

COLLINS

柯林斯迷你英语词典

new

ENGLISH MINI DICTIONARY



◆ 北京大学出版社

柯林斯迷你英语词典

new

COLLINS ENGLISH MINI DICTIONARY



北京大学出版社

Peking University Press



Collins

An Imprint of HarperCollins Publishers

著作权合同登记 图字：01-2000-1064

New Edition 1999

© HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 1999

Collins® is a registered trademark
of HarperCollins Publishers Limited

All rights reserved.

英国哈泼柯林斯出版公司独家授权北京大学出版社在中国影印出版。
版权所有，违者必究。

书 名：柯林斯迷你英语词典

著作责任者：本书编写组

责任编辑：顾 权

标准书号：ISBN 7-301-04413-5/H·0507

出 版 者：北京大学出版社

地 址：北京市海淀区中关村北京大学校内 100871

网 址：<http://cbs.pku.edu.cn/cbs.htm>

电 话：出版部 62752015 发行部 62754140 编辑部 62752036

印 刷 者：中国科学院印刷厂

发 行 者：北京大学出版社

经 销 者：新华书店

787 毫米×1092 毫米 42 开本 15.25 印张

2000 年 4 月第 1 版 2000 年 6 月第 2 次印刷

定 价：24.00 元

The BANK of

ENGLISH

This dictionary has been compiled by referring to the Bank of English, a unique database of the English language with examples of over 323 million words enabling Collins lexicographers to analyse how English is actually used today and how it is changing. This is the evidence on which the changes in this dictionary are based.

The Bank of English was set up as a joint initiative by HarperCollins Publishers and Birmingham University to be a resource for language research and lexicography. It contains a very wide range of material from books, newspapers, radio, TV, magazines, letters and talks reflecting the whole spectrum of English today. Its size and range make it an unequalled resource and the purpose-built software for its analysis is unique to Collins Dictionaries.

This ensures that Collins Dictionaries accurately reflect English as it is used today in a way that is most helpful to the dictionary user as well as including the full range of rarer and historical words and meanings.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editorial Director
Diana Treffry

Managing Editor
Sheila Ferguson

Senior Lexicographer
Eispeth Summers

Lexicographers

Mary O'Neill

Ian Brookes Lorna Gilmour
Andrew Holmes

Computing Staff

John Podbielski Stewart C. Russell

FEATURES OF THE DICTIONARY

batik [bat-tək] <i>n</i> 1 process of printing fabric using wax to cover areas not to be dyed. 2 fabric printed in this way.	Pronunciation
batman <i>n</i> officer's servant in the armed forces.	Entry Word
baton <i>n</i> 1 thin stick used by the conductor of an orchestra. 2 short bar transferred in a relay race. 3 police officer's truncheon.	Definition
battalion <i>n</i> army unit consisting of three or more companies.	
batten ¹ <i>n</i> strip of wood fixed to something, esp. to hold it in place. batten down <i>v</i> secure with battens.	Phrasal Verb
batten ² <i>v</i> batten on thrive at the expense of (someone else).	
batter ¹ <i>v</i> hit repeatedly battering ram large beam used to break down fortifications.	Part of Speech
batter ² <i>n</i> mixture of flour, eggs, and milk, used in cooking.	
battery <i>n</i> , <i>pl</i> -tries 1 device that produces electricity in a torch, radio, etc. 2 group of heavy guns operating as a single unit. → <i>adj</i> 3 kept in series of cages for intensive rearing, e.g. <i>battery hens</i> .	Sense Number
battle <i>n</i> 1 fight between large armed forces. 2 conflict or struggle → <i>v</i> 3 struggle.	Example
battle-axe <i>n</i> 1 <i>informal</i> domineering woman. 2 (formerly) large heavy axe.	Usage Label
battledress <i>n</i> ordinary uniform of a soldier.	
battlefield , battleground <i>n</i> place where a battle is fought.	Alternative Form
battlement <i>n</i> wall with gaps along the top for firing through.	
battleship <i>n</i> large heavily armoured warship.	
batty <i>adj</i> -tier, -tiest <i>Slang</i> eccentric or crazy.	Spelling Help
bauble <i>n</i> trinket of little value.	
baulk <i>v</i> same as BALK.	Cross Reference
bauxite <i>n</i> claylike substance that is the chief source of aluminium.	
bawdy <i>adj</i> bawdier , bawdiest (of writing etc.) containing humorous references to sex. bawdiness <i>n</i>	Related Word
bawl <i>v</i> shout or weep noisily.	

