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# 出版前言

“朗文词典”是世所公认的品牌词典，自出版以来，一直深受世界各地读者的青睐。2004年，商务印书馆与培生教育出版集团亚洲有限公司达成协议，决定在中国内地联合推出“朗文词典系列”，即《朗文当代英语大辞典》(*Longman Dictionary of Language and Culture*)、《朗文英语发音词典》(*Longman Pronunciation Dictionary*)、《朗文无师自通英语词典》(*Longman Wordwise Dictionary*)、《朗文袖珍英语词典》(*Longman Pocket English Dictionary*)、《朗文袖珍英语联想词典》(*Longman Pocket Activator*)、《朗文袖珍英语短语动词词典》(*Longman Pocket Phrasal Verbs Dictionary*)、《朗文袖珍英语习语词典》(*Longman Pocket Idioms Dictionary*)等。其中，《朗文当代英语大辞典》最具影响力，它把英语学习词典与百科全书功能合二为一，全球首创。《朗文英语发音词典》作为一部权威性的发音词典，将会对我国英语语音教学产生积极的影响。《朗文无师自通英语词典》注重“产出”(production)，突出“无师自通”(wordwise)的特色，是培生新近推出的一部品牌学习词典。我们相信，这个全新的朗文词典系列必将受到我国学生、英语教师及广大英语使用者的喜爱。

商务印书馆辞书研究中心

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## ★ Using the Dictionary

- The *Longman Pocket English Dictionary* is the ideal handy dictionary for intermediate students of English.
- The meanings of over 16 000 words and phrases are explained clearly and simply using the Longman Defining Vocabulary of just 2000 English words. Any additional words, that you may not know, are written in SMALL CAPITAL LETTERS. These additional words are explained in their own alphabetical position. Example sentences and phrases, based on real sentences and phrases in books and newspapers, show how the words are used in natural, everyday English.
- Special language notes explain how to use some of the most important English words without making mistakes. The *Longman Pocket Dictionary* also helps with grammar points such as irregular verbs and adjectives, and with prepositions – showing which preposition links the word with the following word or words: for example, *Are you afraid of the dark?*
- Sometimes words with the same spelling are different in meaning, grammar, or pronunciation. These words are explained in separate entries. For example: **love**<sup>1</sup> is a verb and **love**<sup>2</sup> is a noun; **row**<sup>1</sup> means a line, **row**<sup>2</sup> means a quarrel.
- You sometimes want to know about other words you could use instead of the one you are looking at, or to find out which words mean the opposite. The *Longman Pocket Dictionary* gives you this information too. Where these words are useful, they are listed at the end of an entry. The dictionary also has 15 pages of colour pictures showing words connected with common, everyday situations.
- By giving you the basic building blocks to work with, the *Longman Pocket Dictionary* helps you to build up your word power, so that you can produce English sentences which are not only accurate but also sound natural.

# Pronunciation Table

## Consonants

Symbol	Keyword
p	pan
b	ban
t	tip
d	dip
k	cap
g	gap
tʃ	church
dʒ	judge
f	few
v	view
θ	throw
ð	though
s	sip
z	zip
ʃ	fresh
ʒ	measure
h	hot
m	sum
n	sun
ŋ	sung
l	lot
r	rot
j	yet
w	wet

## Vowels

Symbol	Keyword
i:	beat
ɪ	bit
e	bet
æ	bat
ɑ:	bar
ɒ	block
ɔ:	bought
ʊ	book
u:	boot
ʌ	but
ɜ:	burn
ə	brother
eɪ	bay
əʊ	bone
aɪ	by
aʊ	bound
ɔɪ	boy
ɪə	beer
eə	bare
ʊə	poor
eɪə	player
əʊə	lower
aɪə	tire
aʊə	flower
ɔɪə	employer

