

MACMILLAN Essential DICTIONARY

FOR LEARNERS OF
AMERICAN ENGLISH

*The new
intermediate
learners'
dictionary
with more entries
than any other!*

- NEW** the **Essential** information that you need to write and speak English today
- NEW** the 3,500 most common words are highlighted in red
- NEW** over 36,000 examples show how words are used
- NEW** 'menus' guide you to the meaning you need – **fast!**
- NEW** 24-page **Language Study** section helps you to improve your vocabulary and pronunciation
- NEW** more than 700 color illustrations
- NEW** CD-ROM with games and activities

es-sen-tial /'isenʃ(ə)l/ adj ★★★

1 completely necessary: *It is absolutely essential that all these issues are discussed.*
♦ A good dictionary is **essential for learning** English.

www.macmillandictionary.com

ORDERS ▶ Please order through your local bookseller.

For enquiries, contact:

Paperback 0 333 99211 3
Paperback with CD-ROM 0 333 99212 1

For further information, please write to:

Macmillan English Dictionary
Promotions Department
Macmillan Oxford
Between Towns Road
Oxford OX4 3PP, UK



MACMILLAN
Essential
DICTIONARY

FOR LEARNERS OF
AMERICAN ENGLISH

INCLUDES CD-ROM



This brochure contains the following pages from the *Macmillan Essential Dictionary*:

- a full contents list
- sample pages from the letter 'C'
- 2 pages of full color illustrations
- Language Study sample pages

with additional pages on:

- how to use the dictionary
- a word puzzle to help you to explore the dictionary pages

CONTENTS

Grammar Codes	inside front cover
Introduction	vi
Using the Dictionary	vii–ix
Entries That Are Numbers	x

The Dictionary **1–821**

Color Illustrations between pages 278 and 279

House	C1
Kitchen	C2
Office	C3
Clothes	C4
Car	C6
Transportation	C7
Shapes	C8

Language Study between pages 464 and 465

Collocation	LS2
Topic Vocabulary:	
Entertainment	LS6
People and Relationships	LS7
Travel and Tourism	LS8
Work	LS9
New Technology:	
Communication	LS10
Computers and the Internet	LS10
Media:	
Newspapers	LS12
Television	LS12
Pronunciation	LS14
Metaphor	LS16
Word Formation	LS18
Register	LS20
Text Types	LS22

Color Illustrations between pages 566 and 567

Trees and Flowers	C9
Fruit	C10
Vegetables	C11
Animals	C12
Body	C14
Sports	C15
Gym and Games	C16

Geographical Names and Nationalities	822–825
Capital Letters and Punctuation	826–827
Phrasal Verbs	828
Labels	829
Pronunciation Guide	inside back cover

How to use the MACMILLAN

The 3,500 most important words for intermediate learners to write and speak English are highlighted in red

The most useful words for intermediate learners are graded, based on a corpus of over 200 million words

Common grammar patterns for students to learn are featured

Special vocabulary and grammar boxes for building vocabulary and avoiding common mistakes: categories include 'word families', 'words that avoid giving offence', 'other ways of saying the word', 'words that should not be confused'

Frequent collocations are shown in examples

Phrases and phrasal verbs are given at the end of the entry

Simple, clear definitions are written using just over 2,000 of the most common words of the language

clot

clot¹ /klaʊt/ verb [I] if blood or another liquid clots, it becomes thick and stops flowing

clot² /klaʊt/ noun [C] a lump consisting of thick blood or another liquid

cloth /klaʊθ/ noun ★★★
1 [C/U] material used for making things such as clothes and curtains: *linen/cotton cloth*

2 [C] a piece of cloth that is used for a particular purpose such as cleaning or covering a table

clothe /kloʊð/ verb [T] to provide someone with clothes

clothed /kloʊðd/ adj dressed in a particular way

clothes /kloʊðz/ noun [plural] ★★★ shirts, dresses, pants, and other things that you wear: *a pile of dirty clothes* ♦ *I'm going to put on some clean clothes.* ♦ *Why don't you take those wet clothes off?*

■ **Clothes** is a general word meaning "things that you wear." It is always plural: *His clothes were dirty.* ♦ *I bought some new clothes.* If you want to talk about "one thing that you wear" use a **piece/an item of clothing**.

■ **Dress** is a less common word and refers to special clothes that are typical of a particular country or time: *men in national dress*

■ A **dress** is a single piece of clothing worn by a woman.

clothes-line /kloʊðzlaɪn/ noun [C] a rope for hanging wet clothes on, so that they dry

cloth-ing /kloʊðɪŋ/ noun [U] ★ clothes: *a piece/item/article of clothing* ♦ *waterproof clothing* ♦ *the clothing industry*

cloud¹ /klaʊd/ noun [C] ★★★

1 a white or gray mass of drops of water in the sky: *a few white clouds in the sky*

2 a large amount of something such as smoke or dust in the air: *a huge cloud of black smoke*

3 something unpleasant that spoils a situation: *Violent protes* ♦ *cast a cloud over the president's visit.*

PHRASE **under a cloud** with your reputation damaged

cloud² /klaʊd/ verb 1 [T] to affect your ability to think in a sensible way: *Make sure that your feelings do not cloud your judgment.*

2 [T] to make something more complicated or confusing: *Unanswered questions have further clouded the issue.* 3 [T] to spoil an event 4 [VT] if something such as glass clouds, or if something clouds it, it becomes difficult to see through

PHRASAL VERB **cloud over** to become darker because gray clouds are forming in the sky

cloud-less /klaʊdləs/ adj a cloudless sky has no clouds in it

cloud-y /klaʊdi/ adj 1 full of clouds 2 a cloudy liquid is not clear

clout /klaʊt/ noun [U] *informal* the authority to make decisions, or the power to influence events: *political/financial/economic clout*

clove /kloʊv/ noun [C] 1 a brown dried flower bud used for flavoring food 2 a section of a BULB OF GARLIC

clo-ver /kloʊvər/ noun [C] ♦ a small plant with leaves that have three round parts

clown¹ /klaʊn/ noun [C] 1 a performer in a CIRCUS who wears funny clothes and does

ESSENTIAL DICTIONARY

clutch

silly things **2** someone who is stupid or annoying

clown² /klaʊn/ or **clown a'round** verb [I] to do funny or annoying things

club¹ /klʌb/ noun ★★★

1 society for activity

4 for hitting ball in golf

2 sports team & staff

5 suit of playing cards

3 place for dancing

C

1 [C] an organization for people who take part in a particular activity, or the building that they use: *a sailing club* ♦ *Why don't you join a chess club?* ♦ *Are you a member of the club?*

2 [C] a team of sports players and the staff who work with them: *the Waterville baseball club*

3 [C] a place where you go in the evening to dance and drink = NIGHTCLUB

4 [C] an object used for hitting the ball in golf = GOLF CLUB

5 **clubs** [plural] the suit (=group) of playing cards that has a pattern of three black balls on a black stem: *the king of clubs* —*picture* → C16

club² /klʌb/ verb [T] to hit someone with a heavy object

club-house /klʌb'haʊs/ noun [C] the building used by members of a sports club

club-soda noun [U] American a clear drink made by adding a gas to water

cluck /klʌk/ verb [I] if a chicken clucks, it makes its usual short low sound —**cluck** noun [C]

clue /klu:/ noun [C] ★

1 an object or fact that helps someone to solve a crime or mystery: *Detectives were brought in to help search for clues.* ♦ *Police still have no clues as to the identity of the killer.*

2 a piece of information that helps you to understand something: *His face gave her no clue to what he was thinking.*

3 a word or phrase provided to help you to guess the answer in a CROSSWORD

PHRASE **not have a clue** *informal* to not know or understand something: *"What's wrong with him?" "I don't have a clue."*

clue-less /klu:ləs/ adj *informal* someone who is clueless knows nothing or is stupid

clump /klʌmp/ noun [C] a group of trees or plants growing very close together

clum-sy /k'lʌmzi/ adj **1** a clumsy person often has accidents because they are not careful