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE DICTIONARY

AD	anno Domini	Meteorol	Meteorology
adj	adjective	Mil	Military
adv	adverb	n	noun
Anat	Anatomy	N	North
Archit	Architecture	NZ	New Zealand
Astrol	Astrology	Obs	Obsolete
Aust	Australia(n)	Offens	Offensive
BC	before Christ	orig.	originally
Biol	Biology	Photog	Photography
Brit	British	pl	plural
Chem	Chemistry	prep	preposition
C of E	Church of England	pron	pronoun
conj	conjugation	Psychol	Psychology
E	East	®	Trademark
e.g.	for example	RC	Roman Catholic
esp.	especially	S	South
etc.	et cetera	S Afr	South Africa(n)
fem	feminine	Scot	Scottish
fol.	followed	sing	singular
Geom	Geometry	US	United States
Hist	History	usu.	usually
interj	interjection	v	verb
Lit	Literary	W	West
masc	masculine	Zool	Zoology
Med	Medicine		

最新柯林斯英语词典系列

COLLINS

(英文版)

柯林斯最新英语词典

Collins New English Dictionary

最新柯林斯英语学习词典

Collins New School Dictionary

柯林斯袖珍英语词典

Collins Pocket English Dictionary

柯林斯精华英语词典：21世纪版

Collins Gem English Dictionary;
New Edition for the 21st Century

柯林斯迷你英语词典

Collins English Mini Dictionary

A a

a *adj* indefinite article, used before a noun being mentioned for the first time.

A1 *adj* *informal* first-class, excellent

AA 1 Alcoholics Anonymous. 2 Automobile Association.

ardvark *n* S African anteater with long ears and snout.

AB able-bodied seaman.

aback *adv* **taken aback** startled or disconcerted.

abacus [**ab**-a-cuss] *n* beads on a wire frame, used for doing calculations

abalone [**ab**-a-lone-ee] *n* edible sea creature with a shell lined with mother of pearl.

abandon *v* 1 desert or leave (one's wife, children, etc.). 2 give up (hope etc.) altogether ♦ *n* 3 lack of inhibition. **abandoned** *adj* 1 deserted. 2 uninhibited. **abandonment** *n*

abase *v* humiliate or degrade (oneself). **abasement** *n*

abashed *adj* embarrassed and ashamed.

abate *v* make or become less strong. **abatement** *n*

abattoir [**ab**-a-twahr] *n* slaughterhouse.

abbess *n* nun in charge of a convent.

abbey *n* dwelling place of, or a church belonging to, a community of monks or nuns.

abbot *n* head of an abbey of monks.

abbreviate *v* shorten (a word) by leaving out some letters. **abbreviation** *n* shortened form of a word or words.

ABC *n* 1 alphabet. 2 basics of a subject.

abdicate *v* give up (the throne or a responsibility). **abdication** *n*

abdomen *n* part of the body containing the stomach and intestines. **abdominal** *adj*

abduct *v* carry off, kidnap. **abduction** *n* **abductor** *n*

aberration *n* 1 sudden change from what is normal, accurate, or correct. 2 brief lapse in control of one's thoughts or feelings. **aberrant** *adj* showing aberration.

abet *v* **abetting**. **abetted** help or encourage in wrongdoing. **abetter** *n*

abeyance *n* in **abeyance** not in use.

abhor *v* -**horring**, -**horred** detest utterly. **abhorrent** *adj* hateful, loathsome. **abhorrence** *n*

abide *v* 1 endure, put up with 2 *Obs* stay or dwell, e.g. *abide with me*. **abide by** *v* obey (the law, rules, etc.). **abiding** *adj* lasting.

ability *n*, *pl* -**ties** 1 competence, power. 2 talent.

abject *adj* 1 utterly miserable 2 lacking all self-respect. **abjectly** *adv*

abjure *v* deny or renounce on oath.

ablative [**ab**-lat-iv] *n* case of nouns in Latin and other languages, indicating source, agent, or instrument of action

ablaze *adj* burning fiercely.

able *adj* capable, competent.

ably *adv* **able-bodied** *adj* strong and healthy. **able-bodied seaman** seaman who is trained in certain skills.

ablutions *pl n* act of washing.