**/ˈ/** shows main stress

**/,/** shows secondary stress

**/'** at the end of a word means that /r/ is usually pronounced when the next word begins with a vowel sound

**/ə/** means that /ə/ may or may not be used



## ▶ Irregular Verbs

verb	present participle	past tense	past participle
arise	arising	arose	arisen
be	being	was	been
bear	bearing	bore	borne
beat	beating	beat	beaten
become	becoming	became	become
begin	beginning	began	begun
bend	bending	bent	bent
beset	besetting	beset	beset
bet	betting	betted <i>or</i> bet	betted <i>or</i> bet
bind	binding	bound	bound
bite	biting	bit	bitten
bleed	bleeding	bled	bled
bless	blessing	blessed <i>or</i> blest	blessed <i>or</i> blest
blow	blowing	blew	blown
break	breaking	broke	broken
breed	breeding	bred	bred
bring	bringing	brought	brought
broadcast	broadcasting	broadcast	broadcast
build	building	built	built
burn	burning	burned <i>or</i> burnt	burned <i>or</i> burnt
bust	busting	busted <i>or</i> bust	busted <i>or</i> bust
buy	buying	bought	bought
cast	casting	cast	cast
catch	catching	caught	caught
choose	choosing	chose	chosen
cling	clinging	clung	clung
come	coming	came	come
cost	costing	cost	cost
creep	creeping	crept	crept
cut	cutting	cut	cut
deal	dealing	dealt	dealt
die	dying	died	died
dig	digging	dug	dug
dive	diving	dived	dived
do	doing	did	done
draw	drawing	drew	drawn
dream	dreaming	dreamed <i>or</i> dreamt	dreamed <i>or</i> dreamt
drink	drinking	drank	drunk
drive	driving	drove	driven
dwell	dwelling	dwelled <i>or</i> dwelt	dwelled <i>or</i> dwelt
eat	eating	ate	eaten
fall	falling	fell	fallen
feed	feeding	fed	fed
feel	feeling	felt	felt
fight	fighting	fought	fought

verb	present participle	past tense	past participle
find	finding	found	found
fly	flying	flew	flown
forbid	forbidding	forebade	forbidden
foresee	foreseeing	foresaw	foreseen
forget	forgetting	forgot	forgotten
freeze	freezing	froze	frozen
get	getting	got	got
give	giving	gave	given
go	going	went	gone
grind	grinding	ground	ground
grow	growing	grew	grown
hang	hanging	hung <i>or</i> hanged	hung <i>or</i> hanged
have	having	had	had
hear	hearing	heard	heard
hide	hiding	hid	hidden
hit	hitting	hit	hit
hold	holding	held	held
hurt	hurting	hurt	hurt
keep	keeping	kept	kept
kneel	kneeling	knelt	knelt
knit	knitting	knitted <i>or</i> knit	knitted <i>or</i> knit
know	knowing	knew	known
lay	laying	laid	laid
lead	leading	led	led
lean	leaning	leaned <i>or</i> leant	leaned <i>or</i> leant
leap	leaping	leaped <i>or</i> leapt	leaped <i>or</i> leapt
learn	learning	learned <i>or</i> learnt	learned <i>or</i> learnt
leave	leaving	left	left
lend	lending	lent	lent
let	letting	let	let
lie <sup>1</sup>	lying	lay	lain
lie <sup>2</sup>	lying	lied	lied
lose	losing	lost	lost
make	making	made	made
mean	meaning	meant	meant
meet	meeting	met	met
mislead	misleading	misled	misled
misspell	misspelling	misspelled <i>or</i> misspelt	misspelled <i>or</i> misspelt
mistake	mistaking	mistook	mistaken
misunderstand	misunderstanding	misunderstood	misunderstood
mow	mowing	mowed <i>or</i> mown	mowed <i>or</i> mown
outdo	outdoing	outdid	outdone
outgrow	outgrowing	outgrew	outgrown
overcome	overcoming	overcame	overcome
overdo	overdoing	overdid	overdone
overhear	overhearing	overheard	overheard

verb	present participle	past tense	past participle
oversleep	oversleeping	overslept	overslept
overtake	overtaking	overtook	overtaken
overthrow	overthrowing	overthrew	overthrown
panic	panicking	panicked	panicked
pay	paying	paid	paid
picnic	picnicking	picnicked	picnicked
put	putting	put	put
quit	quitting	quit	quit
read	reading	read	read
rebuild	rebuilding	rebuilt	rebuilt
redo	redoing	redid	redone
repay	repaying	repaid	repaid
resit	resitting	resat	resat
rewind	rewinding	rewound	rewound
rewrite	rewriting	rewrote	rewritten
ride	riding	rode	ridden
ring	ringing	rang	rung
rise	rising	rose	risen
run	running	ran	run
saw	sawing	sawed	sawn
say	saying	said	said
see	seeing	saw	seen
seek	seeking	sought	sought
sell	selling	sold	sold
send	sending	sent	sent
set	setting	set	set
sew	sewing	sewed	sewn
shake	shaking	shook	shaken
shear	shearing	sheared	shorn
shed	shedding	shed	shed
shine	shining	shone	shone
shoot	shooting	shot	shot
show	showing	showed	shown
shrink	shrinking	shrank	shrunk
shut	shutting	shut	shut
sing	singing	sang	sung
sink	sinking	sank	sunk
sit	sitting	sat	sat
sleep	sleeping	slept	slept
slide	sliding	slid	slid
sling	slinging	slung	slung
slit	slitting	slit	slit
smell	smelling	smelt	smelt
sow	sowing	sowed	sown
speak	speaking	spoke	spoken
speed	speeding	speeded or sped	speeded or sped
spell	spelling	spelled or spelt	spelled or spelt

