Collins

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柯林斯COBUILD
高级英汉双解词典

Collins COBUILD
ADVANCED DICTIONARY
of English

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Acknowledgements

GUIDE TO KEY FEATURES

Through a collaborative initiative, Collins COBUILD and Heinle are co-publishing a dynamic new line of learner's dictionaries offering unparalleled pedagogy and learner resources.

Band 4 and Band 6 Words

The *Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary of English, English/Chinese* marks vocabulary commonly found in the College English Test (CET) bands four and six. CET-4 words are magenta. CET-6 words are magenta and are marked with ★. CET-6+ words are magenta and are marked with ▲.

With innovations such as Definitions*PLUS* and Vocabulary Builders, the *Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary of English, English/Chinese* transforms the learner's dictionary from an occasional reference into the ultimate resource and must-have dictionary for language learners.

Definitions*PLUS*

- Definitions*PLUS* **Collocations**—Each definition is written in simple, natural English and shows which words are most typically used with the target word.

- Definitions*PLUS* **Grammar**—Each definition includes the most representative grammatical patterns to help the learner use English correctly.

- Definitions*PLUS* **Natural English**—Each definition is a model of how to use the language appropriately and idiomatically.

MENU TO HELP NAVIGATE
LONGER ENTRIES

DIAMONDS INDICATE
HIGH FREQUENCY WORD

mine

❶ PRONOUN USE
❷ NOUN AND VERB USES

FULL
SENTENCE
DEFINITIONS

MAGENTA COLOR
INDICATES CET WORD

❶ **mine** ♦♦♦ /maɪn/ PRON-POSS **Mine** is the first person singular possessive pronoun. A speaker or writer uses **mine** to refer to something that belongs or relates to himself or herself. 我的 ❑ *Her right hand is inches from mine.* 她的右手离我的几英寸远。 ❑ *That wasn't his fault, it was mine.* 那不是他的错，是我的。

INFLECTED FORMS

MEANING
SPLITS

❷ **mine** /maɪn/ (mines, mining, minded) ❶ N-COUNT A **mine** is a place where deep holes and tunnels are dug under the ground in order to obtain a mineral such as coal, diamonds, or gold. 矿 ❑ ... *coal mines.* ...煤矿。 ❷ V-T When a mineral such as coal, diamonds, or gold **is mined**, it is obtained from the ground by digging deep holes and tunnels. 采掘 (usu passive) ❑ *The pit is being shut down because it no longer has enough coal that can be mined economically.* 那个煤矿要关闭了，因为储量不足，难以经济开采。 ❸ N-COUNT A **mine** is a bomb which is hidden in the ground or in water and which explodes when people or things touch it. 地雷; 水雷 ❹ V-T If an area of land or water **is mined**, mines are placed there which will explode when people or things touch them. 布雷 ❑ *The approaches to the garrison have been heavily mined.* 进入驻地的几条通道都已布满了雷。 ❺ → see also **mining** → see **diamond**

ORGANIZED
BY MEANING

GRAMMATICAL
INFORMATION
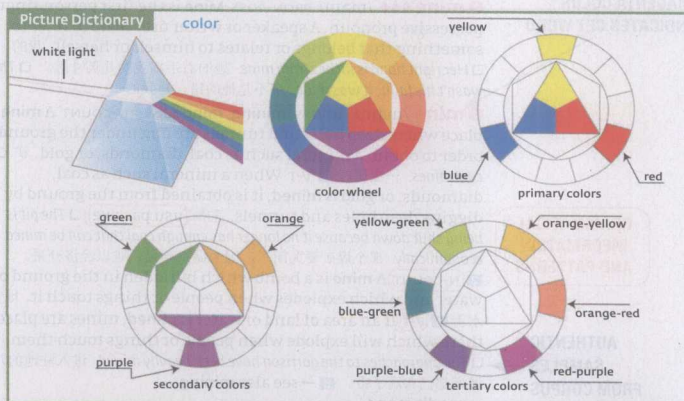AND PATTERNS

AUTHENTIC
SAMPLES
FROM CORPUS

BANK of ENGLISH

The Bank of English™ is the original and the most current computerized corpus of authentic American English. This robust research tool was used to create each definition. All sample sentences are drawn from the rich selection that the corpus offers.