ABM antiballistic missile.

abnormal *adj* not normal or usual. **abnormally** *adv* **abnormality** *n*

aboard *adv*, *prep* on, in, onto, or into (a ship, train, or plane).

abode *n* home, dwelling.

abolish *v* do away with. **abolition** *n* **abolitionist** *n* person who wishes to do away with something, esp. slavery.

abominable *adj* detestable, very

abomination

2

abstract

bad. **abominable** snowman large apelike creature said to live in the Himalayas **abominably** *adv*

abomination *n* 1 someone or something that is detestable. 2 strong dislike.

aborigine [ab-or-rij-in-ee], **aboriginal** *n* original inhabitant of a country or region, esp. (A-) Australia. **aboriginal** *adj*

abort *v* 1 have an abortion or perform an abortion on. 2 have a miscarriage. 3 end a plan or process before completion. **abortion** *n* 1 operation to end a pregnancy. 2 *informal* something grotesque. **abortionist** *n* person who performs abortions, esp. illegally. **abortive** *adj* unsuccessful.

abound *v* be plentiful. **abounding** *adj*

about *prep* 1 concerning, on the subject of. 2 in or near (a place). **adv** 3 nearly, approximately. 4 nearby **about to** shortly going to, e.g. *about to leave* **not about to** determined not to, e.g. *I'm not about to give up now*. **about-turn** *n* complete change of attitude.

above *adv, prep* 1 over or higher (than). 2 greater (than). 3 superior (to). **above board** in the open, without dishonesty.

abracadabra *n* supposedly magic word.

abrasion *n* scraped area on the skin.

abrasive *adj* 1 harsh and unpleasant in manner. 2 tending to rub or scrape. **n** 3 substance for cleaning or polishing by rubbing.

abreast *adv, adj* side by side. **abreast of** up to date with.

abridge *v* shorten by using fewer words. **abridgment, abridgement** *n*

abroad *adv* 1 to or in a foreign country. 2 at large.

abrogate *v* cancel (a law or agreement) formally. **abrogation** *n*

abrupt *adj* 1 sudden, unexpected. 2 blunt and rude **abruptly** *adv* **abruptness** *n*

abscess *n* inflamed swelling containing pus

abscond *v* leave secretly

absell [ab-sale] *v* go down a steep drop by a rope fastened at the top and tied around one's body.

absent *adj* 1 not present. 2 lacking. 3 inattentive. **adv** 4 stay away. **absently** *adv* **absence** *n* 1 being away. 2 lack. **absentee** *n* person who should be present but is not. **absenteeism** *n* persistent absence from work or school. **absent-minded** *adj* inattentive or forgetful. **absent-mindedly** *adv*

absinthe *n* strong green aniseed flavoured liqueur

absolute *adj* 1 complete, perfect. 2 not limited, unconditional. 3 pure, e.g. *absolute alcohol*

absolute zero *Physics* lowest possible temperature, -273.15°C .

absolutely *adv* 1 completely **interj** 2 certainly, yes. **absolutism** *n* government by a ruler with unrestricted power.

absolve *v* declare to be free from blame or sin **absolution** *n*

absorb *v* 1 soak up (a liquid) 2 take in. 3 engage the interest of (someone). **absorption** *n* **absorbent** *adj* able to absorb liquid. **absorbency** *n*

abstain *v* 1 choose not to do something. 2 choose not to vote **abstainer** *n* **abstention** *n* abstaining, esp. from voting. **abstinence** *n* abstaining, esp. from drinking alcohol. **abstinent** *adj*

abstemious [ab-steem-ee-uss] *adj* taking very little alcohol or food. **abstemiousness** *n*

abstract *adj* 1 existing as a quality or idea rather than a material object. 2 theoretical. 3 (of art) using patterns of shapes and colours rather than realistic likenesses. **n** 4 summary. 5 abstract work of art. 6 abstract

word or idea. ♦ v 7 summarize. 8 remove. **abstracted** *adj* lost in thought. **abstractedly** *adv* **abstraction** *n*

abstruse *adj* not easy to understand.

absurd *adj* incongruous or ridiculous. **absurdly** *adv* **absurdity** *n*

abundant *adj* plentiful. **abundantly** *adv* **abundance** *n*

abuse v 1 use wrongly. 2 ill-treat violently. 3 speak harshly and rudely to. ♦ n 4 prolonged ill-treatment. 5 harsh and vulgar comments. 6 wrong use. **abuser** *n* **abusive** *adj* **abusively** *adv* **abusiveness** *n*

abut v **abutting**, **abuted** be next to or touching.

abuzz *adj* noisy, busy with activity etc

abysmal *adj* *Informal* extremely bad, awful. **abysmally** *adv*

abyss *n* very deep hole or chasm.

AC alternating current.

a/c account.

acacia [a-kay-sha] *n* tree or shrub with yellow or white flowers.

academy *n*, *pl* -mies 1 society to advance arts or sciences. 2 institution for training in a particular skill. 3 *Scot* secondary school.

academic *adj* 1 of an academy or university. 2 of theoretical interest only. ♦ n 3 lecturer or researcher at a university. **academically** *adv* **academician** *n* member of an academy.

acanthus *n* 1 prickly plant. 2 ornamental carving in the shape of an acanthus leaf.