2 showing a lack of skill in judging people or situations **3** a clumsy object is too large and heavy to be useful —**clum-si-ly** adv,

clum-si-ness noun [U]

clung the past tense and past participle of **cling**

clus-ter¹ /'klʌstə/ noun [C] a small group of things that are very close to one another

clus-ter² /'klʌstə/ verb [I] to form a small close group

clutch¹ /'klʌtʃ/ verb [T] to hold someone or something firmly

clutch² /'klʌtʃ/ noun **1** [C] a piece of equipment in a vehicle that you **push** with your foot when you change GEAR —*picture* → C6

2 **clutches** [plural] power or control over someone: *They left the country to escape the clutches of the secret police.*

'Menus' in longer entries help you to find the meaning you need – fast

Each meaning is numbered with the most common sense shown first

Thousands of synonyms and opposites

Stress patterns are shown where no separate pronunciation is given

Comprehensive coverage of American and British English spellings, pronunciation and meaning

Helpful example sentences, based on real-life spoken and written English, show how and when the word is used

Up-to-date, learner-centered pronunciations

Cross references to related words, phrases and illustrations for developing vocabulary

study hard in order to learn a lot in a short time

cramp /kræmp/ noun **1** [C] a sudden severe pain in a tired muscle that becomes very tight **2** **cramps** [plural] *American* pains that a woman sometimes gets during her PERIOD

cramped /kræmpt/ adj small and crowded: *cramped offices*

cran-ber-ry /krænberi/ noun [C] a small sour red fruit: *a glass of cranberry juice*

crane¹ /kreɪn/ noun [C] **1** a very tall machine that is used for moving heavy objects and for building tall buildings **2** a large water bird with long legs and a long neck

crane² /kreɪn/ verb [I/T] to stretch your neck out to try to see something

cran-ium /kreɪniəm/ noun [C] *medical* your SKULL

crank¹ /kræŋk/ noun [C] a piece of equipment that turns to make something move or start

crank² /kræŋk/

PHRASAL VERBS **crank out** *informal* to produce things in large numbers without caring about quality: *He cranked out one hit song after another.*

crank sth up *informal* to increase the level or amount of something

crank-y /kræŋki/ adj *American informal* easily annoyed = **IRRITABLE**

craps /kræps/ noun [U] a game of DICE in which you risk money

crash¹ /kræʃ/ verb ★

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 hit sth noisily | 4 make sudden noise |
| 2 when vehicle hits sth | 5 when computer fails |
| 3 when plane falls | 6 of stock market |

1 [I/T] to hit something hard and make a loud noise: *A ball came crashing through the window.* ♦ *The waves crashed against the rocks.*

2 [I] if a vehicle crashes, it hits something: *Three people were killed when their car crashed into a tree.*

3 [I/T] if a plane crashes, or if someone crashes it, it falls from the sky

4 [I] to make a sudden loud noise, as if something is being hit

5 [I] if a computer or a computer program crashes, it suddenly stops working

6 [I] if the STOCK MARKET crashes, its value falls suddenly

crash² /kræʃ/ noun [C] ★

1 an accident that happens when a vehicle hits something = **WRECK**: *He was seriously injured in the crash.* ♦ *It was the worst train crash in thirty years.*

2 an occasion when a computer or a computer program suddenly stops working

3 a loud noise like the sound of things hitting each other and breaking

4 a sudden fall in prices or in the value of the STOCK MARKET

crash course noun [C] a course of study in which you are taught a lot about a subject in a short time

crash helmet noun [C] a hard round hat that you wear to protect your head while driving a MOTORCYCLE OR RACE CAR

crash landing noun [C] an occasion when an aircraft has to land in a sudden and dangerous way

crass /kræs/ adj offensive and not sensitive to other people's feelings — **crass-ly** adv

crate /kreɪt/ noun [C] a container for storing or moving things

crater /kreɪtər/ noun [C] **1** the round hole at the top of a VOLCANO **2** a large round hole in the ground that is caused by an explosion

crave /kreɪv/ verb [I/T] to feel a very strong need that is hard to control: *As a child he craved attention.*

craving /kreɪvɪŋ/ noun [C] a very strong feeling of wanting something: *a craving for chocolate*

crawl¹ /krɔːl/ verb [I] **1** to move along the ground on your hands and knees: *We crawled through the bushes.* **2** to move forward very slowly: *Traffic crawled along the main road.* **3** if an insect crawls, it moves forward using its legs **4** if time crawls by, it seems to pass very slowly

PHRASE **be crawling with 1** to be too full of people: *The town was crawling with police.* **2** to be full of unpleasant insects or animals



crawl

crawl² /krɔːl/ noun [singular] **1** a very slow speed **2** a style of swimming in which you move one arm over your head and then the other while you are kicking your legs

cray-fish /kreɪfɪʃ/ noun [C] a creature like a small LOBSTER

cray-on /kreɪən/ noun [C] a stick of colored wax that is used for drawing

craze /kreɪz/ noun [C] something that suddenly becomes very popular for a short time

crazed /kreɪzd/ adj completely crazy and uncontrolled

cra-zy /kreɪzi/ adj *informal* ★★ not at all sensible or practical: *It's crazy. Who would do a thing like that?* ♦ **be crazy to do sth** *She knew she would be completely crazy to refuse.*

PHRASES **crazy about sb** very much in love with someone

crazy about sth very enthusiastic about something

drive/make sb crazy to make someone very annoyed

go crazy 1 to become very angry about something **2** to become very bored and upset **3** to become very excited

like crazy to a very great degree: *The games are selling like crazy.*

— **cra-zi-ly** adv

Words that may cause offense: crazy

Avoid using words like **crazy**, and **insane** about people who have mental illnesses or mental health problems. Instead, use an expression such as **mentally ill**.

creak /kri:k/ verb [I] if something creaks, it makes a high noise when it moves, or when you put weight on it — **creak** noun [C], **creaky** adj

cream¹ /kri:m/ noun ★★

1 [C/U] a thick smooth substance that you put on your skin, for example when it is dry. Some medicines are in the form of a cream.

2 [U] a yellow-white color

3 [U] a thick yellow-white liquid that is taken from the top of milk

PHRASE **the cream of the crop** the best people or things of a particular type
— **cream-y** adj

cream² /kri:m/ adj yellow-white in color

cream cheese noun [U] a soft smooth white cheese that you spread on bread and similar foods

crease¹ /kris/ noun [C] **1** a line made on cloth or paper when it is folded or crushed **2** a line on someone's skin = **WRINKLE**

crease² /kris/ verb [I/T] to make lines on cloth or paper by folding or crushing it, or to become covered in these lines

creased /krist/ adj creased cloth or paper is marked with a crease

cre-ate /kri:et/ verb [T] ★★★ to make something new exist or happen: *His comments have created a lot of confusion.* ♦ *How do I create a new file?* ♦ *In the last week, 170 new jobs have been created.* ♦ *He was only 22 when he created this masterpiece.*

cre-a-tion /kri:et(ə)n/ noun ★★

1 [U] the act of creating something: *The government is to provide more money for job creation.* ♦ **the creation of new industries**

2 [C] something that has been created using skill or imagination: *Have you seen my latest creation?*

cre-a-tive /kri:etiv/ adj ★

1 involving a lot of imagination and new ideas: *Painting is a creative process.* ♦ *the creative use of technology in everyday life*

2 having a lot of imagination and new ideas: *The program offers children the chance to be creative.*

— **cre-a-tive-ly** adv

creative writing noun [U] the activity of writing stories and poems

cre-a-tiv-i-ty /kri:etivəti/ noun [U] the ability to create new ideas or things using your imagination: *We want to encourage creativity in our employees.*

cre-a-tor /kri:etər/ noun **1** [C] someone who has created something **2** the Creator God

crea-ture /kri:tʃər/ noun [C] ★★

1 anything that lives except plants: *a small furry creature*

2 an imaginary living thing that is strange or frightening: *The Gorgon was a mythical creature.*

cre-dence /kri:d(ə)ns/ noun **give/lend/add credence to sth** *formal* to make people think that something is likely to be true

cre-den-tials /krə'denʃ(ə)lz/ noun [plural]

1 personal qualities, achievements, or experiences that make someone appropriate for something: *His credentials as a football coach are impressive.*

2 documents that prove who you are, or that show your qualifications

cred-i-bil-i-ty /kredɪ'bɪləti/ noun [U] qualities that someone or something has that make people believe them or trust them: *The government is losing credibility by its failure to act quickly.*

cred-i-ble /kredɪ(ə)l/ adj **1** able to be believed or trusted: *credible evidence*

2 considered likely to happen or likely to be successful: *a credible opponent/candidate* — **cred-i-bly** adv

cred-it¹ /kredit/ noun ★★

1 when you pay later

2 money you can use

3 praise for sth you did

4 at college/university

5 money you pay in

6 who made movie etc.