Vocabulary Builders

Over 3,000 pedagogical features encourage curiosity and exploration, which in turn builds the learner's bank of active and passive vocabulary knowledge. The "Vocabulary Builders" outlined here enhance vocabulary acquisition, increase language fluency, and improve accurate communication. They provide the learner with a greater depth and breadth of knowledge of the English language. The *Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary of English, English/Chinese* offers a level of content and an overall learning experience unmatched in other dictionaries.

"Picture Dictionary" boxes illustrate vocabulary and concepts. The words are chosen for their usefulness in an academic setting, frequently showing a concept or process that benefits from a visual presentation.

Picture Dictionary: core, atmosphere, Earth, inner core, outer core, crust

Picture Dictionary: color — white light, color wheel, primary colors (yellow, blue, red), green, orange, yellow-green, orange-yellow, blue-green, orange-red, purple, purple-blue, tertiary colors, red-purple, secondary colors
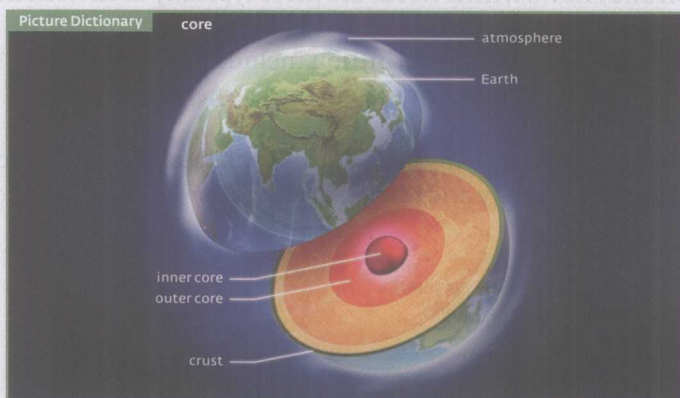
"Word Webs" present topic-related vocabulary through encyclopedia-like readings combined with stunning art, creating opportunities for deeper understanding of the language and concepts. All key words in bold are defined in the dictionary. Upon looking up one word, learners discover other related words that draw them further into the dictionary and the language. The more sustained time learners spend exploring words, the greater and richer their language acquisition is. The "Word Webs" encourage language exploration.

Word Web   spice

While researching the use of **spices** in cooking, scientists discovered that many of them have strong disease-prevention properties. Bacteria can grow quickly on food and cause a variety of serious illnesses in humans. The researchers found that many spices are extremely antibacterial. For example, **garlic**, **onion**, allspice, and oregano kill almost all common germs. **Cinnamon**, tarragon, cumin, and **chili peppers** also eliminate about 75% of bacteria. And even common, everyday **black pepper** destroys about 25% of all microbes. The research also found a connection between hot climates and **spicy** food and cold climates and **bland** food.

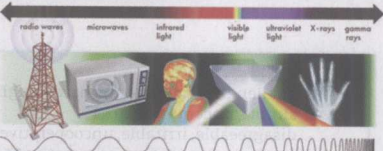garlic   onion   chili pepper

ginger   black pepper   cinnamon   cloves

Word Web   wave

As **wind** blows across water, it creates **waves**. It does this by transferring energy to the water. If the waves encounter an object, they bounce off it. Light also travels in waves and behaves the same way. We are able to see an object only if light waves bounce off it. Light waves can be categorized by their **frequency**. Wave frequency is usually the measure of the number of waves per second. **Radio waves** and **microwaves** are examples of low-frequency light waves. **Visible light** consists of medium-frequency light waves. **Ultraviolet radiation** and **X-rays** are high-frequency light waves.

THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM

radio waves   microwaves   infrared light   visible light   ultraviolet light   X-rays   gamma rays

Chosen based on frequency in the Bank of English™, **"Word Partnerships"** show high-frequency word patterns, giving the complete collocation with the headword in place to clearly demonstrate use. The numbers refer the student to the correct meaning within the definition of the word that collocates with the headword.

Word Partnership   *trust* 的常用搭配：

V.	**learn to** trust **1**
	build trust, **create** trust, **place** trust **in** *someone* **2**
ADJ.	**mutual** trust **2**
	charitable trust **10**
N.	trust *your* **instincts**, trust *someone's* **judgment** **6**
	investment trust **9**

Word Partnership   *moment* 的常用搭配：

ADV.	a moment **ago**, **just** a moment **1**
N.	moment **of silence**, moment **of thought** **1**
V.	**stop for** a moment, **take** a moment, **think for** a moment, **wait** a moment **1**
ADJ.	**an awkward** moment, **a critical** moment, **the right** moment **2**

"Word Links" exponentially increase language awareness by showing how words are built in English, something that will be useful for learners in all areas of academic work as well as in daily communication. Focusing on prefixes, sufxes, and word roots, each "Word Link" provides a simple definition of the building block and then gives three examples of it used in a word. Providing three examples encourages learners to look up these words to further solidify understanding.

Word Link	port ≈ carrying : ex*port*, im*port*, *port*able

Word Link	logy, ology ≈ study of : anthro*pology*, bio*logy*, geo*logy*

"Thesaurus" entries offer both synonyms and antonyms for high frequency words. An extra focus on synonyms offers learners an excellent way to expand vocabulary knowledge and usage by directing them to other words they can research in the dictionary. The numbers refer the student to the correct meaning within the definition of the headword.

| Thesaurus	*difficult* 另参见:
ADJ.	challenging, demanding, hard, tough; (*ant.*) easy, simple, uncomplicated [1] disagreeable, irritable, uncooperative; (*ant.*) accommodating, cooperative [2]

Thesaurus	*talk* 另参见:
V.	chat, discuss, gossip, say, share, speak, tell; (*ant.*) listen [2]
N.	argument, conversation, dialogue, discussion, interview, negotiation; (*ant.*) silence [2] chatter, chitchat, conversation, gossip, rumor [3]

CD-ROM

A valuable enhancement to the learning experience, the *Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary of American English* CD-ROM offers learners a fast and simple way to explore words and their meanings while working on a computer.

- **Search** definitions, sample sentences, Word Webs, and Picture Dictionary boxes.
- **"Mini-View" Dictionary:** Allows easy access while working on other computer applications.
- **Audio playback** allows students to review the pronunciation of headwords.
- **"My Dictionary"** allows learners to create a personalized tool by adding their own words, definitions, and sample sentences.
- **Bookmarks** allow learners to save and organize vocabulary. There are 75 bookmark folders already created with topic-related vocabulary to act as a springboard for vocabulary learning.
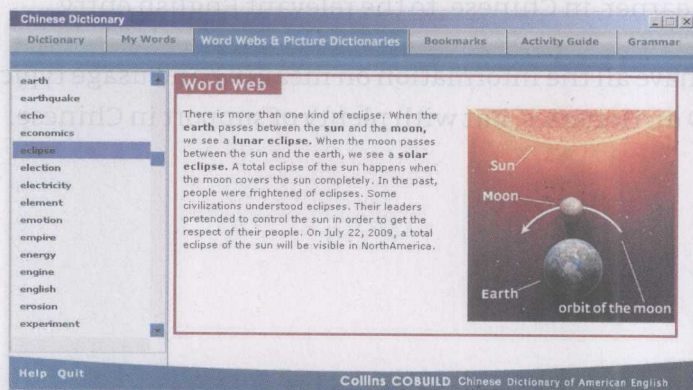
By using the resources found in this volume, learners will discover that the *Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary of English, English/Chinese* is something that they want to delve into and spend time exploring, not just something to flip through for a quick answer. As they investigate options for words that will best serve their individual communicative needs at any given point, learners will find more opportunities for learning than they have ever seen in a traditional reference tool. This will become their ultimate resource and partner in their language learning journey.