ACAS Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

accede v 1 consent or agree (to). 2 take up (an office or position).

accelerate v (cause to) move faster. **acceleration** *n* **accelerator** *n* pedal in a motor vehicle to increase speed.

accent *n* 1 distinctive style of pronunciation of a local, national, or social group. 2 mark over a letter to show how it is pro-

nounced. 3 stress on a syllable or musical note. ♦ v 4 place emphasis on.

accentuate v stress, emphasize. **accentuation** *n*

accept v 1 receive willingly. 2 agree to. 3 consider to be true.

accepted *adj* generally approved. **acceptance** *n* **acceptable** *adj* 1 tolerable. 2 satisfactory. **acceptably** *adv* **acceptability** *n*

access *n* 1 means of or right to approach or enter. ♦ v 2 obtain (data) from a computer. **accessible** *adj* easy to reach. **accessibility** *n*

accession *n* taking up of an office or position.

accessory *n*, *pl* -ries 1 supplementary part or object. 2 person involved in a crime although not present when it is committed.

accident *n* 1 mishap, usu. one causing injury or death. 2 event happening by chance. **accidental** *adj* 1 happening by chance or unintentionally. ♦ n 2 *Music* symbol indicating that a sharp, flat, or natural note is not a part of the key signature **accidentally** *adv* **accident-prone** *adj* often having accidents.

acclaim v 1 applaud, praise. ♦ n 2 enthusiastic approval. **acclamation** *n*

acclimatize v adapt to a new climate or environment. **acclimatization** *n*

accolade *n* 1 award, honour, or praise. 2 award of knighthood.

accommodate v 1 provide with lodgings. 2 have room for. 3 oblige, do a favour for. 4 adapt or adjust (to something). **accommodation** *n* house or room for living in. **accommodating** *adj* obliging.

accompany v -nying, -nied 1 go along with. 2 occur with. 3 provide a musical accompaniment for. **accompaniment** *n* 1 something that accompanies. 2 *Music* supporting part that goes with a

solo. **accompanist** *n*

accomplice *n* person who helps another to commit a crime.

accomplish *v* 1 manage to do. 2 finish. **accomplishment** *n* 1 completion 2 personal ability or skill **accomplished** *adj* expert, proficient.

accord *n* 1 agreement, harmony. \dagger *v* 2 fit in with. **of one's own accord** voluntarily.

accordance *n* in accordance with conforming to or according to.

according *adv* according to 1 as stated by. 2 in conformity with **accordingly** *adv* 1 in an appropriate manner. 2 consequently.

accordion *n* portable musical instrument played by moving the two sides apart and together, and pressing a keyboard or buttons to produce the notes. **accordionist** *n*

accost *v* approach and speak to.

account *n* 1 report, description. 2 business arrangement making credit available. 3 record of money received and paid out with the resulting balance. 4 person's money held in a bank. 5 importance, value \dagger *v* 6 judge to be on account of because of. **accountable** *adj* responsible to someone or for something. **accountability** *n* **account for** *v* 1 explain. 2 make up, constitute.

accounting *n* skill or practice of maintaining and auditing business accounts. **accountant** *n* person who maintains and audits business accounts. **accountancy** *n*

accoutrements [ak-koo-traments] *pl n* clothing and equipment for a particular activity

accredited *adj* authorized, officially recognized.

accretion [ak-kree-shun] *n* 1 gradual growth 2 something added

accrue *v* -cruing, -crued increase gradually. **accrual** *n*

accumulate *v* gather together in

increasing quantity. **accumulation** *n* **accumulative** *adj* **accumulator** *n* rechargeable electric battery.

accurate *adj* exact, correct. **accurately** *adv* **accuracy** *n*

accursed *adj* 1 under a curse. 2 detestable.

accusative *n* grammatical case indicating the direct object.

accuse *v* charge with wrongdoing. **accused** *n* **accuser** *n* **accusing** *adj* **accusation** *n* **accusatory** *adj*

accustom *v* make used to **accustomed** *adj* 1 usual. 2 used (to). 3 in the habit (of).

ace *n* 1 playing card with one symbol on it 2 *Informal* expert. 3 *Tennis* unreturnable serve. \dagger *adj* 4 *Informal* excellent.

acerbic [ass-sir-bik] *adj* harsh or bitter. **acerbity** *n*

acetate [ass-it-tate] *n* 1 *Chem* salt or ester of acetic acid. 2 (also **acetate rayon**) synthetic textile fibre

acetic [ass-see-tik] *adj* of or involving vinegar. **acetic acid** colourless liquid used to make vinegar.