verb	present participle	past tense	past participle
spend	spending	spent	spent
spill	spilling	spilled <i>or</i> spilt	spilled <i>or</i> spilt
spin	spinning	spun	spun
spit	spitting	spat	spat
split	splitting	split	split
spoil	spoiling	spoilt	spoilt
spring	springing	sprang	sprung
stand	standing	stood	stood
steal	stealing	stole	stolen
stick	sticking	stuck	stuck
sting	stinging	stung	stung
stink	stinking	stank	stunk
stride	striding	strode	stridden
strike	striking	struck	struck
strive	striving	strove	striven
swear	swearing	swore	sworn
sweep	sweeping	swept	swept
swell	swelling	swelled	swollen
swim	swimming	swam	swum
swing	swinging	swung	swung
take	taking	took	taken
teach	teaching	taught	taught
tear	tearing	tore	torn
tell	telling	told	told
think	thinking	thought	thought
throw	throwing	threw	thrown
thrust	thrusting	thrust	thrust
tie	tying	tied	tied
tread	treading	trod	trodden
undergo	undergoing	underwent	undergone
understand	understanding	understood	understood
undertake	undertaking	undertook	undertaken
undo	undoing	undid	undone
unwind	unwinding	unwound	unwound
uphold	upholding	upheld	upheld
upset	upsetting	upset	upset
wake	waking	waked <i>or</i> woke	woken
wear	wearing	wore	worn
weave	weaving	wove	woven
weep	weeping	wept	wept
wet	wetting	wet <i>or</i> wetted	wet <i>or</i> wetted
win	winning	won	won
wind	winding	wound	wound
withhold	withholding	withheld	withheld
withdraw	withdrawing	withdrew	withdrawn
withstand	withstanding	withstood	withstood
wring	wringing	wrung	wrung
write	writing	wrote	written

# Aa

**a** /ə; strong eɪ/ *indefinite article*

1 one; any ▶ *I gave him a pencil.*

▶ *A bird has two legs.*

2 for each; in each ▶ *The sweets cost 10 cents a bag.* ▶ *three times a year*

**An** is used instead of **a** before a word that starts with the sound of **a, e, i, o, or u.**

LOOK AT: **an**

**abandon** /ə'bændən/ *verb*

to leave someone or something ▶ *The baby was abandoned by its mother.*

▶ *We abandoned our holiday because we had no money.*

**abbey** /'æbi/ *noun*

a large church ▶ *Westminster Abbey*

**abbreviation** /ə,bri:vɪ'eɪʃən/ *noun*

a short way of writing or saying a word or name ▶ *Mr is the abbreviation for Mister.*

**ABC** /,eɪ bi: 'si:/ *noun*

the English alphabet ▶ *She's learning her ABC.*

**abdomen** /'æbdəmən/ *noun*

the front part of your body below your waist

**abduct** /əb'dʌkt/ *verb*

to take someone away illegally and by using force ▶ *Police believe that the woman has been abducted.*

**ability** /ə'bɪləti/ *noun (no plural)*

the power or knowledge to do something ▶ *Doctors now have the ability to keep people alive for much longer.*

**ablaze** /ə'bleɪz/ *adjective*

burning with a lot of flames ▶ *Soon the whole building was ablaze.*

**able** /'eɪbəl/ *adjective*

having the power or the knowledge to do something ▶ *Is he able to swim?*

▶ *I'm afraid I won't be able to come.*

OPPOSITE: **unable**

**abnormal** /æb'nɔ:məl/ *adjective*

not normal, especially in a way that is strange or dangerous ▶ *The doctors found some abnormal cells in her body. (adverb: **abnormally**)*