Benefits of Semibilingual Dictionary

Collins COBUILD and Heinle are pleased to offer a new type of dictionary for Chinese learners of English. The *Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary of English, English/Chinese* is a semibilingual dictionary designed for high intermediate or advanced level learners of English.

- This semibilingual dictionary includes all the features of a COBUILD monolingual dictionary, such as full sentence definitions and corpus-based examples.
- Additionally, for learners who feel they would benefit from access to Chinese translations, they are included for all definitions, senses, and examples.
- Chinese translations are included to complement the English material and provide additional support to the learner when they encounter a difficult word or expression.
- The index lists the translations found in the dictionary and directs the learner, in Chinese, to the relevant English entry.

Thus users have all the information on meaning and usage typically found in COBUILD dictionaries, but with plenty of support in Chinese.
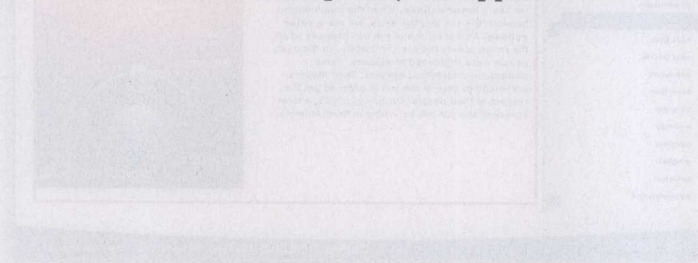
John Sinclair
Founding Editor-in-Chief, Collins COBUILD Dictionaries
1933-2007

John Sinclair was Professor of Modern English Language at the University of Birmingham for most of his career; he was an outstanding scholar, one of the very first modern corpus linguists, and one of the most open-minded and original thinkers in the field. The COBUILD project in lexical computing, funded by Collins, revolutionized lexicography in the 1980s, and resulted in the creation of the largest corpus of English language texts in the world.

Professor Sinclair personally oversaw the creation of this very first electronic corpus, and was instrumental in developing the tools needed to analyze the data. Having corpus data allowed Professor Sinclair and his team to find out how people really use the English language, and to develop new ways of structuring dictionary entries. Frequency information, for example, allowed him to rank senses by importance and usefulness to the learner (thus the most common meaning should be put first); and the corpus highlights collocates (the words which go together), information which had only been sketchily covered in previous dictionaries. Under his guidance, his team also developed a full-sentence defining style, which not only gave the user the sense of a word, but showed that word in grammatical context.

When the first *Collins COBUILD Dictionary of English* was published in 1987, it revolutionized dictionaries for learners, completely changed approaches to dictionary-writing, and led to a new generation of corpus-driven dictionaries and reference materials for English language learners.

Professor Sinclair worked on the Collins COBUILD range of titles until his retirement, when he moved to Florence, Italy and became president of the Tuscan Word Centre, an association devoted to promoting the scientific study of language. He remained interested in dictionaries until his death, and the Collins COBUILD range of dictionaries remains a testament to his revolutionary approach to lexicography and English language learning. Professor Sinclair will be sorely missed by everyone who had the great pleasure of working with him.

A dictionary is probably the single most important reference book that a learner of English can buy. At Collins we do our best to ensure that our dictionaries live up to all expectations. This **Collins Cobuild Advanced Dictionary of English, English/Chinese** is a new type of dictionary. It is especially designed for Chinese learners who already have a good working knowledge of English, but who may not be entirely comfortable using a monolingual English dictionary. All the features of a monolingual dictionary are included, with Chinese translations provided for all senses and examples. Translations of explanatory terms are provided in the introduction. The dictionary also includes an index which lists alphabetically the translations found in the dictionary and which directs you to the relevant English entry through the medium of Chinese.