acetone [ass-it-tone] *n* colourless liquid used as a solvent

acetylene [ass-set-il-een] *n* colourless flammable gas used in welding metals.

ache *n* 1 dull continuous pain. \dagger *v* 2 be in or cause continuous dull pain. **aching** *adj, n* **achingly** *adv*

achieve *v* gain by hard work or ability. **achievement** *n* something accomplished. **achiever** *n*

Achilles heel [ak-kill-eez] *n* small but fatal weakness

Achilles tendon *n* cord connecting the calf to the heel bone.

achromatic *adj* 1 colourless. 2 *Music* with no sharps or flats.

acid *n* 1 *Chem* one of a class of compounds, corrosive and sour when dissolved in water, that combine with a base to form a salt. 2 *Slang* LSD. \dagger *adj* 3 contain-

ing acid. 4 sour-tasting. 5 sharp or sour in manner. **acidly** *adv*
acidic *adj* acidify *v* -fying, -fied
acidity *n* Acid (House) *n* type of funk-based electronically edited disco music with hypnotic sound effects. **acid rain** rain containing acid from atmospheric pollution. **acid test** conclusive test of value.

acknowledge *v* 1 admit, recognize. 2 indicate recognition of (a person). 3 say one has received. **acknowledgment, acknowledgment** *n*

acme [ak-mee] *n* highest point of achievement or excellence

acne [ak-nee] *n* pimply skin disease.

acolyte *n* 1 follower or attendant. 2 *Christianity* person who assists a priest.

aconite *n* 1 poisonous plant with hoodlike flowers. 2 poison obtained from this plant.

acorn *n* nut of the oak tree.

acoustic *adj* 1 of sound and hearing. 2 (of a musical instrument) not electronically amplified.

acoustics *n* 1 science of sounds. **pl** 2 features of a room or building determining how sound is heard within it. **acoustically** *adv*

acquaint *v* make familiar, inform. **acquainted** *adj* **acquaintance** *n* 1 person known. 2 personal knowledge.

acquiesce [ak-wee-ess] *v* agree to what someone wants. **acquiescence** *n* **acquiescent** *adj*

acquire *v* gain, get. **acquisition** *n* 1 thing acquired. 2 act of getting. **acquired taste** 1 liking for something at first considered unpleasant. 2 the thing liked.

acquisitive *adj* eager to gain material possessions. **acquisitiveness** *n*

acquit *v* -quitting, -quitted 1 pronounce (someone) innocent. 2 behave in a particular way. **acquittal** *n*

acre *n* measure of land, 4840

square yards. **acreage** [ake-er-rij] *n* land area in acres.

acrid [ak-rid] *adj* pungent, bitter. **acridity** *n*

acrimonious *adj* bitter in speech or manner. **acrimony** *n*

acrobat *n* person skilled in gymnastic feats requiring agility and balance. **acrobatic** *adj* **acrobatics** *pl n* acrobatic feats.

acronym *n* word formed from the initial letters of other words, such as NASA.

acropolis [a-crop-pol-liss] *n* citadel of an ancient Greek city.

across *adv, prep* 1 from side to side (of). 2 on or to the other side (of). **across the board** applying equally to all.

acrostic *n* lines of writing in which the first or last letters of each line spell a word or saying.

acrylic *n, adj* (synthetic fibre, paint, etc.) made from acrylic acid. **acrylic acid** strong-smelling corrosive liquid

act *n* 1 thing done. 2 law or decree. 3 section of a play or opera. 4 one of several short performances in a show. 5 pretended attitude. **v** 6 do something. 7 behave in a particular way. 8 perform in a play, film, etc. **act of God** unpredictable natural event. **acting** *n* 1 art of an actor. **adj** 2 temporarily performing the duties of. **actor, actress** *n* person who acts in a play, film, etc.

actinium *n* Chem radioactive chemical element.

action *n* 1 process of doing something. 2 thing done. 3 lawsuit. 4 operating mechanism. 5 minor battle. **actionable** *adj* giving grounds for a lawsuit. **action replay** rerun of an event on a television tape.

active *adj* 1 moving, working. 2 busy, energetic. 3 *Grammar* (of a verb) in a form indicating that the subject is performing the action, e.g. *throw* in *Kim threw the ball*. **actively** *adv* **activity** *n* 1

state of being active. 2 (*pl -ties*) leisure pursuit. **activate** *v* make active. **activation** *n* **activator** *n* **activist** *n* person who works energetically to achieve political or social goals. **activism** *n*

actual *adj* existing in reality. **actually** *adv* really, indeed. **actuality** *n*

actuary *n, pl -aries* statistician who calculates insurance risks. **actuarial** *adj*

actuate *v* start up (a device).