**aboard** /ə'bɔ:d/ *preposition, adverb*

on or onto a ship or plane ▶ *Are all the passengers aboard?*

**abolish** /ə'bɒlɪʃ/ *verb*

to end something or get rid of it by law ▶ *The new government abolished the tax on wine.*

**abolition** /,æbəlɪ'ʃən/ *noun (no plural)*

ending or getting rid of something by law ▶ *the abolition of taxes*

**abortion** /ə'bɔ:ʃən/ *noun*

an operation to stop a baby developing inside its mother, by removing the baby so that it dies  
▶ *She was told about the dangers of having an abortion.*

**about** /ə'baʊt/ *preposition, adverb*

1 concerning ▶ *What are you talking about?* ▶ *a book about birds*

2 a little more or less than ▶ *Come at about 6 o'clock.*

3 here and there ▶ *The children were kicking a ball about.* ▶ *They walked about the town.*

4 **be about to do something** to be just going to do something ▶ *I was about to come and see you.*

5 **how about/what about** used when you are suggesting something  
▶ *What about some lunch?* ▶ *How about going to the cinema?*

**above** /ə'baʊ/ *adverb, preposition*

1 at a higher place; higher than; over  
▶ *The picture is on the wall above my desk.* ▶ *the blue sky above*

2 more than a certain number or amount ▶ *children above the age of five*

OPPOSITE (1 and 2): **below**

**3 above all** more than anything else; most important of all ► *I want you to remember this above all.*

**abroad** /ə'brɔ:d/ *adverb*

in or to a foreign country ► *My brother is studying abroad.* ► *He wants to go abroad.*

**abrupt** /ə'brʌpt/ *adjective*

**1** sudden ► *an abrupt knock at the door*

**2** not polite ► *an abrupt answer to his question*

(*adverb: abruptly*)

**absence** /'æbsəns/ *noun (no plural)*

not being there ► *Her absence was noticed by her friends.*

OPPOSITE: **presence**

**absent** /'æbsənt/ *adjective*

not there; not present ► *He was absent from work last Tuesday.*

**absentee** /,æbsən'ti:/ *noun*

a person who is not where they usually are or where they should be  
► *There were several absentees.*

**absenteeism** /,æbsən'ti:ɪzəm/ *noun (no plural)*

regular absence from work or school without a good reason

► *Absenteeism at the factory is becoming a real problem.*

**absent-minded** /,æbsənt 'maɪndɪd/ *adjective*

not noticing things that are happening around you, and often forgetting things

**absolute** /'æbsəlu:t/ *adjective*

complete ► *Are you telling me the absolute truth?*

**absolutely** /,æbsə'lu:tli/ *adverb*

**1** very; completely ► *It's absolutely beautiful.* ► *You must keep it absolutely secret.*

**2** used to show that you agree with someone ► *"Do you think I'm right?" "Absolutely!"*

**absorb** /əb'sɔ:b/ *verb*

**1** to take in liquid slowly

**2** to learn and understand something thoroughly ► *I haven't really absorbed all the information yet.*

**absorbent** /əb'sɔ:bənt/ *adjective*

able to take in liquid ► *This material is quite absorbent.*

**absorbing** /əb'sɔ:bɪŋ/ *adjective*

very interesting ► *an absorbing book*

**abstain** /əb'steɪn/ *verb*

**1** to not do something even though you want to ► *Patients were advised to abstain from drinking alcohol.*

**2** to deliberately not vote ► *Four members of the committee abstained.*

**abstract** /'æbstrækt/ *adjective*

based on ideas rather than specific examples or real events ► *Beauty is an abstract idea.*

**absurd** /əb'sɜ:d/ *adjective*

very silly ► *The story was so absurd that no one believed it.*

(*adverb: absurdly*)

**abundant** /ə'bʌndənt/ *adjective*

existing in large quantities ► *an abundant supply of fresh fruit*

**abuse**<sup>1</sup> /ə'bju:z/ *verb (present*

*participle abusing, past abused)*

to call someone rude and insulting names, or speak rudely to them

**abuse**<sup>2</sup> /ə'bju:z/ *noun (no plural)*

**1** rude and insulting things said to someone ► *He shouted abuse at me.*

**2** bad treatment or wrong use  
► *the problem of drug abuse*

**abusive** /ə'bju:stɪv/ *adjective*

using words that are rude and insulting ► *an abusive letter*

**academic** /,ækə'demɪk/ *adjective*

concerning the work done in schools, colleges, or universities ► *academic subjects*