The corpus

The **Collins Cobuild Advanced Dictionary of English, English/Chinese** like all Collins dictionaries, is based on a corpus, the Bank of English ™, part of the Collins Word Web, which now contains over 650 million words of contemporary English. The corpus is central to the compilation of COBUILD dictionaries. It enables the dictionary editors to look at how the language works and make evidence-based statements about the meanings, patterns, and uses of words with confidence and accuracy.

Content

A dictionary must present the most important facts about language, and dictionary compilers need good evidence to be able to make their selections. It is much easier to decide which words to include, and which to omit, when we have accurate statistical information from such a vast database of language as the Bank of English ™. This enables the compilers to look at the relative frequency of words and to identify and highlight the 2,500 most frequently used words in English. These words account for over 75% of all English usage, so it is easy to see why they are important.

Definitions

One of the most distinctive feature of all COBUILD dictionaries is the use of full English sentences in the definitions, explaining the meaning in the way that one person might explain it to another. They give the user much more than the meaning of the word they are looking up, and also contain information on usage, register, typical context, and syntax. The fullness of the definitions will give learners of English confidence as they learn what words and phrases mean and how they are used.

Examples

All of the examples in this dictionary have been selected from the Bank of English ™, and have been chosen carefully to show the collocates of a word—other words that are frequently used with the word we are defining—and the patterns in which it is used. Since the examples are genuine pieces of text, you can be sure that they show the word in use in a natural context.

Set structures

For each definition, the word or phrase being defined is printed in **bold**. In addition, we have identified and highlighted in **bold** words which combine with the headword to make a very important or set grammatical structure or collocational pattern, for example, *A* **band of** *people is . . . If you* **say** *something* **to yourself**, *you think it . . . If you are* **unable to** *do something, it is . . .*

Coverage

Today's learners of English need to be aware of the variation of language in different parts of

the English-speaking world. The **Collins Cobuild Advanced Dictionary of English, English/Chinese** includes useful notes to identify vocabulary and expressions from those parts of the world, particularly American and British English.

Usage notes

Throughout the text we have included a number of notes which give additional information about how words are used. There is a variety of useful information contained in these notes, which help to clarify important distinctions in usage and in grammar.

Culture notes

Extra information on culturally significant events, institutions, traditions and customs is given in the form of a note following the relevant entry. These notes are intended to help you gain a greater understanding of life and culture in English-speaking countries.

Complex entries

Entries which are long or complex are given a special treatment to make them easier to navigate. A menu shows what sections the entry is divided into, and how they are ordered, so that you can immediately go to the correct section to find the meaning you want. For example, **mean** is divided into three sections, corresponding to its verb, adjective, and noun uses. The same principle is used for **hold**, where there is an important sense distinction running through its uses.

Grammatical information

Where relevant, useful information about the grammatical patterns is provided. This information appears immediately before the examples which further clarify the patterns.

GUIDE TO THE DICTIONARY ENTRIES

Definitions

One of the features of the **Collins Cobuild Advanced Dictionary of English, English/Chinese** is that the definitions are written in full sentences, using vocabulary and grammatical structures that occur naturally with the word being explained. This enables us to give a lot of information about the way a word or meaning is used by speakers of the language. Whenever possible, words are explained using simpler and more common words. This gives us a natural defining vocabulary with most words in our definitions being among the 2,500 commonest words of English. A Chinese translation is given for each sense of each word. For example, the verb **bask** has two senses, each of which has a Chinese translation:

If you **bask in** the sunshine, you lie somewhere sunny and enjoy the heat.
If you **bask in** someone's approval, favor, or admiration, you greatly enjoy their positive reaction toward you.

An individual sense of an English word may have more than one Chinese translation. For example, the noun **jealousy** has two different Chinese translations.

Information about collocates and structure

In our definitions, we show the typical collocates of a word: that is, the other words that are used with the word we are defining. For example, the definition of meaning 1 of the adjective **savory** says:

> **Savory** food has a salty or spicy flavor rather than a sweet one.

