

钱伯斯
英语
同义词和反义词
词典

CHAMBERS
DICTIONARY OF
SYNONYMS
AND
ANTONYMS

钱伯斯出版公司
剑桥大学出版社
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Introduction

A synonym is a word that means something similar to another word. This dictionary lists the synonyms for common English words. In many entries, antonyms—words that mean the opposite of another word—are also shown.

Chambers Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms is based on *Chambers Thesaurus*, which itself is drawn from the extensive *Chambers English Dictionary* database.

How to use this book

Suppose you want to find a synonym for the word *interesting*. You may have used this word already or you may want to vary the style of what you are writing or saying. If you look up the entry **interesting**, after the part-of-speech marker *adj.* you will see a list of synonyms in alphabetical order: *absorbing, appealing, attractive, compelling*, etc. Antonyms are given at the end of many entries, for example at **interesting**: *boring, dull, monotonous, tedious*.

Many entries are divided into numbered sections. This means that the word has several meanings. See, for example, the entry **vain**, which is divided into two parts:

- 1 abortive, empty, fruitless, futile . . . 2 affected, arrogant, bigheaded, conceited . . .

Words in the first part could replace *vain* in the phrase *a vain attempt*; words in the second part describe someone who is very proud. The numbered sections are usually given in order of frequency.

The numbers for the antonyms at the end of such entries refer to the numbered meanings of the synonyms. For example, some opposites of the first meaning of **vain** are given: *fruitful, successful*; and of the second meaning: *modest, self-effacing*.

At the end of some entries, some phrases that use the main headword are included. For example, *at once* is given at **once** and *in order to* at **order**.

Some entries have small raised numbers, for example **lock**¹ (a bolt) and **lock**² (of hair). This means that the words have a different history.

Note that no one word can be used in place of another word in every context. So if you are not sure of the meaning or use of one of the words included as a synonym, ask someone, or look the word up in a good dictionary such as *Chambers English Dictionary* or *Chambers Concise Dictionary*.

Two other points:

1. The oblique stroke / is used to show alternatives. For example at **clarify** *shed/throw light on* means both *shed light on* and *throw light on*.
2. Round brackets () are used to enclose optional information. For example, at **everything** *the (whole) lot* means both *the lot* and *the whole lot*.

This dictionary has been compiled to help you find the most appropriate word for a particular occasion. You will be able to include a more exact term in a report, a livelier phrase in a speech, a simpler expression in a letter. We hope that, not only will your skills in using English improve, but that you will enjoy sampling more of the varied delights of the English language.

Appendix

There are lists of related words on pages 403–5.

Abbreviations

<i>adj.</i>	adjective	<i>n.</i>	noun
<i>adv.</i>	adverb	<i>prep.</i>	preposition
<i>conj.</i>	conjunction	®	trademark
<i>interj.</i>	interjection	<i>v.</i>	verb

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A

abandon *v.* desert, ditch, drop, forgo, forsake, give up, jilt, leave, leave behind, leave in the lurch, quit, relinquish, renounce, resign, scrap, sink, surrender, vacate, waive, withdraw from, yield.

antonyms continue, persist, support.

n. dash, recklessness, wantonness, wildness.

antonym restraint.

abandoned *adj.* 1 derelict, deserted, desolate, forlorn, forsaken, neglected, unoccupied 2 dissolute, uninhibited, wanton, wicked, wild

antonyms 1 kept 2 restrained.

abandonment *n.* desertion, discontinuation, dropping, forsaking, giving up, jilting, leaving, neglect, relinquishment, renunciation, resignation, sacrifice, scrapping, surrender, waiver.

abase *v.* belittle, cast down, debase, degrade, demean, discredit, disgrace, dishonour, humble, humiliate, lower, malign, mortify, reduce

antonyms elevate, honour.

abashed *adj.* ashamed, bewildered, confounded, confused, discomposed, disconcerted, dismayed, dum(b)founded, embarrassed, floored, humbled, humiliated, mortified, nonplussed, perturbed, shamefaced, taken aback.

antonyms at ease, composed.