+ PHRASES

1 [U] an arrangement to receive money from a bank, or receive goods from a store, and to pay for them later ≠ **DEBIT**: *I don't like buying things on credit.* ♦ *Some suppliers will not offer credit to their customers.*

2 [C] an amount of money that you have a right to use: *tax credits*

3 [U] praise for something that you have done: *He always takes the credit for my ideas.* ♦ *You deserve credit for all the help you gave us.*

4 [C] a part of a college or university program that you have completed successfully

5 [C] an amount of money that you add to an account

6 **the credits** [plural] a list at the beginning or end of a movie or television show that shows the people who were involved in making it

PHRASES **be a credit to sb** if you are a credit to someone, they should be proud of you **give sb credit for sth** to believe that someone is good at something, or that they have a particular good quality

to sb's credit used for saying that someone deserves praise: *Jane, to her credit, helped the woman without knowing the situation.*

cred-it² /kredit/ verb [T] to add an amount of money to an account ≠ **DEBIT**: *The money will be credited to your account.*

PHRASE **credit sb with sth** to believe that someone has achieved something, or that they have particular good qualities

cred-it-a-ble /kredɪtəb(ə)l/ adj good enough to deserve some praise or admiration

credit card noun [C] a small plastic card that you use to buy things now and pay for them later

credit limit noun [C] the maximum amount of money that a customer can borrow using a particular credit card

cred-i-tor /kredɪtər/ noun [C] a person or company that is owed money by another person or company ≠ **DEBTOR**

creed /kri:d/ noun [C] *formal* a set of beliefs

creek /kri:k, kri:k/ noun [C] **1** a narrow stream **2** a long narrow area of ocean that stretches into the land

PHRASE **be up the creek (without a paddle)** *informal* to be in a difficult situation

creep¹ /kri:p/ (past tense and past participle **crept** /krep(t)/) verb [I] **1** to move slowly and quietly:

Sue crept up the stairs. ♦ *The fog was creeping across the bay.* **2** to gradually happen or start: *A smile crept over her face.*

PHRASAL VERB **creep up on sb 1** if something creeps up on you, it happens so gradually that you do not notice it **2** to move toward someone quietly and slowly, so that they do not hear you

creep² /kri:p/ noun [C] *informal* an unpleasant person

PHRASE **give sb the creeps** to make someone feel nervous or frightened

creep-y /'kri:p-i/ adj *informal* unpleasant in a way that makes you feel frightened

cre-mate /krə'meɪt, 'kri:mɪt/ verb [T] to burn the body of a dead person — **cre-ma-tion** /krə'meɪf(ə)n/ noun [C/U]

cre-ma-to-ri-um /kremə'tɔ:riəm/ noun [C] a building where the bodies of dead people are cremated

crepe /kreɪp/ noun **1** [C] a light thin PANCAKE

2 [U] a light type of rubber **3** [U] a soft thin cloth with small folds in its surface

crepe paper noun [U] thin paper that stretches easily and is often used for making decorations

crept the past tense and past participle of **creep**¹

cre-s-cen-do /krəʃ'endəʊ/ noun [C] a gradual increase in sound in a piece of music

cre-s-cent /krez(ə)nt/ noun [C] a curved shape that is wide in the middle and pointed at the ends — **picture** → c8

crest /krest/ noun [C] **1** a set of feathers on the top of the heads of some birds **2** the top of a hill, mountain, or wave

crest-fall-en /'krestfɔ:lən/ adj sad and disappointed

cre-vasse /krə'væs/ noun [C] a very deep crack in rock or ice

crev-ice /krevɪs/ noun [C] a narrow crack in rock or in a wall

crew /kru:/ noun ★★

1 [C] the people who work on a ship, aircraft, etc.: *All the passengers and crew on board the jet were killed.*

2 [C] the people on a military ship or aircraft who are not officers

3 [C] a group of people with a particular skill who work together: *a movie crew* ♦ *an ambulance crew*

4 [C/U] the sport of ROWING boats in races, or a team of people who do this

crew-man /kru:mən/ (plural **crew-men** /kru:mən/) noun [C] a man who is a member of the CREW of a ship, aircraft, etc.

crew-neck noun [C] a SWEATER with a round neck — **picture** → NECKLINE

crib /kri:b/ noun [C] *American* a bed for a baby with tall bars at the sides

crick /kri:k/ noun [C] a sudden pain in your neck or back that you get when the muscles become stiff

crick-et /kri:kɪt/ noun **1** [C] a brown insect that makes a loud noise at night **2** [U] a game in which teams get points by hitting a ball with a bat and running between two sets of sticks

cried the past tense and past participle of **cry**¹

crime /kram/ noun ★★

1 [C] an illegal activity or action: *She was*

unaware that she had committed a crime.

♦ *It took police eight years to solve the crime* (=find out who did it).

2 [U] illegal activities in general: *new laws to help fight crime* ♦ *The crime rate* (=the number of crimes) *in the city has risen sharply.* ♦ *Rising crime* (=crime that is increasing) *is a key election issue.*

3 [singular] something that is bad, wrong, or unfair: *It's not a crime to be curious.*

'crime-wave noun [C] a sudden increase in the number of crimes in a particular area

crim-i-nal¹ /'kri:mɪn(ə)l/ noun [C] ★★ someone who has committed a crime: *The program is designed to help former criminals find jobs.*

Words often used with criminal

Adjectives often used with **criminal** (noun)

■ **habitual, hardened, known, notorious** +

CRIMINAL: used about someone who has committed many crimes

crim-i-nal² /'kri:mɪn(ə)l/ adj ★★

1 relating to illegal acts, or to the parts of the legal system that deal with crime: *criminal behavior* ♦ *a criminal investigation* (=one that is dealing with a crime) ♦ *the criminal justice system* ♦ *a criminal offense* **2** bad, wrong, or unfair in a way that makes you angry: *That's a criminal waste of resources.*

crim-i-nal-ize /'kri:mɪn(ə)laɪz/ verb [T] to make an activity illegal by making a new law

criminal law noun [U] the system of laws that deals with crimes and the punishment of criminals

crim-i-nal-ly /'kri:mɪn(ə)li/ adv according to criminal law: *criminally insane*

criminal record noun [C] an official list of crimes that someone has committed

crimp /kri:mp/ verb [T] **1** to make small folds or wave shapes in something **2** *American informal* to prevent something from increasing or developing

crim-son /'kri:mz(ə)n/ adj dark purple-red in color

cringe /kri:ndʒ/ verb [I] **1** to move back slightly from something that is unpleasant or frightening **2** to feel embarrassed or ashamed about something

crin-kle /'kri:ŋk(ə)l/ verb [U] if skin or cloth crinkles, or if you crinkle it, a lot of small folds appear in it — **crin-kled** /'kri:ŋk(ə)ld/ adj, **crin-kly** /'kri:ŋkli/ adj

crip-ple¹ /'kri:p(ə)l/ verb [T] **1** to make someone physically disabled **2** to destroy something or damage it severely

crip-ple² /'kri:p(ə)l/ noun [C] *offensive* an offensive word for someone who is physically disabled