This shows that you use the adjective **savory** to describe food, rather than other things.

Meaning 1 of the verb **wag** says:

> When a dog **wags** its tail, it repeatedly waves its tail from side to side.

This shows that the subject of meaning 1 of **wag** refers to a dog, and the object of the verb is "tail".

Information about Chinese collocations, if any, is given in brackets.

> If you are **aboard** a ship or plane, you are on it or in it: 在（船或飞机）上

Information about grammar

The definitions also give information about the grammatical structures in which a word is used. For example, meaning 1 of the adjective **candid** says:

> When you are **candid** about something or with someone, you speak honestly.

This shows that you use **candid** with the preposition "about" with something and "with" with someone.

Other definitions show other kinds of structure. Meaning 1 of the verb **soften** says:

> If you **soften** something or if it **softens**, it becomes less hard, stiff, or firm.

This shows that the verb is used both transitively and intransitively. In the transitive use, you have a human subject and a non-human object. In the intransitive use, you have a non-human subject.

Finally, meaning 1 of **compel** says:

> If a situation, a rule, or a person **compels** you to do something, they force you to do it.

This shows you what kinds of subject and object to use with **compel**, and it also shows that you typically use the verb in a structure with a to-infinitive.

Information about context and usage

In addition to information about collocation and grammar, definitions also can be used to convey your evaluation of something, for example to express your approval or disapproval. For example, here is the definition of **unhelpful**:

> If you say that someone or something is **unhelpful**, you mean that they do not help you or improve a situation, and may even make things worse.

In this definition, the expressions "if you say that", and "you mean that" indicate that these words are used subjectively, rather than objectively.

Other kinds of definition

We sometimes explain grammatical words and other function words by paraphrasing the word in context. For example, meaning 3 of **through** says:

> To go **through** a town, area, or country means to travel across it or in it.

In many cases, it is impossible to paraphrase the word, and so we explain its function instead. For example, the definition of **unfortunately** says:

> You can use **unfortunately** to introduce or refer to a statement when you consider that it is sad or disappointing, or when you want to express regret.

Lastly, some definitions are expressed as if they are cross-references. For example:

> **rd.** is a written abbreviation for **road**.
> **e-commerce** is the same as **e-business**.

If you need to know more about the words **road** or **e-business**, you look at those entries.

Style and Usage

Some words or meanings are used mainly by particular groups of people, or in particular social contexts. In this dictionary, where relevant, the definitions also give information about the kind of people who are likely to use a word or expression, and the type of social situation in which it is used.

In terms of geographical diversity, this dictionary focuses on American and British English using evidence from the Bank of English ™. Where relevant, the American or British form is shown at its equivalent word or meaning.

This information is usually placed at the end of the definition, in small capitals and within square brackets. If more than one type of information is provided, they are given in a list. If an equivalent term is provided, it is given in a blue box. The Chinese translation of this information is provided in the introduction.

Geographical labels

AM (美国英语): used mainly by speakers and writers in the US, and in other places where American English is used or taught. Where relevant the British equivalent is provided.

BRIT (英国英语): used mainly by speakers and writers in Britain, and in other places where British English is used or taught. Where relevant the American equivalent is provided.

Other geographical labels are used in the text to refer to English as it is spoken in other parts of the world, e.g. AUSTRALIAN (澳大利亚英语), SCOTTISH (苏格兰英语).