abate *v.* alleviate, decline, decrease, deduct, diminish, discount, dull, dwindle, ease, fade, fall off, lessen, let up, mitigate, moderate, pacify, quell, rebate, reduce, relieve, remit, sink, slacken, slow, subside, subtract, taper off, wane, weaken.

antonyms increase, strengthen.

abbey *n.* cloister, convent, friary, monastery, nunnery, priory, seminary.

abbot *n.* abbé, head, prior, superior.

abbreviate *v.* abridge, abstract, clip, compress, condense, contract, curtail, cut, digest, lessen, précis, reduce, shorten, shrink, summarise, trim, truncate.

antonyms amplify, extend.

abbreviation *n.* abridgement, abstract, abstraction, clipping, compression, contraction, curtailment, digest, précis, reduction, résumé, shortening, summarisation, summary, synopsis.

antonyms expansion, extension.

abdicate *v.* abandon, cede, forgo, give up, quit, relinquish, renounce, repudiate, resign, retire, surrender, vacate, yield.

abdomen *n.* belly, guts, midriff, paunch, stomach, tummy.

abdominal *adj.* gastric, intestinal, ventral, ventricular, visceral.

abduct *v.* abduce, appropriate, carry off, kidnap, make off with, run away with, run off with,

seduce, seize, snatch, spirit away.

aberration *n.* anomaly, defect, delusion, deviation, divergence, eccentricity, freak, hallucination, illusion, irregularity, lapse, nonconformity, oddity, peculiarity, quirk, straying, wandering

antonym conformity.

abet *v.* aid, assist, back, encourage, goad, help, incite, promote, prompt, sanction, second, spur, succour, support, sustain, uphold, urge.

antonyms discourage, hinder.

abhor *v.* abominate, despise, detest, hate, loathe, recoil from, shrink from, shudder at, spurn.

antonyms adore, love.

abhorrence *n.* abomination, aversion, disgust, distaste, enmity, hate, hatred, horror, loathing, malice, repugnance, revulsion.

antonyms adoration, love.

abide *v.* 1 accept, bear, put up with, stand, stomach, tolerate 2 continue, endure, last, persist, remain.

abide by acknowledge, acquiesce in, adhere to, agree to, carry out, comply with, conform to, discharge, follow, fulfil, go along with, hold to, keep to, obey, observe, stand by, submit to.

abiding *adj.* constant, continual, continuing, enduring, eternal, everlasting, firm, immortal, immutable, lasting, permanent, persistent, stable, steadfast, surviving, tenacious, unchangeable, unchanging, unending.

antonyms ephemeral, transient.

ability *n.* adeptness, aptitude, capability, capacity, competence, deftness, dexterity, endowment, expertise, facility, faculty, flair, forte, genius, gift, knack, know-how, potentiality, power, proficiency, qualification, skill, strength, talent, touch.

antonyms inability, incompetence, weakness.

object *adj.* contemptible, debased, degenerate, degraded, deplorable, despicable, dishonourable, forlorn, grovelling, hopeless, humiliating, ignoble, low, mean, miserable, outcast, pathetic, pitiable, servile, slavish, sordid, submissive, vile, worthless, wretched.

antonyms exalted, proud.

ablaze *adj.* 1 aglow, alight, blazing, burning, flaming, flashing, glaring, gleaming, glowing, ignited, illuminated, lighted, luminous, on fire, radiant, sparkling 2 angry, aroused, brilliant, enthusiastic, excited, exhilarated, fervent, fiery, frenzied, furious, impassioned, incensed, passionate, raging, stimulated.

able *adj.* accomplished, adept, adequate, adroit, capable, clever, competent, deft, dexterous, effective, efficient, experienced, expert, fit,

fitted, gifted, ingenious, masterly, powerful, practised, proficient, qualified, skilful, skilled, strong, talented.

antonyms incapable, incompetent, ineffective.

able-bodied *adj.* fit, hale, hardy, healthy, hearty, lusty, powerful, robust, sound, stalwart, staunch, stout, strapping, strong, sturdy, tough, vigorous.

antonyms delicate, infirm.