acuity [ak-kew-it-ee] *n* keenness of vision or thought.

acumen [ak-yew-men] *n* ability to make good judgments.

acupuncture *n* medical treatment involving the insertion of needles at various points on the body. **acupuncturist** *n*

acute *adj* 1 severe. 2 keen, shrewd. 3 sharp, sensitive. 4 (of an angle) less than 90°. ♦ *n* 5 accent (˘) over a letter to indicate the quality or length of its sound, as in café. **acutely** *adv* **acuteness** *n*

ad *n* informal advertisement

AD anno Domini

adage [ad-ij] *n* wise saying, proverb.

adagio [ad-dahj-yo] *n, pl -gios, adv* Music (piece to be played) slowly and gracefully.

adamant *adj* unshakable in determination or purpose. **adamantly** *adv*

Adam's apple *n* projecting lump of thyroid cartilage at the front of the throat.

adapt *v* alter for new use or new conditions. **adaptable** *adj* **adaptability** *n* **adaptation** *n* 1 thing produced by adapting something. 2 adapting. **adaptor, adapter** *n* device for connecting several electrical appliances to a single socket.

add *v* 1 combine (numbers or quantities). 2 join (to something). 3 say or write further

addendum *n, pl -da* 1 an addition. 2 appendix to a book etc.

adder *n* small poisonous snake.

addict *n* 1 person who is unable to stop taking drugs. 2 informal person devoted to something. **addicted** *adj* **addiction** *n* **addictive** *adj* causing addiction.

addition *n* 1 adding. 2 thing added. **in addition** besides, as well. **additional** *adj* **additionally** *adv* **additive** *n* something added, esp. to a foodstuff, to improve it or prevent deterioration.

addled *adj* confused or unable to think clearly.

address *n* 1 place where a person lives. 2 direction on a letter. 3 location. 4 formal public speech. ♦ *v* 5 mark the destination, as on an envelope. 6 speak to. 7 give attention to (a problem, task, etc.). **addressee** *n* person addressed.

adduce *v* mention something as evidence or proof.

adenoids [ad-in-oidz] *pl n* mass of tissue at the back of the throat. **adenoidal** *adj* having a nasal voice caused by swollen adenoids.

adept *adj, n* very skilful (person).

adequate *adj* 1 sufficient, enough. 2 not outstanding. **adequately** *adv* **adequacy** *n*

adhere *v* 1 stick (to). 2 be devoted (to). **adherence** *n* **adherent** *n* devotee, follower. **adhesion** *n* 1 sticking (to). 2 joining together of parts of the body that are normally separate, as after surgery.

adhesive *n* 1 substance used to stick things together. ♦ *adj* 2 able to stick to things.

ad hoc *adj, adv* Latin for a particular purpose only.

adieu [a-dew] *interj* farewell, goodbye.

ad infinitum *adv* Latin endlessly.

adipose *adj* of or containing fat.

adj. adjective.

adjacent *adj* 1 near or next (to). 2 having a common boundary. 3 *Geom* (of a side in a right-angled triangle) lying between a

specified angle and the right angle.

adjective *n* word that adds information about a noun or pronoun. **adjectival** *adj*

adjoin *v* be next to **adjoining** *adj*

adjourn *v* 1 close (a court) at the end of a session. 2 postpone temporarily. 3 *Informal* go elsewhere. **adjournment** *n*

adjudge *v* declare (to be).

adjudicate *v* 1 give a formal decision on (a dispute). 2 judge (a competition) **adjudication** *n* **adjudicator** *n*

adjunct *n* subordinate or additional person or thing.

adjure *v* 1 command (to do). 2 appeal earnestly.

adjust *v* 1 adapt to new conditions. 2 alter slightly so as to be suitable. **adjustable** *adj* **adjuster** *n* **adjustment** *n*

adjutant [əj-oo-tant] *n* army officer in charge of routine administration.

ad-lib *v* -libbing, -libbed 1 improvise a speech etc. without preparation. 2 improvised remark.

admin *n* *Informal* administration.

administer *v* 1 manage (business affairs). 2 organize and put into practice. 3 give (medicine or treatment)

administrate *v* manage (an organization). **administration** *n* **administrative** *adj* **administrator** *n*

admiral *n* highest naval rank **Admiralty** *n* former government department in charge of the Royal Navy.

