*Information minister Jerry Gana released a statement in which he says there has been an international media conspiracy against Nigeria.*

## **constant**

a. invariable; repeating; continually occurring; persistent

*Yemen's state news agency says the president visited the three wounded officials at the Saudi hospital and expressed happiness about their health's constant progress.*

**constitution**

n. law determining the fundamental political principles of a government; the act of forming something

*President Putin said Britain knew Russia's constitution prohibits such extradition.*

**consult**

v. seek advice or information of; take into account; consider

*I will consult with our friends, but it's going to be what's in the interests of our country first and foremost.*

**consumer**

n. people who buy goods or services

*Adidas and Reebok are two of the world's best-known consumer brands, but they're in the shadow of Nike, the giant of the sportswear industry.*

**contact**

v. get in touch with; reach

*But Britney, 21, says he called her at two of her homes and even tried to contact her at her parents' house.*

**contempt**

n. state of being despised or dishonored; disgrace; disobedience to, or open disrespect of

*The poor fools, who hold science in contempt, have no ability to realize that science proves them wrong at every turn.*

**content**

n. volume; something contained; material, including text and images

*The brain is hungry not for the method but for content, especially the latter, which contains powerful, precise, and explicit generalizations.*

**contest**

v. contend for; call in question; oppose; dispute

*The lawyer decided to contest the claim and tried to prove that it was false.*

**contract**

v. constrict; make smaller; compress or concentrate

*The heat will contract the woolen garment.*

**contrary**

a. relation of direct opposition; very opposed in nature or character or purpose

*Our boat took a course contrary to theirs.*

**convention**

n. social or moral custom; formal meeting of members, representatives, or delegates; agreement between states

*Moreover, following this convention is our friend's normal behavior when in such a mood.*

**convict**

v. find or declare guilty

*If the jury decided to convict him of manslaughter, he could face up to 20 years in prison.*

**conviction**

n. the judgment that someone is guilty of a crime; strongly held belief

*Even her murder conviction did not shake Peter's judgment that Harriet was innocent of the crime.*

**convince**

v. overpower; force to yield assent to truth; satisfy by proof; prove guilty



*Your argument is too weak to convince me; we need more evidence.*

## **cooperate**

v. work or act together toward a common end or purpose

*The best way to get Pakistan to cooperate is to find why it is so keen to retain influence in Afghanistan and try to meet its concerns.*

## **core**

n. basic, center, or most important part; the essence

*But at the core is a story about two men who can't let go of the sense that they are dreaming their way through what might be an ultimately meaningless life.*

## **corner**

n. position at which two lines, surfaces, or edges meet and form an angle

*I sat by myself in the corner without speaking.*

## **corporate**

a. united or combined into one body; collective; belonging to a corporation or incorporated body

*The demonstrators inspired thousands of allies to take to the streets to protest economic inequality and corporate greed.*