ablutions *n.* bath, bathing, cleansing, purgation, purging, purification, shower, wash, washing.

abnormal *adj.* aberrant, anomalous, curious, deviant, different, divergent, eccentric, erratic, exceptional, extraordinary, irregular, odd, paranormal, peculiar, queer, singular, strange, uncanny, uncommon, unexpected, unnatural, unusual, wayward, weird.

antonyms normal, straight, typical

abnormality *n.* aberration, anomaly, bizarreness, deformity, deviation, difference, divergence, eccentricity, exception, flaw, irregularity, oddity, peculiarity, singularity, strangeness, unnaturalness, unusualness.

antonym normality.

abolish *v.* annul, blot out, cancel, destroy, do away with, eliminate, end, eradicate, get rid of, invalidate, nullify, obliterate, overthrow, overturn, put an end to, quash, repeal, repudiate, rescind, revoke, stamp out, subvert, suppress, terminate.

antonyms authorise, continue, retain.

abolition *n.* abrogation, annulment, cancellation, dissolution, end, ending, eradication, extinction, invalidation, nullification, obliteration, overturning, quashing, repeal, repudiation, subversion, suppression, termination.

antonyms continuance, retention.

abominable *adj.* abhorrent, accursed, appalling, atrocious, contemptible, despicable, detestable, disgusting, execrable, foul, hateful, heinous, horrible, horrid, loathsome, nauseating, nauseous, obnoxious, odious, repellent, reprehensible, repugnant, repulsive, revolting, terrible, vile, wretched.

antonyms delightful, desirable, pleasant.

abominate *v.* abhor, condemn, despise, detest, execrate, hate, loathe

antonyms adore, love.

abomination *n.* abhorrence, anathema, aversion, bête noire, curse, disgrace, disgust, distaste, evil, hate, hatred, horror, hostility, loathing, offence, outrage, plague, repugnance, revulsion, torment.

antonyms adoration, delight.

aboriginal *adj.* ancient, domestic, earliest, first, indigenous, native, original, primal, primary, primeval, primitive, primordial, pristine

aborigine *n.* aboriginal, native.

antonyms immigrant, incomer.

abort *v.* arrest, call off, check, end, fail, frustrate, halt, miscarry, nullify, stop, terminate, thwart.

antonym continue.

abortion *n.* failure, frustration, misadventure, misbirth, miscarriage, termination.

antonyms continuation, success.

abortive *adj.* barren, failed, failing, fruitless, futile, idle, ineffective, miscarried, sterile, unavailing, unproductive, unsuccessful, useless, vain

antonyms fruitful, successful.

abound *v.* be plentiful, flourish, increase, overflow, proliferate, run riot, superabound, swarm, swell, teem, thrive.

antonym be in short supply.

about *prep.* 1 as regards, concerned with, concerning, connected with, referring to, regarding, relating to, with reference to, with regard to, with respect to. 2 adjacent to, beside, close to, near. nearby 3 all over, around, encircling, encompassing, round, surrounding, throughout.

adv. 1 almost, approaching, approximately, around, in the region of, more or less, nearing, nearly, roughly. 2 active, from place to place, here and there, present, to and fro.

about to all but, intending to, on the point of, on the verge of, preparing to, ready to.

about-turn *n.* about-face, apostasy, backtrack, reversal, right-about (face), turnaround, turn-(a)round, U-turn, volte-face.

above *prep.* before, beyond, exceeding, higher than, in excess of, on top of, over, prior to, superior to, surpassing, upon.

antonyms below, under.

adv. aloft, earlier, on high, overhead.

antonym below.

adj. above-mentioned, above-stated, earlier, foregoing, preceding, previous, prior.

above-board *adj.* candid, fair, fair and square, forthright, frank, guileless, honest, honourable, legitimate, on the level, open, reputable, square, straight, straightforward, true, trustworthy, truthful, upright, veracious.

antonyms dishonest, shady, underhand.

abrade *v.* chafe, erase, erode, grind, rub off, scour, scrape, wear away, wear down.

abrasion *n.* abrading, chafe, chafing, erosion, friction, grating, graze, grinding, rubbing, scouring, scrape, scraping, scratch, scratching, wearing away, wearing down.