admire *v* regard with esteem and approval. **admirable** *adj* **admirably** *adv* **admiration** *n* **admirer** *n* **admiring** *adj* **admiringly** *adv*

admissible *adj* allowed to be brought in as evidence in court. **admissibility** *n*

admission *n* 1 permission to enter. 2 entrance fee. 3 confession.

admit *v* -mitting, -mitted 1 con-

less, acknowledge. 2 concede the truth of. 3 allow in. **admittance** *n* permission to enter. **admittedly** *adv* it must be agreed.

admixture *n* 1 mixture. 2 ingredient.

admonish *v* reprove sternly. **admonition** *n*

ad nauseam [əd nəw-zee-əm] *adv* *Latin* to a boring or sickening extent.

ado *n* fuss, trouble.

adobe [əd-oh-bee] *n* sun-dried brick.

adolescence *n* period between puberty and adulthood. **adolescent** *n, adj* (person) between puberty and adulthood.

adopt *v* 1 take (someone else's child) as one's own. 2 take up (a plan or principle). **adoption** *n* **adoptive** *adj* related by adoption.

adore *v* 1 love intensely. 2 worship **adorable** *adj* **adoration** *n* **adoring** *adj* **adoringly** *adv*

adorn *v* decorate, embellish. **adornment** *n*

ADP automatic data processing.

adrenal [əd-rēn-əl] *adj* near the kidneys. **adrenal glands** glands covering the top of the kidneys.

adrenalin, adrenaline *n* hormone secreted by the adrenal glands in response to stress

adrift *adj, adv* 1 drifting. 2 without a clear purpose.

adroit *adj* quick and skilful. **adroitly** *adv* **adroitness** *n*

adsorb *v* (of a gas or vapour) condense and form a thin film on a surface. **adsorbent** *adj* **adsorption** *n*

adulation *n* uncritical admiration.

adult *adj* 1 fully grown, mature. 2 *n* 2 adult person or animal.

adulthood *n*

adulterate *v* spoil something by adding inferior material. **adulteration** *n*

adultery *n, pl -teries* sexual unfaithfulness of a husband or wife. **adulterer, adulteress** *n* **adulterous** *adj*

adv. adverb.

advance *v* 1 go or bring forward. 2 further (a cause). 3 propose (an idea). 4 lend (a sum of money). *♦ n* 5 forward movement. 6 improvement. 7 loan. *♦ pl* 8 approaches to a person with the hope of starting a romantic or sexual relationship. *♦ adj* 9 done or happening before an event. *in advance* ahead. **advanced** *adj* 1 at a late stage in development. 2 not elementary. **advancement** *n* promotion.

advantage *n* 1 more favourable position or state. 2 benefit or profit. 3 *Tennis* point scored after deuce. **take advantage of** 1 use (a person) unfairly. 2 use (an opportunity). **advantageous** *adj* **advantageously** *adv* **advantaged** *adj* in a superior social or financial position.

advent *n* 1 arrival. 2 (A-) season of four weeks before Christmas. **Adventist** *n* member of a Christian sect that believes in the imminent return of Christ.

adventitious *adj* added or appearing accidentally.

adventure *n* exciting and risky undertaking or exploit. **adventurer**, **adventuress** *n* 1 person who unscrupulously seeks money or power. 2 person who seeks adventures. **adventurous** *adj* **adventurously** *adv*

adverb *n* word that adds information about a verb, adjective, or other adverb. **adverbial** *adj*

adversary [*ad-verse-er-ree*] *n*, *pl* -saries opponent or enemy.

adverse *adj* 1 unfavourable. 2 antagonistic or hostile. **adversely** *adv* **adversity** *n* very difficult or hard circumstances.

advert *n* *Informal* advertisement.

advertise *v* 1 present or praise (goods or services) to the public in order to encourage sales. 2 make (a vacancy, event, etc.) known publicly. **advertisement** *n* public announcement to sell goods or publicize an event. **ad-**

vertiser *n* **advertising** *adj*, *n*

advice *n* recommendation as to what to do. **advise** *v* 1 offer advice to. 2 notify (someone). **adviser**, **advisor** *n* **advisable** *adj* prudent, sensible. **advisability** *n* **advisory** *adj* giving advice. **advised** *adj* considered, thought-out, e.g. *ill-advised*. **advisedly** *adv* deliberately.

advocaat *n* liqueur with a raw egg base.

advocate *v* 1 propose or recommend. *♦ n* 2 person who publicly supports a cause. 3 *Scott* barrister. **advocacy** *n*

adze *n* tool with an arched blade at right angles to the handle.

aegis [*ee-jiss*] *n* sponsorship, protection.