**academy** /ə'kædəmɪ/ *noun (plural academies)*

a school or college where students

learn a special subject or skill ► *a military academy*

**accelerate** /ək'seləreɪt/ verb (present participle **accelerating**, past **accelerated**)

to make a car go faster ► *I accelerated and passed the lorry in front.*

**accelerator** /ək'seləreɪtə/ noun  
the thing that you press with your foot in a car to make it go faster

**accent** /'æksənt/ noun

a way of speaking, that shows that a person comes from a particular place ► *Maria speaks English with an Italian accent.*

COMPARE: **dialect**

**accept** /ək'sept/ verb

1 to receive or take something that is offered to you ► *Will you accept my offer? ► I accepted another piece of cake.*

2 to agree to do something ► *David asked three friends to his party, and they all accepted.*

**acceptable** /ək'septəbəl/ adjective  
of good enough quality ► *Your work is not acceptable.*

OPPOSITE: **unacceptable**

**acceptance** /ək'septəns/ noun (no plural)

agreement to receive or take something that is offered to you ► *her acceptance of the offer*

**accepted** /ək'septɪd/ adjective

agreed by most people to be right ► *the accepted rules of the game*

**access** /'ækses/ noun (no plural)

a way to get to a place, a person, or a thing ► *There is no access to the street through that door. ► Students need access to books.*

**accessible** /ək'sesəbəl/ adjective

easy to reach, find, or use ► *The national park is not accessible by road. ► the wide range of information that is accessible on the Internet*

**accessory** /ək'sesəri/ noun (plural **accessories**)

something such as a belt or jewellery that you wear because it looks nice with your clothes ► *a dress with matching accessories*

**accident** /'æksɪdɪnt/ noun

1 something, often bad, that happens by chance ► *John's had an accident – he's been hit by a car. ► I'm sorry I broke the cup. It was an accident.*

2 **by accident** by chance; not on purpose ► *I did it by accident.*

**accidental** /'æksɪ'dentl/ adjective

by chance; not on purpose

► *an accidental meeting* (adverb: **accidentally**)

**accommodate** /ə'kɒmədeɪt/ verb

(present participle **accommodating**, past **accommodated**)

1 to give someone a place to live or stay in

2 to have space for something

► *You could accommodate another four children in your class.*

**accommodation** /ə'kɒmə'deɪʃən/ noun (no plural)

somewhere to live or stay ► *I must find some accommodation.*

Remember that the noun

**accommodation** has no plural:

*Accommodation will be provided for the students. ► Do you have any accommodation?*

**accompany** /ə'kʌmpəni/ verb (past **accompanied**)

1 to go with someone ► *He accompanied me to the doctor's.*

2 to play music while someone else is singing or playing another instrument

► *Maria sang, and I accompanied her on the piano.*

**accomplish** /ə'kʌmplɪʃ/ verb

to do or finish something ► *We accomplished a lot during the day.*

**accomplished** /ə'kʌmplɪʃt/ adjective

very good at doing something ► *an accomplished musician*

**accomplishment** /ə'kʌmplɪʃmənt/ *noun*

something that you achieve or are able to do well ► *Passing the exam was quite an accomplishment.*

**accord** /ə'kɔ:d/ *noun (no plural)*

**of your own accord** without being asked ► *She went of her own accord.*

**accordance** /ə'kɔ:dəns/ *noun (no plural)*

**in accordance with something** done in a way that follows a particular system or rule ► *Safety checks were made in accordance with the rules.*

**accordingly** /ə'kɔ:dɪŋli/ *adverb*

in a way that is suitable for a particular situation ► *He broke the law and was punished accordingly.*

**according to** /ə'kɔ:dɪŋ tu:/

*preposition*

from what is said or written

► *According to the map, we're very close to the sea.*

**account<sup>1</sup>** /ə'kaʊnt/ *noun*

**1** a story or description ► *an exciting account of the match*

**2** a list of payments owed to someone

**3** an amount of money kept in a bank ► *He paid the money into his bank account.*

**4 on account of** because of ► *We stayed at home on account of the bad weather.*

**5 take something into account** to consider something before making a decision ► *You must take the price into account when choosing which one to buy.*

**6 accounts plural noun** lists of money that a person or company spends and earns

**account<sup>2</sup>** *verb*

**account for** to give the reason for something ► *I can't account for her*

*strange behaviour.*

**accountable** /ə'kaʊntəbəl/ *adjective*  
responsible for the effects of your actions, and willing to explain or be criticized for them ► *At what age is a person legally accountable for their actions?*