crip-pling /'kri:pliŋ/ adj **1** causing severe damage or problems: *crippling taxes* **2** making someone physically disabled, or causing them to have severe health problems: *a crippling disease*

crisis /kraisɪs/ (plural **cri-ses** /kraisɪz/) noun [C/U] ★★ an urgent and difficult or dangerous situation: *political crisis* ♦ *The nursing profession is in crisis.* ♦ *the current crisis in the farming industry*

crisp¹ /krisp/ adj **1** crisp food is firm in a pleasant way: *a crisp apple/carrot* **2** crisp weather is pleasant because it is cold and dry: *crisp night air* **3** crisp cloth or paper is smooth, clean, and fresh: *crisp sheets*

crisp² /krisp/ noun [C] *British* a POTATO CHIP

crisp-y /krispi/ adj food that is crispy is firm in a pleasant way

criss-cross /kris,kros/ verb **1** [I/T] to form a pattern of straight lines that cross each other **2** [T] to go across a place and back again many times, taking a different path each time

cri-te-ri-a /kra'itri:ə/ (singular **cri-te-ri-on** /kra'itri:ən/) noun [plural] ★ standards that are used for judging something or for making a decision about something: *Everyone whose qualifications meet our criteria will be considered.* ♦ *What criteria do you have for selecting patients for treatment?*

crit-ic /k'ritik/ noun [C] ★

- 1 someone whose job is to give their opinions about things such as books, movies, or plays
- 2 someone who does not like something and states their opinion about it: *a critic of the government's tax proposals*

crit-i-cal /k'ritik(ə)/ adj ★★

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 saying sth is wrong | 4 according to critics |
| 2 very important | 5 considering carefully |
| 3 seriously sick/injured | |

- 1 expressing your opinion when you think something is wrong or bad: *Her father was a very critical man.* ♦ *Warren was critical of the way she handled the affair.*
- 2 an event, time, or issue that is critical is very important, often because it affects the future: *a critical moment* ♦ *Winning the award is critical to our success.*
- 3 very seriously sick or injured: *Six of the patients were in critical condition.*
- 4 according to the book, movie, or theater **CRITICS:** *The show has won much critical acclaim.*
- 5 considering something carefully and deciding what is good or bad about it: *a critical look at modern life*

crit-i-cal-ly /k'ritikli/ adv **1** extremely and seriously: *critically ill* **2** carefully judging something: *We teach children to think critically.* **3** in a way that shows that you do not like something: *Nobody spoke critically of the government.* **4** if a book, movie, or play is critically acclaimed, it is said to be good by people whose job is to give their opinion

critical mass noun [singular/U] the smallest number of people or things that are needed for something to happen

crit-i-cise /k'riti,saz/ a British spelling of **criticize**

crit-i-cism /k'riti,sizəm/ noun ★★

- 1 [C/U] a comment or comments that show that you think something is wrong or bad: *a valid/fair criticism* ♦ *criticism of the team's performance* ♦ *The new plans drew fierce criticism from local people.*
- 2 [U] the activity of giving your professional opinion about things such as new books, movies, or plays

Words often used with criticism

Adjectives often used with criticism (sense 1)

- **fierce, outspoken, severe, strong** + **CRITICISM:** showing that you think that something is very bad

crit-i-cize /k'riti,saz/ verb [I/T] ★★ to say what you think is wrong or bad about something: *We were told not to criticize the policy publicly.* ♦ *criticize sb/sth for (doing) sth* *The new proposals have been criticized for not going far enough to change the system.*

Word family: criticize

Words in the same family as **criticize**

- **critic** n
- **criticism** n
- **critical** adj
- **uncritical** adj
- **critically** adv

crit-ique /k'ritik/ noun [C] a careful written examination of a subject that includes the writer's opinions — **crit-ique** verb [T]

crit-ter /k'ritər/ noun [C] *American informal* a creature

croak /kroʊk/ verb **1** [I] when a FROG croaks, it makes a low loud rough sound **2** [I/T] to speak or say something in a low rough voice **3** [I] *very informal* to die — **croak** noun [C]

crochet /krou'ʃeɪ/ verb [I/T] to make something with YARN using a large needle with a hook on the end

croc-o-dile /kroʊkə'daɪl/ noun [C] a large REPTILE with many sharp teeth that lives in water in hot countries — **picture** → c13

cro-cus /kroʊkəs/ noun [C] a small yellow, white, or purple flower that appears early in spring

crois-sant /krwə'sɑnt, krwə'sɑ/ noun [C] a type of light bread with a curved shape

cro-ny /kroʊni/ noun [C] *showing disapproval* a friend or supporter of someone who is powerful

cro-ny-ism /kroʊni,zəm/ noun [U] *showing disapproval* the practice of giving jobs and other advantages to friends

crook /kruk/ noun [C] **1** *informal* someone who is dishonest or is a thief **2** the place where something bends inward: *the crook of your arm*

crook-ed /krukəd/ adj **1** not straight **2** *informal* dishonest = **CORRUPT** — **crook-ed-ly** adv

croon /kru:n/ verb [I/T] to sing slowly in a soft voice — **croon-er** noun [C]

crop¹ /krap/ noun ★

- 1 [C] a plant that is grown for food: *They're all out planting the crops today.* ♦ *Japan bought large amounts of rice overseas because of a crop failure* (=the crops did not grow).

- 2 [C] the amount of crops that are grown in a particular year: *a good crop of potatoes* ♦ *Last year we had a bumper crop of strawberries* (=a very large crop).

- 3 [singular] several things that happen or exist at the same time: *this summer's crop of Hollywood movies* ♦ *the current crop of young players*

crop² /krap/ verb [T] to make something shorter or smaller by cutting it

- PHRASAL VERB** **crop up** *informal* to appear or happen suddenly or unexpectedly = **COME UP**

SHAPES



circle



square



triangle



rectangle



diamond



star



crescent



heart



oval



parallelogram



trapezoid



trapezium



rhombus



pentagon



hexagon



octagon



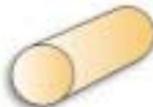
sphere



cone



pyramid



cylinder

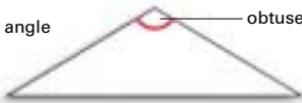


cube



acute angle

right angle



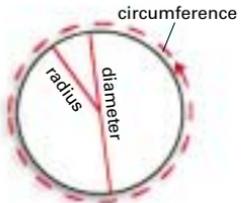
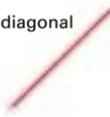
obtuse angle

vertical

diagonal



horizontal



circumference

radius

diameter



parallel

TREES AND FLOWERS

oak



chestnut



sycamore



willow



palm tree



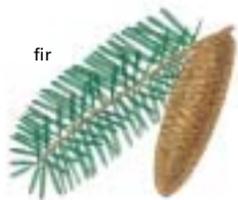
redwood



holly



fir



magnolia



pine



buttercup



dandelion



carnation



hyacinth



daisy



poppy



iris



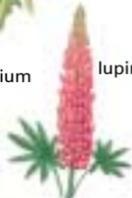
daffodil



geranium



lupine



rose



lily



fuchsia



tulip



orchid



sunflower



chrysanthemum



croquet /'kroʊki/ noun [U] a game in which players hit balls through curved pieces of metal using long wooden hammers

cross¹ /krɒs/ verb ★★★

1 [V/T] to go from one side of something to the other: *She watched the children cross the road.* ♦ *It was dark when we crossed the French border.*

2 [I] if things such as roads or lines cross, they go across each other = **INTERSECT**: *the point where the two paths cross*

3 [T] to combine one type of animal or plant with another to produce a genetic mix

4 [T] if an expression crosses someone's face or lips, it appears there for a short time

PHRASES **cross your arms** to put one arm over the other in front of your body, so that each hand is on the opposite elbow

cross your fingers to put your middle finger over your first finger as a wish for good luck