aeolian harp [*ee-oh-lee-an*] *n* musical instrument that produces sounds when the wind passes over its strings.

aeon [*ee-on*] *n* immeasurably long period of time.

aerate *v* put gas into (a liquid), as when making a fizzy drink.

aeration *n*

aerial *adj* 1 in, from, or operating in the air. 2 relating to aircraft. *♦ n* 3 metal pole, wire, etc., for receiving or transmitting radio or TV signals.

aerobatics *pl n* stunt flying. **aerobatic** *adj*

aerobics *n* exercises designed to increase the amount of oxygen in the blood. **aerobic** *adj*

aerobically *adv*

aerodrome *n* small airport.

aerodynamics *n* study of how air flows around moving solid objects. **aerodynamic** *adj*

aerofoil *n* part of an aircraft, such as the wing, designed to give lift.

aerogram *n* airmail letter on a single sheet of paper that seals to form an envelope.

aeronautics *n* study or practice of aircraft flight. **aeronautical** *adj*

aeroplane *n* powered flying vehicle with fixed wings.

aerosol *n* pressurized can from which a substance can be dispensed as a fine spray.

aerospace *n* earth's atmosphere and space beyond.

aesthetic [is-thet-ik] *adj* relating to the appreciation of art and beauty. **aesthetics** *n* study of art, beauty, and good taste. **aesthetically** *adv* **aesthete** [ess-theet] *n* person who has or affects an extravagant love of art. **aestheticism** *n*

aether *n* same as ETHER.

aetiology [ee-tee-ol-a-jee] *n* same as ETIOLOGY.

afar *adv* from **afar** from or at a great distance

affable *adj* friendly and easy to talk to **affably** *adv* **affability** *n*

affair *n* 1 event or happening. 2 sexual relationship outside marriage. 3 thing to be done or attended to ♦ *pl* 4 personal or business interests. 5 matters of public interest.

affect¹ *v* 1 act on, influence. 2 move (someone) emotionally.

affect² *v* 1 put on a show of. 2 wear or use by preference. **affection** *n* attitude or manner put on to impress. **affected** *adj* 1 displaying affection. 2 pretended.

affection *n* fondness or love. **affectionate** *adj* loving. **affectionately** *adv*

affianced [af-fie-ans] *adj* *Old-fashioned* engaged to be married.

affidavit [af-fid-dave-it] *n* written statement made on oath

affiliate *v* (of a group) link up with a larger group. **affiliation** *n*

affinity *n*, *pl* -ties 1 close connection or liking. 2 close resemblance. 3 chemical attraction.

affirm *v* 1 declare to be true. 2 uphold or confirm (an idea or belief). **affirmation** *n* **affirmative** *n*, *adj* (word or phrase) indicating agreement

affix *v* 1 attach or fasten. ♦ *n* 2 word or syllable added to a word to change its meaning.

afflict *v* give pain or grief to. **af-**

fliction *n*

affluent *adj* having plenty of money. **affluence** *n* wealth

afford *v* 1 have enough money to buy. 2 be able to spare (the time etc.). 3 give or supply. **affordable** *adj*

afforest *v* plant trees on **afforestation** *n*

affray *n* noisy fight, brawl.

affront *v*, *n* insult.

Afghan *adj* of Afghanistan or its language. **Afghan hound** large slim dog with long silky hair

aficionado [af-fish-yo-nah-do] *n*, *pl* -dos enthusiastic fan of something or someone.

afield *adv* far **afield** far away.

afflame *adj* burning.

afloat *adv*, *adj* 1 floating. 2 at sea.

afloat *adv*, *adj* happening, in operation.

aforsaid, **aforementioned** *adj* referred to previously

aforethought *adj* premeditated, e.g. *with malice aforethought*.

Afr. Africa(n).

afraid *adj* 1 frightened. 2 regretful.

afresh *adv* again, anew.

African *adj* 1 of Africa. ♦ *n* 2 person from Africa. **African-**

American *n* 1 American of African descent. ♦ *adj* 2 of African-Americans. **African violet** house plant with pink or purple flowers and hairy leaves.

Afrikaans *n* language used in S Africa, related to Dutch.

Afrikaner *n* White S African whose mother tongue is Afrikaans.

Afro- combining form African, e.g. *Afro-Caribbean*

aft *adv* at or towards the rear of a ship or aircraft.

after *prep* 1 following in time or place. 2 in pursuit of. 3 in imitation of ♦ *conj* 4 at a later time than. ♦ *adv* 5 at a later time. **af-ters** *pl n* Informal dessert.

afterbirth *n* material expelled from the womb after childbirth.