

learning  
with  
**LDOCE**

By Janet Whitcut



























learning  
with  
**LDOCE**

By Janet Whitcut

**Longman Group Limited**  
**Harlow and London**

**Associated companies, branches, and representatives**  
**throughout the world**

© Longman Group Ltd. 1979


All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the Copyright owner.

**First published by Longman Group Limited 1979**

**ISBN 0 582 55607 4**

**Printed in Great Britain by**  
**Spottiswoode Ballantyne Ltd.,**  
**Colchester and London**

## Contents

<b>Foreword to the teacher</b>	<i>page</i> 4
<b>Section 1: Finding your way round the Dictionary</b> word order/using the definitions/ word substitution/parts of speech/words with several meanings	6
<b>Section 2: Spelling and sound</b> spellings/spelling patterns/sound patterns/sound and meaning/ American spellings/syllable division/compound words/related words/forming adjectives/stress patterns/stress shift/sounds/ rhymes/a or an?	10
<b>Section 3: Forming words</b> verb forms/noun forms/adjective forms/word building/saying it differently/prefixes/forming negatives/two-word expressions	19
<b>Section 4: Verb patterns</b> verbs with more than one pattern/linking verbs/speech verbs/ passive or no passive?/objects and complements/verbs with -ing/ verbs with two objects/patterns following verbs/verb and preposition/crossword (1)	24
<b>Section 5: Noun, adjective, and preposition patterns</b> countable, uncountable, and plural/position of adjectives and nouns/word and preposition/nonassertives/so and such/ reflexives/verbless patterns	31
<b>Section 6: Meanings and use</b> masculine and feminine forms/plural forms/pairs (word order)/ a lump of sugar (group and collective nouns)/making trouble (verb and object)/idioms of comparison/more idioms/adverb combinations/saying it another way/modal verbs and their uses/crossword (2)	36
<b>Section 7: Things and ideas</b> words with several meanings/subjects and objects/person or thing?/opposites/the right word/two common words/words often confused/word pairs/which is different? (1)/linking words and phrases	43
<b>Section 8: Names and titles</b> people and countries/numbers/people and families/Noah's ark/ the or no the?/which is different? (2)/Quixotic/word or name?/abbreviations/foreign phrases/things and pictures	52
<b>Section 9: Kinds of language</b> special language/who or where?/American English/British English/ancient and modern language/matching the meaning/ formal and informal/correctness	59
<b>Key</b> 	70



## To the teacher

This workbook is designed, not as a course, but as a supplementary practice book to accompany the *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (LDOCE)*. It is intended to increase and activate the student's English vocabulary, enlarging his range of expression and giving him confidence. It should be particularly useful to students of English as a foreign or second language, who are in the last years of secondary school or at the beginning of a university course.

The exercises are graded in difficulty within each section and are marked with one, two, or three stars (\*) for easy, medium, or difficult. The easier, marked\* would be appropriate for students preparing for the Cambridge First Certificate in English; the harder, marked\*\* or \*\*\*, should be within the capacity of candidates for the Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English; a satisfactory command of lexis at this higher level is essential for those hoping to follow an English-medium university course.

Grammatical terminology has been kept to a minimum throughout, and real-life contexts created wherever possible.

A student working alone could well use these exercises, and it is for his benefit and perhaps also for that of the non-native teacher that we have provided keys where necessary. (It should always be remembered, however, that there may be more than one "right" answer.) The exercises may also be used in class, both for teaching and as test material, and for homework. In certain cases we have provided comments for the teacher as to the purpose of an item. It will be seen that some lend themselves to private study while others, particularly the games, are suitable for a group.

When they are used to acquire entirely new information, rather than to test what has already been taught, the exercises provide practice in extracting the utmost that this Dictionary has to offer. It is itself not a textbook but a sophisticated work of reference to be consulted, and the workbook exercises reflect this approach to language: the nine sections are not arranged in order of difficulty, but explore in turn nine different areas of language study which are particularly well covered in the Dictionary:

**Finding your way round the Dictionary.** This preliminary section gives practice in the mechanics of dictionary use. To use this Dictionary (or any dictionary) fully, a student must be familiar with the idea of alphabetical order, be able to recognize the part of speech of a word in context, and to grasp the various space-saving conventions used in the definitions.

**Pronunciation and Stress.** LDOCE describes these in respect not only of single words but also of compounds, including phrases and phrasal verbs. Where an item or sequence is pronounced or stressed differently in British and in American English, this is also shown. Section Two of the workbook covers spelling, sound, and stress, encouraging the student to make use of what LDOCE has to offer in this field by the use of spelling exercises, by exercises on stress patterns, and by rhyming exercises to identify various written realizations of the same phoneme, or various phonetic realizations of the same letter or group. Regularities of spelling, where they exist, are sometimes pointed out and sometimes to be deduced for oneself in problem-solving exercises.

**The Formation of Words.** Section Three trains the student in word-building by productive affixes and combining forms. It deals with many other questions of morphology, including irregular plurals and other inflected forms. Many of the exercises are of types familiar from examinations, but there is also a language game to be played by a group. The inflection coding in LDOCE, and the presence or absence of particular "run-on" forms, will be relevant here.

**The Grammar of Words.** Sections Four and Five will develop the student's knowledge of the syntactic behaviour of words. They exploit the unusually detailed