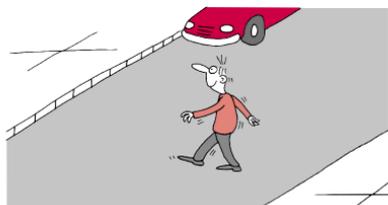
cross your legs to sit with one leg placed over the other at the knee

cross the line to go beyond accepted limits or standards of behavior

cross sb's mind if something crosses your mind, you think of it, but not for very long: *It suddenly crossed his mind that maybe Stephanie had been right.*

PHRASAL VERBS **cross sth off** to draw a line through something on a list to show that you have dealt with it

cross sth out to draw an X or a line through writing because it is wrong, or because you want to write something else



CROSS

cross² /krɒs/ noun ★★★

1 [C] a shape or an object with one long straight upright part and another shorter one across it, used as a symbol of Christianity → **CRUCIFIXION**

2 the **Cross** [singular] the structure on which Jesus Christ died according to the Bible

3 [C] a mixture of two different types of animals, plants, or things: *Most of their music is a cross between jazz and rock.*

4 [C] British the symbol X

cross³ /krɒs/ adj angry

cross-bar /'krɒs,bɑː/ noun [C] **1** the bar that joins the two upright posts of a goal **2** the metal bar between the seat and the front of a bicycle

cross-bow /'krɒsbəʊ/ noun [C] a weapon used for firing short heavy pointed sticks

cross-country adj **1** going across the countryside, not using tracks or roads

2 from one side of a country to the other — **cross-country** adv

cross-examination noun [C] an occasion when someone is asked a lot of questions

by a lawyer during a trial — **cross-examine** verb [T]

cross-eyed /'krɒs 'aɪd/ adj someone who is cross-eyed has eyes that look toward each other slightly

cross-fire /'krɒsfaɪə/ noun [U] **1** bullets that come from two directions **2** arguments or violence that might affect people who are not directly involved

cross-ing /'krɒsɪŋ/ noun [C] **1** a trip across a river or ocean: *a nonsatlantic crossing* **2** a place where you are allowed to cross something such as a road or border: *a pedestrian crossing*

cross-leg-ged /'krɒs 'legəd/ adj, adv in a sitting position on the floor, with your knees bent and your lower legs crossing each other — **picture** → **POSTURE**

cross-o-ver /'krɒsəʊvə/ noun [C] a change from one situation or style to another

cross reference noun [C] a note in a book that tells you to look at another page for more information

cross-roads /'krɒs,rəʊdz/ (plural **cross-roads**) noun [C] **1** a place where one road crosses another **2** a point in time when you have to make an important decision about what to do next

cross section noun **1** [C/U] the inside of an object that you can see by cutting through the middle of it, or a picture of this **2** [C] a group that contains an example of most types of people or things: *a cross section of the city's population*

cross-trainer noun [C] a piece of exercise equipment that you stand on and move your legs and arms backward and forward — **picture** → **C16**

cross-training noun [U] the activity of training in more than one sport — **cross-train** verb [I]

cross-walk /'krɒs,wɒk/ noun [C] *American* a painted path that people use for crossing a street

cross-word /'krɒswɜːd/ or **crossword puzzle** noun [C] a word game in which the answers to questions are written in rows of squares that cross each other

croch /kraʊt/ noun [C] the area between your legs where they join your body, or the part of a piece of clothing that covers this area

croch-et-y /kraʊtj/ adj *informal* easily annoyed

crouch /kraʊt/ verb [I] **1** to move your body close to the ground by bending your knees and leaning forward slightly: *She crouched down and spoke to the little boy.* — **picture** → **POSTURE** **2** to lean forward with your head and shoulders bent: *Five or six men were crouched over the desk.*

crou-ton /'kruːtən/ noun [C] a small piece of bread that is served on soup and in salads

crow¹ /kroʊ/ noun [C] a large black bird that makes a loud sound

crow² /kroʊ/ verb [I] **1** if a **ROOSTER** (=male chicken) crows, it makes a loud high noise **2** to talk very proudly about something that you have done = **BOAST**

crow-bar /'kroʊ,bɑː/ noun [C] a metal bar with a curved end, used for forcing things open

crowd¹ /kraʊd/ noun ★★★

1 [C] a large number of people in the same place: *The boys disappeared into the crowd.*
♦ *Crowds of people began making their way to the station.*

2 [C] the audience at an event: *He takes off his shirt and the crowd goes wild.*

3 [singular] *informal* a group of friends: *I spent an evening out with the usual crowd.*

crowd² /kraʊd/ verb [I] **1** to move to a place at the same time as a lot of other people: *We crowded into the kitchen.* **2** [T] to fill a place: *Hundreds of people crowded the streets.*

PHRASAL VERB **crowd sth out** to become more successful than another group so that they can no longer compete

crowd-ed /'kraʊdəd/ adj ★ containing a lot of people or things: *a crowded street/train/restaurant* ♦ *Was the pool crowded?* ♦ *a crowded schedule*

crown¹ /kraʊn/ noun [C]

1 on king's/queen's head	4 cover for tooth
2 position of winner	5 unit of money
3 top part of head/hat	

1 a circular decoration that a king or queen wears on their head **2** the position of being the winner of an important sports competition: *France lost their World Cup crown.* **3** the top part of your head or of a hat **4** a cover that is used to repair a tooth **5** a unit of money used in some European countries

crown² /kraʊn/ verb [T] **1** to make someone a king or queen: *James III was crowned at Kelso Abbey.* **2** to give someone a title for winning an important sports competition: *Schumacher went on to be crowned world champion.* **3** to put a cover on a tooth in order to repair it

crowning /'kraʊnɪŋ/ adj better or greater than anything else: *The garden is the hotel's crowning glory.*

crucial /'kru:ʃ(ə)l/ adj ★ extremely important: *Your involvement is crucial to the success of the project.* ♦ *The talks are considered crucial for ending the violence.* ♦ **it is crucial that** *It is crucial that all students develop these basic skills.* —**crucially** adv

crucifix /'kru:sɪfɪks/ noun [C] a model of Jesus Christ dying on a cross

crucifixion /'kru:sɪfɪk(ə)n/ noun [C/U] a method of killing someone by crucifying them

crucify /'kru:sɪfaɪ/ verb [T] **1** to kill someone by fastening them to a cross with nails or rope **2** *informal* to criticize someone in a very cruel way

crude¹ /krʊd/ adj **1** done or made using very simple methods=BASIC: *a crude home-made bomb* **2** referring to sex in a way that offends people: *crude language*

crude² /krʊd/ or **crude oil** noun [U] oil that is still in its natural state

cruel /'kru:əl/ adj ★★★

1 causing pain to people or animals: *I can't stand to see people being cruel to animals.*

2 making someone unhappy or upset: *Closing the school would be a cruel blow to this community.*

—**cruelly** adv

cruel-ty /'kru:əlti/ noun [C/U] cruel behavior: *cruelty to children/animals* ♦ *the cruelties he witnessed during the war*

crui-se¹ /kru:z/ noun [C] a trip on a ship for pleasure, often visiting a series of places

crui-se² /kru:z/ verb [I] **1** to travel at a steady speed in a car or airplane **2** to sail in a ship for pleasure **3** to achieve success easily in a race, game, or competition: *The Rams cruised to victory this afternoon.*

crui-se missile noun [C] a missile that is controlled by a computer and can travel very long distances

cruis-er /'kru:zə/ noun [C] **1** a fast military ship **2** a large boat with a motor that is used for sailing in for pleasure **3** *American informal* a police car

crumb /krʌm/ noun [C] **1** a very small piece that falls off a dry food such as bread or cake **2** a very small amount of something

crum-ble /'krʌmb(ə)l/ verb **1** [I/T] to break into very small pieces, or to make something do this: *The soft earth crumbled under his feet.* **2** [I] to stop existing or being effective: *My determination crumbled as soon as I saw her.*

crum-ple /'krʌmp(ə)l/ verb **1** [I/T] to crush something so that it forms messy folds, or to be crushed in this way: *I quickly crumpled up the letter and put it in my pocket.* **2** [I] to fall to the ground suddenly, with your body, legs, and arms bent, because you are injured, sick, or upset