**accountancy** /ə'kaʊntənsɪ/ *noun (no plural)*

the job of being an accountant

**accountant** /ə'kaʊntənt/ *noun*

a person whose job is to keep lists of money spent and money earned, for people or companies

**accumulate** /ə'kju:mjuleɪt/ *verb (present participle accumulating, past accumulated)*

**1** to gradually get more and more of something ► *During his life, he had accumulated a huge collection of paintings.*

**2** to gradually increase ► *Her problems started to accumulate after the baby was born.*

**accuracy** /'ækjʊrəsi/ *noun (no plural)*

the quality of being exactly right or correct

**accurate** /'ækjʊrət/ *adjective*

right; correct ► *Is this watch accurate? (adverb: accurately)*

OPPOSITE: **inaccurate**

**accusation** /'ækju:'zeɪʃən/ *noun*

an act of saying that someone has done something wrong ► *accusations of cheating*

**accuse** /ə'kju:z/ *verb (present participle accusing, past accused)*

to say that someone has done something wrong ► *The teacher accused Paul of cheating.*

COMPARE: **blame**

**accusing** /ə'kju:zɪŋ/ *adjective*

showing that you think someone has done something wrong ► *"Where have you been?" asked Jenny in an accusing voice. (adverb: accusingly)*



**accustomed to** /ə'kʌstəmd tu:/

*adjective*

used to something ► *I'm not accustomed to this sort of behaviour.*

**ace**<sup>1</sup> /eɪs/ *adjective*

excellent ► *He's an ace goalkeeper.*

**ace**<sup>2</sup> *noun*

one of four playing cards in a pack, that can have either the highest or the lowest value in a game of cards  
► *the ace of diamonds*

**ache**<sup>1</sup> /eɪk/ *verb* (present participle

**aching**, past **ached**)

to be painful; to hurt ► *Her head ached.*

**ache**<sup>2</sup> *noun*

a continuing pain ► *a stomach ache*

**achieve** /ə'tʃi:v/ *verb* (present participle **achieving**, past **achieved**)

to succeed in doing something by working ► *He achieved top marks in the examination.*

**achievement** /ə'tʃi:vmənt/ *noun*

something that you have worked hard for and done well

**acid** /'æsɪd/ *noun*

a powerful liquid that can burn things

**acid rain** /,æsɪd 'reɪn/ *noun* (no plural)

rain which causes damage to trees and plants because it contains acid put into the air by factories

**acknowledge** /ək'nɒlɪdʒ/ *verb* (present participle **acknowledging**, past **acknowledged**)

1 to agree that something is true

► *Do you acknowledge that you were wrong?*

2 to write to someone to say that you have received something ► *Please acknowledge my letter.*

**acknowledgement** /ək'nɒlɪdʒmənt/ *noun*

1 something that someone says, writes, or does to thank someone or to show that they have received

something ► *I haven't received an acknowledgement of my letter yet.*

2 something that shows you admit or accept that something is true or that a situation exists ► *an acknowledgement of defeat*

**acne** /'æknɪ/ *noun* (no plural)

a skin problem which is common among young people and causes small spots to appear on the face

**acorn** /'eɪkɔ:n/ *noun*

a small nut which grows on oak trees

**acquaintance** /ə'kweɪntəns/ *noun*

a person you know slightly because you have met him or her a few times

COMPARE: **friend**

**acquainted** /ə'kweɪntɪd/ *adjective*

**be acquainted with** to know someone

► *Are you acquainted with Mr Smith?*

**acquire** /ə'kwɪəɪ/ *verb* (present participle **acquiring**, past **acquired**)

to get or buy something ► *How did you acquire this money?*

**acre** /'eɪkə/ *noun*

a measure of land; 4,047 square metres

**acrobat** /'ækrəbæt/ *noun*

a person who performs in a circus and does difficult tricks with their body

**acronym** /'ækrənɪm/ *noun*

a word that is made from the first letters of a group of words. For example, TEFL is an acronym for Teaching English as a Foreign Language

**across** /ə'krɒs/ *adverb, preposition*

from one side of a place to the other; on the other side of something

► *They swam across the river.* ► *the house across the street*

**act**<sup>1</sup> /ækt/ *verb*

1 to do something or behave in a certain way ► *You're acting like a fool.*