Style labels

BUSINESS (商业): used mainly when talking about the field of business, e.g. **annuity**

COMPUTING (计算机): used mainly when talking about the field of computing, e.g. **chat room**

DIALECT (方言): used in some dialects of English, e.g. **ain't**

FORMAL (正式): used mainly in official situations, or by political and business organizations, or when speaking or writing to people in authority, e.g. **gracious**

HUMOROUS (幽默): used mainly to indicate that a word or expression is used in a humorous way, e.g. **gents**

INFORMAL (非正式): used mainly in informal situations, conversations, and personal letters, e.g. **pep talk**

JOURNALISM (新闻): used mainly in journalism, e.g. **glass ceiling**

LEGAL (法律): used mainly in legal documents, in law courts, and by the police in official situations, e.g. **manslaughter**

LITERARY (文学性): used mainly in novels, poetry, and other forms of literature, e.g. **plaintive**

MEDICAL (医学): used mainly in medical texts, and by doctors in official situations, e.g. **psychosis**

MILITARY (军事): used mainly when talking or writing about military terms, e.g. **armor**

OFFENSIVE (侮辱): likely to offend people, or to insult them; words labeled OFFENSIVE should therefore usually be avoided, e.g. **cripple**

OLD-FASHIONED (老式): generally considered to be old-fashioned, and no longer in common use, e.g. **dashing**

SPOKEN (口语): used mainly in speech rather than in writing, e.g. **pardon**

TECHNICAL (技术): used mainly when talking or writing about objects, events, or processes in a specialist subject, such as business, science, or music, e.g. **biotechnology**

TRADEMARK (商标): used to show a designated trademark, e.g. **hoover**

VULGAR (粗话): used mainly to describe words which could be considered taboo by some people; words labeled VULGAR should therefore usually be avoided, e.g. **bloody**

WRITTEN (书面): used mainly in writing rather than in speech, e.g. **avail**

FREQUENCY BANDING

Information on the frequency of words in this dictionary is given using three frequency bands, shown as diamonds in the headword line. The most frequent words have three diamonds, the next most frequent two, and the ones which are less frequent have one diamond. Words which occur less frequently still, but which deserve an entry in the dictionary, do not have any diamonds.

PRAGMATICS LABELS

Many uses of words need more than a statement of meaning to be properly explained. People use words to do many things: give invitations, express their feelings, emphasize what they are saying, and so on. The study and description of the way in which people use language to do these things is called **pragmatics**.

In the dictionary, we draw attention to certain pragmatic aspects of words and phrases of English, paying special attention to those that, for cultural and linguistic reasons, we feel may be confusing to learners. The following labels are used:

APPROVAL (表赞许): used to show that you approve of the person or thing you are talking about, e.g. **angelic**

DISAPPROVAL (表不满): used to show that you disapprove of the person or thing you are talking about, e.g. **brat**

EMPHASIS (强调): used to emphasize the point you are making, e.g. **never-ending**

FEELINGS (情感): used to express your feelings about something, or towards someone, e.g. **unfortunately**

FORMULAE (套语): used in particular situations such as greeting and thanking people, or acknowledging something, e.g. **hi, congratulations**

POLITENESS (礼貌): used to express politeness, sometimes even to the point of being euphemistic. e.g. **elderly**

VAGUENESS (含糊): used to show how certain you are about the truth or validity of your statements; this is sometimes called "hedging" or "modality", e.g. **presumably**

PRONUNCIATION

The basic principle underlying the suggested pronunciations is "If you pronounce it like this, most people will understand you." The pronunciations are therefore broadly based on the two most widely taught accents of English, GenAm or General American for American English, and RP or Received Pronunciation for British English.

For the majority of words, a single pronunciation is given, as most differences between American and British pronunciation are systematic. Where the usual British pronunciation differs from the usual American pronunciation more significantly, a separate transcription is given after the code BRIT. Where more than one pronunciation is common in either American or British English, alternative pronunciations are given.

The pronunciations are the result of a program of monitoring spoken English and consulting leading reference works. The transcription system has developed from original work by Dr David Brazil for the Collins COBUILD English Language Dictionary. The symbols used in the dictionary are adapted from those of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), as standardized in the English Pronouncing Dictionary by Daniel Jones (14th Edition, revised by AC Gimson and SM Ramsaran 1988).