PHRASAL VERB **crumple (sth) up** same as **crumple** **1**

crunch¹ /krʌntʃ/ verb **1** [I/T] to bite hard food, causing it to make a loud noise **2** [I] to make a noise like something being crushed

crunch² /krʌntʃ/ noun **1** [singular] the noise that something makes when you crunch it **2** [C] *informal* a situation that is very difficult because you do not have enough of something, especially time or money: *a credit/budget crunch*

crunch-y /'krʌntʃi/ adj crunchy foods make a loud noise when you bite them

cru-sade /'kru:seɪd/ noun [C] an effort over a long time to achieve something that you strongly believe is right=CAMPAIGN —**cru-sad-er** /'kru:seɪdə/ noun [C]

crush¹ /krʌʃ/ verb [T] **1** to press something so hard that you damage it or break it into small pieces —**picture** → **c2** **2** to injure or kill someone by pressing on them very hard **3** to completely defeat an opponent

crush² /krʌʃ/ noun **1** [C] *informal* a strong feeling of love for someone **2** [singular] a crowd of people in an area that is too small for them

crush-ing /'krʌʃɪŋ/ adj **1** complete and achieved very easily: *a crushing defeat/victory* **2** very severe: *It's a crushing blow for the president's foreign policy.*

crust /krʌst/ noun [C/U] **1** the hard brown edges of a piece of bread, or the outer part of a **PIE** **2** a hard layer on the surface of something

crust-y /'krʌsti/ adj covered with a hard CRUST

crutch /krʌtʃ/ noun [C] a stick that fits under your arm and that helps you to walk when

your leg or foot is injured **2** [singular] *showing disapproval* something that you depend on for support or help

crux /'krʌks/ noun **the crux (of sth)** the most important aspect of something

cry¹ /kraɪ/ (past tense and past participle **cried** /kraɪd/) verb [I/T] ★★★

1 to have tears coming from your eyes because you are sad or hurt: *I'm sorry – please don't cry.* ♦ *She was crying for her mother.* ♦ *Don't waste time crying over him.* **2** to shout something: *"That's not what I meant," Polly cried.* ♦ *Ted could hear a woman crying for help.*

PHRASAL VERBS **cry out** to make a loud noise because you are in pain or because you are afraid or shocked: *The girl cried out in alarm.*

cry (sth) out same as cry¹ 2: *"Be careful!" Miss Lee cried out.*

cry out for sth to need something a lot in a way that is obvious: *This room is crying out for some new furniture.*

cry² /kraɪ/ noun [C] **1** a loud expression of emotion: *a cry of pain* **2** something that someone shouts: *There was a cry of "Fire!"* **3** the noise that an animal or bird makes

PHRASE **be a far cry from** *informal* to be very different from someone or something

crypt /kript/ noun [C] a room where dead people are buried, usually under a church

crypt-*tic* /'kriptɪk/ adj expressing something in a mysterious or indirect way

crystal /krist(ə)l/ noun [U] **1** very good quality glass **2** [C] a regular shape with many sides that is formed when a substance becomes solid: *ice/salt/sugar crystals* **3** [CU] a clear rock that looks like glass

crystal ball noun [C] a glass ball that some people believe can show the future

crystal clear adj **1** completely transparent and very bright **2** extremely obvious or easy to understand

crystal-lize /'krist(ə)laɪz/ verb [I/T] **1** to change into CRYSTALS, or to make something change into CRYSTALS **2** to become definite or easily understood, or to make something definite or easily understood

C-section /'siːsekʃ(ə)n/ noun [C/U] a CESAREAN

CT abbrev Connecticut

cub /kʌb/ noun [C] a young bear, lion, or other wild animal

cube¹ /kjʊb/ noun [C] **1** an object like a box with six square sides that are all the same size — *picture* → **cs** **2** **the cube of sth** *technical* the result of multiplying a number by itself twice: *The cube of 2 is 8.*

cube² /kjʊb/ verb [T] **1** *technical* to multiply a number by itself twice **2** to cut something into cubes = **DICE**

cu-bic /'kjʊbɪk/ adj cubic units are used for measuring VOLUME (= the amount of space in an object)

cu-bi-*cle* /'kjʊbɪk(ə)l/ noun [C] a small enclosed area in a room

Cub Scouts, the noun *American* the division of the BOY SCOUTS for the youngest boys

cuck-oo /'kʊku/ noun [C] a bird that leaves its eggs in other birds' NESTS and makes a call that sounds like its name

cu-cum-ber /'kjuːkʌmbər/ noun [C/U] a long,

dark green vegetable that is usually eaten raw in salads — *picture* → **C11**

cud-dle¹ /'kʌd(ə)l/ verb [I/T] to put your arms around someone and hold them close to show that you like or love them

PHRASAL VERB **cuddle up** to sit or lie with your body against someone else's because you want to feel warm or loved

cud-dle² /'kʌd(ə)l/ noun [C] an act of cuddling someone

cud-dly /'kʌdli/ adj soft and pleasant to cuddle

cue /kju/ noun [C] **1** an event, action, or statement that shows someone what they should do: *Greg's arrival seemed to be the cue for everyone to get up and start dancing.* **2** something that an actor does or says as a signal to another actor to do or say something **3** a long thin stick that you use for hitting the ball in games such as POOL

PHRASES **(right) on cue** *often humorous* at exactly the right moment, or exactly when you expect

take your cue from sb to behave in the same way as someone else

cuff¹ /kʌf/ noun [C] the part of a sleeve that fits around your wrist → **OFF-THE-CUFF**

cuff² /kʌf/ verb [T] *informal* to HANDCUFF someone

cui-sine /kwɪ'zɪn/ noun [C/U] a particular style of cooking: *Thai/Italian cuisine*

cul-de-sac /'kʌl də 'sæk, kʊl də 'sæk/ noun [C] a short street that is closed at one end

cul-li-nar-y /'kjuːlɪnəri, 'kʌlɪnəri/ adj relating to food and how to cook it

cull¹ /kʌl/ verb [T] **1** to collect something such as information from different places **2** to kill animals in order to stop the population from becoming too large

cull² /kʌl/ noun [C] an act of culling animals

cul-mi-nate /'kʌlmɪneɪt/ **PHRASAL VERB** **culminate in sth** to have or lead to an important result: *A series of financial disasters culminated in the collapse of the country's largest bank.*

cul-mi-na-tion /'kʌlmɪneɪʃ(ə)n/ noun [singular] the final result of a process or situation

cul-pa-*ble* /'kʌlpəb(ə)l/ adj *formal* responsible for doing something bad or illegal

cul-prit /'kʌlprɪt/ noun [C] **1** someone who is responsible for doing something bad or illegal **2** the cause of something bad that happens

cult¹ /kʌlt/ noun [C] **1** a religious group with beliefs that most people consider strange or dangerous **2** extreme admiration for someone or something: *the cult of beauty* **cult**² /kʌlt/ adj very popular with a particular group of people: *a cult figure/hero/movie*

cul-ti-*vate* /'kʌltɪveɪt/ verb [T] **1** to prepare land for growing crops or plants **2** to grow crops or plants: *Rice is cultivated throughout the coastal regions.* **3** to develop something: *He's trying to cultivate a more caring image.* — **cul-ti-*va-tion*** /'kʌltɪveɪʃ(ə)n/ noun [U]

cul-ti-*vat-ed* /'kʌltɪveɪtəd/ adj **1** a cultivated person is well educated and knows how to behave politely **2** cultivated land is used for growing crops or plants **3** cultivated plants

are developed from wild plants and grown on farms or in gardens

cul-tur-al /'kʌltʃərəl/ adj ★★★

1 relating to the culture of a particular group, country, or society: *cultural diversity* ♦ *the cultural traditions of our society*

2 relating to music, literature, and other arts: *During the summer New York offers a variety of cultural events.* ♦ *The country enjoys a rich cultural life.*

—**cul-tur-al-ly** adv

cul-ture /'kʌltʃə/ noun ★★★

1 [U] activities involving music, literature, and other arts: *If you're looking for culture, then Paris is the place for you.* ♦ *Mexico's literary culture*

2 [C/U] *science* a group of bacteria or cells that have been grown in a scientific experiment, or the process by which they are grown

3 [C/U] a set of ideas, beliefs, and ways of behaving: *societies that share the same language and culture* ♦ *The two firms have very different corporate cultures.* ♦ *Some organizations encourage a culture of secrecy.*

4 [C] a society that has its own set of ideas, beliefs, and ways of behaving: *people from different cultures* ♦ *ancient cultures*

cul-tured /'kʌltʃəd/ adj well educated and polite = REFINED

cum-ber-some /'kʌmbərsəm/ adj

1 complicated, slow, and difficult to use

2 large, heavy, and difficult to move or carry

cu-mu-la-tive /'kju:mjələtɪv, 'kju:mjələtɪv/ adj developing or increasing gradually as a result of more and more additions: *We studied the cumulative effect of long periods of stress on the body.*

con-ning¹ /'kɒnɪŋ/ adj good at tricking or cheating people —**con-ning-ly** adv

con-ning² /'kɒnɪŋ/ noun [U] the use of clever methods for tricking or cheating people

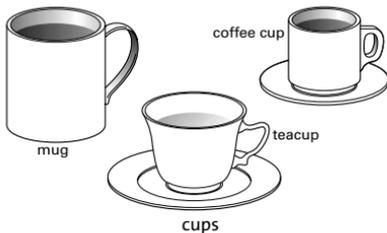
cup¹ /kʌp/ noun [C] ★★★

1 a small round container for a drink, usually with a handle: *She filled my cup with hot tea.*

2 the drink contained in a cup: *I've already had two cups.* ♦ *Would you like a cup of coffee?*

3 the amount that a cup contains, used in the U.S. as a unit for measuring quantities of food when you are cooking: *Mix one cup of sugar with three cups of flour.*

4 a large round metal container with two handles given as a prize to the winner of a competition, or the competition for which this prize is given: *the winners of the World Cup*



cup² /kʌp/ verb [T] to hold something in your hands, with your hands in a curved shape

cup-board /'kʌbəd/ noun [C] a piece of furniture that is used for storing things, with shelves inside and one or two doors at the front

cup-cake /'kʌpkeɪk/ noun [C] a small round cake

cup-ful /'kʌpfʊl/ noun [C] the amount of something that a cup contains

cur-a-ble /'kjʊərəb(ə)l/ adj possible to cure ≠ INCURABLE

cu-ra-tor /'kjʊ'reɪtə/ noun [C] someone whose job is to take care of the objects in a museum

curb¹ /kɜ:rb/ noun [C] **1** *American* the edge of a SIDEWALK (=path built beside a road) that is closest to the road **2** a rule or control that stops or limits something

curb² /kɜ:rb/ verb [T] to control or limit something that is harmful or may cause problems: *efforts to curb inflation*

curd /kɜ:rd/ noun [C/U] the solid substance that forms in milk when it becomes sour

cur-dle /'kɜ:rd(ə)l/ verb [I/T] if milk or another liquid curdles, or if something makes it curdle, lumps begin to form in it

cure¹ /kjʊə/ noun [C] ★

1 a medicine or treatment that makes a sick person healthy: *Doctors say there are several possible cures.* ♦ *There's no cure for the disease.*

2 a solution to a problem: *It's the only possible cure for high unemployment.*

cure² /kjʊə/ verb [T] **1** to stop someone from being affected by an illness: *Only an operation will cure her.* ♦ *The disease is easy to prevent but almost impossible to cure.* **2** to solve a problem **3** to preserve meat, fish, or other foods by drying them, or by using smoke or salt

cur-few /'kɜ:rfju/ noun [C] a period of time during which people must not go outside according to an order from the government

cu-ri-os-ity /'kjʊəriəsəti/ noun [U] **1** [U] a strong feeling of wanting to find out about something **2** [C] something that is unusual and interesting

cu-ri-ous /'kjʊəriəs/ adj ★

1 wanting to find out about something:

People were curious to know why the accident happened. ♦ *Children are curious about animals and how they live.*

2 unusual and interesting: *He felt a curious mixture of happiness and fear.* ♦ *It is curious that you've never mentioned this before.*

—**cu-ri-ous-ly** /'kjʊəriəsli/ adv

curl¹ /kɜ:rl/ verb [I/T] to form a curved or round shape, or to give something this shape: *As she talked, she curled a strand of hair on one finger.* **2** [I] to move in a curving or twisting way: *Smoke curled from tall chimneys.* **3** [I] to curve up or down at the edges: *The pages had begun to yellow and curl.*

PHRASAL VERB **curl up** to sit or lie in a comfortable position, with your legs bent and close to your body

curl² /kɜ:rl/ noun [C] **1** a section of hair that forms a curved shape **2** something long and thin that has a curved shape: *a curl of smoke*

curl-er /'kɜːrlər/ noun [C] a plastic or metal tube that you wrap your hair around in order to curl it = **ROLLER**

curl-y /'kɜːrli/ adj forming curves: *curly hair*

cur-rant /'kʌrənt/ noun [C] a small round fruit that may be red, black, or white

cur-rent-ry /'kʌrənsi/ noun ★★

1 [C/U] the money that is used in a particular country: *Russian currency*

2 [U] the state of being accepted or used by many people: *The idea of withdrawing from the war has gained wide currency.*

current¹ /'kʌrənt/ adj ★★★

1 happening or existing now: *Production is likely to remain at current levels.* ♦ *There are several reasons for the current political situation.*

2 believed or used by many people now: *current thinking on prison reform* ♦ *current methods of funding research*

3 correct or legal now: *Is this your current address?* ♦ *a current license*

cur-rent² /'kʌrənt/ noun **1** [C] a strong movement of water or air in one direction

2 [C/U] a flow of electricity

current of fairs noun [plural] political, social, and economic events that are happening now

current-ly /'kʌrənt(ə)li/ adv ★★★ at the present time: *Davis is currently appearing in a Broadway play.* ♦ *the largest memory chips currently available*

cur-ric-u-lum /'kʌrɪk(ə)ləm/ noun [C] ★★ the subjects that students study at a particular school or college: *the science curriculum* ♦ *curriculum planning/development*

cur-ry /'kʌri/ noun [C/U] an Indian food consisting of meat, fish, or vegetables cooked in a sauce with a hot flavor

curse¹ /kɜːrs/ verb **1** [I] to use offensive or impolite language: *She looked at her watch, cursed, and ran for a taxi.* **2** [T] to say or think offensive or impolite words about someone or something: *She cursed herself for being such a fool.* **3** [T] to use magic powers to make bad things happen to someone

curse² /kɜːrs/ noun [C] **1** an offensive or impolite word or phrase **2** the words that are used for causing bad luck **3** an unpleasant situation or influence

cur-sor /'kɜːsər/ noun [singular] a small flashing line on a computer screen that you move to mark the point where you are going to type or do something

cur-so-ry /'kɜːsəri/ adj formal quick and not thorough = **SUPERFICIAL**: *a cursory examination/search*

cut /kɜːt/ adj using few words in a way that shows that you are impatient or angry = **BRUSQUE** — **cut-ly** adv

cut-lim /kɜː'teɪl/ verb [T] formal to reduce or limit something

cur-tain /'kɜːt(ə)n/ noun ★★★

1 [C] a long piece of cloth that hangs down to cover a window: *She closed the curtains.* ♦ *Open the curtains and let some light in.*

2 [C] a large piece of cloth that hangs in front of the stage in a theater, or that divides one part of a room from another:

The audience cheered wildly as the curtain rose.