IPA SYMBOLS

Vowel Sounds		Consonant Sounds	
ɑ	calm, ah	b	bed, rub
æ	act, mass	d	done, red
aɪ	dive, cry	f	fit, if
aʊ	out, down	g	good, dog
ɛ	met, lend, pen	h	hat, horse
eɪ	say, weight	k	king, pick
ɪ	fit, win	l	lip, bill
i	feed, me	ᵊl	handle, panel
ɒ	lot, spot	m	mat, ram
oʊ	note, coat	n	not, tin
ɔ	claw, maul	ⁿn	hidden, written
ɔɪ	boy, joint	p	pay, lip
ʊ	could, stood	r	run, read
u	you, use	s	soon, bus
ʌ	fund, must	t	talk, bet
ə	first vowel in about	v	van, love
i	second vowel in very	w	win, wool
u	second vowel in actual	x	loch
		y	yellow, you
		z	zoo, buzz
		ʃ	ship, wish
		ʒ	measure, leisure
		ŋ	sing, working
		tʃ	cheap, witch
		θ	thin, myth
		ð	then, bathe
		dʒ	joy, bridge

Notes

/æ/ or /ɑ/

There are a number of words which use the /æ/ sound in GenAm and in most accents of English, but /ɑ/ in RP, such as 'bath' which is pronounced /bæθ/ in GenAm and /bɑθ/ in RP. This affects some words in which this vowel is followed by the sounds /f/, /nd/, /ns/, /nt/, /ntʃ/, /s/, /θ/. For example, 'graph', 'command', 'answer', 'can't', 'ranch', 'class' and 'bath' are pronounced /græf/, /kəmænd/, /ænsər/, /kænt/, /ræntʃ/, /klæs/ and /bæθ/ in GenAm, but /grɑf/, /kəmɑnd/, /ɑnsəʳ/, /kɑnt/, /rɑntʃ/, /klɑs/ and /bɑθ/ in RP. However, there are exceptions to this such as "land" /lænd/. In these cases, we show only the GenAm version as it is a common and acceptable pronunciation for British English, even though it is not RP.

/r/

In most accents of English, including GenAm, 'r' is always pronounced. One of the main ways in which RP differs is that 'r' is only pronounced as /r/ when the next sound is a vowel. Thus, in RP, 'far gone' is pronounced /fɑ gɒn/ but 'far out' is pronounced /fɑr aʊt/. Similarly, 'fire', 'flour', 'fair', 'near' and 'pure' are pronounced /faɪər/, /flaʊər/, /fɛər/, /nɪər/ and /pyʊər/ in GenAm, but /faɪə/, /flaʊə/, /fɛə/, /nɪə/ and /pyʊə/ in RP.

/oʊ/

This symbol is used to represent the sound /oʊ/ in GenAm, and also the sound /əʊ/ in RP, as these sounds are almost entirely equivalent.

/ᵊl/ and /ᵊn/

These show that /l/ and /n/ are pronounced as separate syllables:

handle /hændᵊl/
hidden /hɪdᵊn/

Stress

Stress is shown by underlining the vowel in the stressed syllable:

two /t<u>u</u>/
result /rɪz<u>ʌ</u>lt/
disappointing /d<u>ɪ</u>səp<u>ɔɪ</u>ntɪŋ/

When a word is spoken in isolation, stress falls on the syllables which have vowels which are underlined. If there is one syllable underlined, it will have primary stress.

'TWO'
'reSULT'

If two syllables are underlined, the first will have secondary stress, and the second will have primary stress:

'DISapPOINTing'

A few words are shown with three underlined syllables, for example 'disqualification' /d<u>ɪ</u>skw<u>ɒ</u>lɪfɪk<u>eɪ</u>ʃᵊn/. In this case, the third underlined syllable will have primary stress, while the secondary stress may be on the first or second syllable:

'DISqualifiCAtion' or 'disQUALifiCAtion'

GenAm usually prefers 'dis-', while RP tends to prefer 'DIS-'.

In the case of compound words, where the pronunciation of each part is given separately, the stress pattern is shown by underlining the headword: '<u>off-peak</u>', '<u>first-class</u>', but 'c<u>a</u>ke pan'.