3 [singular/U] a large amount of a substance that is too thick to see through: *A dark curtain of cloud hung over the valley.*

cut-sy or **cut-sey** /'kɜːtsi/ noun [C] a formal greeting in which a woman bends her knees with one leg behind the other

— **cut-sy** verb [I]

curve¹ /kɜːrv/ noun [C] a shape or line with a gradual smooth bend

curve² /kɜːrv/ verb [I/T] to form a curve, or to make something form a curve

curved /kɜːvd/ adj forming a curve

cush-ion¹ /'kʊʃ(ə)n/ noun [C] **1** a cloth bag filled with something soft, used for making a seat more comfortable **2** something that gives protection against the effects of something bad

cush-ion² /'kʊʃ(ə)n/ verb [T] to protect a person or thing from the harmful effects of something

cuss /kʌs/ verb [I/T] informal to swear

cus-tard /'kʌstərd/ noun [C/U] a soft firm sweet food made from milk, eggs, and sugar

cus-to-di-al sen-tence /kʌ'stɔːdiəl 'sent(ə)ns/ noun [C] legal a punishment that involves sending someone to prison

cus-to-di-an /kʌ'stɔːdiən/ noun [C] **1** American someone whose job is to clean a building and to fix things that are broken **2** someone who is responsible for something valuable

cus-to-dy /'kʌstədi/ noun [U] **1** the protection or care of someone or something, especially given by a court: *The father was given custody of the children.* **2** a situation in which someone is kept in prison: *One of the men is still in custody.*

cus-tom /'kʌstəm/ noun [C/U] ★★ something that people do that is traditional or usual: *local customs and traditions* → **HABIT** → **CUSTOMS**

cus-tom-ar-y /'kʌstəməri/ adj usual

— **cus-tom-ar-i-ly** /kʌstəməriəl/ adv

custom-built adj designed and built for one particular person

cus-tom-er /'kʌstəmər/ noun [C] ★★★

1 a person or company that buys goods or services: *Supermarkets use a variety of tactics to attract customers.* ♦ *customer services/relations/support* ♦ *Discounts are available for our regular customers.*

2 informal a particular type of person: *a cool customer* ♦ *a tricky/awkward/tough customer*

cus-tom-ize /'kʌstəmaɪz/ verb [T] to change the way that something looks or works so that it is exactly what you want or need

custom-made adj designed and made for one particular person

cus-toms /'kʌstəmz/ noun [plural] **1** the place at a port, airport, or border where officials check that people are not bringing anything into a country illegally **2** a government department that collects taxes on goods that people bring into a country

cut¹ /kʌt/ (past tense and past participle **cut**) verb [T] ★★★

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 use knife/sharp tool | 5 stop sth working |
| 2 injure part of body | + PHRASES |
| 3 reduce sth | + PHRASAL VERBS |
| 4 remove parts of sth | |

WORD FORMATION

Word Families

Look at this group of words and decide what they have in common:

<i>ability</i>	<i>disability</i>
<i>disabled</i>	<i>enable</i>
<i>inability</i>	<i>unable</i>

All of the above words are formed from—and are related to—the adjective **able**. So we can call **able** the “root word” from which all these other words are developed. Can you guess which word is the root word for this next group?

<i>destroyer</i>	<i>destructive</i>
<i>destruction</i>	<i>indestructible</i>

All these words are formed from the root word **destroy**. We call these groups of related words “word families.” Like members of real families, the words that make up a word family share some of the same features: they all share some of the letters of the root word, and their meanings are related too.

ACTIVITY

Look at the following groups of words and try to decide in each case what the root word is. The answers are on page LS19. Then try to guess the meaning of each word. Check in the dictionary to see if you are right.

<i>discomfort</i>	<i>uncomfortable</i>
<i>comfortable</i>	<i>comforting</i>
<i>decision</i>	<i>decisive</i>
<i>undecided</i>	<i>indecisive</i>
<i>indecision</i>	
<i>impure</i>	<i>purify</i>
<i>purist</i>	<i>impurity</i>

How Are Words Formed?

Many English words are formed from combinations of other words, or from combinations of words and prefixes or suffixes. So if you know what each of the parts means, you will often be able to guess the meaning of a new word.

What Are Prefixes and Suffixes?

A *prefix* is added to the *beginning* of a word to make another word. A prefix can be either a short word, or a group of letters that is not a word. An example of the first type is **self**. **Self-** means “yourself” or “itself,” so if you are **self-employed**, you work for yourself, and if something **self-destructs**, it destroys itself. An example of the second type is **non-**, which means “not.” So a **nonviolent** protest is a protest that does not involve violence.

A *suffix* is added to the *end* of a word to make another word. A suffix can be either a short word, or a group of letters that is not a word. An example of the first type is **-rich**, which is added to nouns to make adjectives for describing something that “contains a lot” of something. So **oil-rich** rocks are full of oil, and **vitamin-rich** foods contain a lot of vitamins. An example of the second type is **-ish**, which means “slightly” or “rather.” So **greenish** water looks slightly green.

ACTIVITY

Look at the words in **bold** in the following sentences and see if you can guess what they mean. After you have guessed, you can check the meanings in the dictionary. All the prefixes and suffixes used in these sentences (and shown here in red) have their own entries in the dictionary.

*The software is **overpriced** and doesn't offer anything more than its rivals.*

*Local residents are calling for the police to crack down on **antisocial** behavior by troublemakers, some of whom are as young as ten.*

***E-commerce** now accounts for 84 percent of the company's sales.*

*The machines are very **user-friendly** and they tell you how hard you are working and how many calories you have used up.*

The new district health boards will be required to act in an efficient and businesslike way.

ACTIVITY

See if you can make some more words using these prefixes and suffixes. Check in the dictionary to see if your words are there.

Compounds

Using prefixes and suffixes is not the only way to form new words. Many English words are *compounds*.

Compounds are formed by combining two or three words. Sometimes these combinations remain as two or three separate words and sometimes they combine to form one new word. For example, the word **troublemakers** in the second example above has been formed by combining the two nouns **trouble** and **maker**. This has created a new word meaning “someone who makes (=causes) trouble.”

Most compounds are treated as separate entries in this dictionary, so that you can see immediately that they have a meaning of their own that is different from the meanings of the words from which they are formed. Sometimes these meanings are easy to guess. For example, a **bus stop** is a place where buses stop to pick up passengers, and a **bookstore** is a place where you buy books. However, a **soap opera** does not contain any singing and has nothing to do with soap: it is a television or radio show that is broadcast several times a week, and tells the story of the lives of a group of ordinary people.

Other Ways of Forming Words

Some new words are formed by combining part of one word with part of another. For example, **brunch** is a meal you eat in the late morning that combines **breakfast** and **lunch**, and **edutainment** is something such as a video, television program, or software program that combines **education** and **entertainment**.

ACTIVITY

Can you guess which words have combined to form the following computer terms: **emoticon**, **netiquette**, **netizen**, **technophobe**?

And can you guess their meanings from the words that have combined to form them? The answers are at the bottom of this page.

Other new words are formed from the first letters of the words in a compound or phrase. Examples of this are **CD-ROM** (compact disc read-only memory), **FAQs** (frequently-asked questions), and **IT** (information technology). These new words are called *acronyms*.

ACTIVITY

Think about how new words are formed in your own language. Are they formed mainly by using *prefixes* and *suffixes*, by combining words to form *compounds*, by means of *acronyms*, or in other ways?

Spelling Note: Words that are formed from combinations of other words, whether these are compounds or words formed from prefixes or suffixes, are often written in several different ways. You may see them written as separate words, or with hyphens, or as single words. For example: **hard hat**, **hard-hat**, or **hardhat**. Although one form is often more frequent than others, you shouldn't worry too much about which is correct. If you want to be sure, write the word using the form that you find in this dictionary.

ANSWERS

The root words are *comfort*, *decide*, *pure*
emoticon: *emotion* + *icon* (=a symbol such
as :-) or :- that you type in an e-mail or text
message to show how you are feeling)
netiquette: *Internet* + *etiquette* (=the rules of
polite behavior, used when communicating
with people on the Internet)
netizen: *Internet* + *citizen* (=someone who
spends a lot of time using the Internet)
technophobe: *technology* + *-phobe*
(=someone who does not like to use new
technology, especially computers)