abrasive *adj.* annoying, biting, caustic, chafing, frictional, galling, grating, harsh, hurtful, irritating, nasty, rough, scraping, scratching, sharp, unpleasant.

antonyms pleasant, smooth.

abreast *adj.* acquainted, au courant, au fait, conversant, familiar, in the picture, in touch, informed, knowledgeable, up to date.

antonyms out of touch, unaware.

abridge *v.* abbreviate, abstract, compress, concentrate, condense, contract, curtail, cut (down), decrease, digest, lessen, précis, prune, reduce, shorten, summarise.

antonyms amplify, expand, pad out.

abridgement *n.* abstract, concentration, contraction, cutting, decrease, digest, diminishing, epitome, limitation, outline, précis, reduction, restriction, résumé, shortening, summary, synopsis.

antonyms expansion, padding.

abroad *adv.* 1 extensively, far and wide, in foreign parts, out of the country, overseas, widely. 2 about, around, at large, circulating, current.

antonym 1 at home.

abrupt *adj.* blunt, brief, brisk, broken, brusque, curt, direct, disconnected, discontinuous, gruff, hasty, hurried, impolite, irregular, jerky, precipitate, precipitous, quick, rapid, rough, rude, sharp, sheer, short, snappy, steep, sudden, surprising, swift, terse, uncivil, uneven, unexpected, unforeseen.

antonyms ceremonious, expansive, leisurely, polite.

abandon *v.* bolt, clear out, decamp, disappear, escape, flee, fly, make off, quit, run off, take French leave.

absence *n.* dearth, default, defect, deficiency, lack, need, non-appearance, non-attendance, non-existence, omission, scarcity, truancy, unavailability, vacancy, want.

antonyms appearance, existence, presence.

absent *adj.* 1 away, gone, lacking, missing, not present, out, truant, unavailable. 2 absent-minded, day-dreaming, distracted, dreamy, elsewhere, faraway, inattentive, oblivious, preoccupied, unaware, unheeding, vacant, vague.

antonyms 1 present. 2 alert, aware.

absent-minded *adj.* absent, absorbed, abstracted, distracted, dreaming, dreamy, engrossed, faraway, forgetful, heedless, impractical, inattentive, musing, oblivious, pensive, preoccupied, scatterbrained, unaware, unconscious, unheeding, unthinking, withdrawn.

antonyms attentive, matter-of-fact, practical.

absolute *adj.* 1 categorical, certain, complete, conclusive, consummate, decided, decisive, definite, definitive, downright, entire, exact, exhaustive, final, flawless, free, thorough, out-and-out, outright, perfect, positive, precise, pure, sheer, supreme, sure, thorough, total, undivided, unequivocal, unmixed, unqualified, unquestionable, utter. 2 autocratic, despotic, dictatorial, omnipotent, sovereign, totalitarian, tyrannical, unlimited, unrestricted.

absolutely *adv.* categorically, certainly, completely, conclusively, dead, decidedly, decisively, definitely, entirely, exactly, exhaustively, finally, fully, genuinely, infallibly, perfectly, positively, precisely, purely, supremely, surely, thoroughly, totally, truly, unambiguously, unconditionally, unequivocally, unquestionably, utterly, wholly.

absolve *v.* acquit, clear, deliver, discharge, emancipate, excuse, exempt, exonerate, forgive, free, justify, let off, liberate, loose, pardon, ransom, redeem, release, remit, set free, vindicate.

antonym charge.

absorb *v.* assimilate, consume, devour, digest, drink in, engross, engulf, enthrall, exhaust, fascinate, fill (up), hold, immerse, involve, monopolise, occupy, preoccupy, receive, retain,

soak up, submerge, suck up, take in, understand.

antonyms dissipate, exude.

absorbing *adj.* amusing, captivating, compulsive, diverting, engrossing, entertaining, enthralling, fascinating, gripping, interesting, intriguing, preoccupying, riveting, spellbinding, unputdownable.

antonyms boring, off-putting.

abstain *v.* avoid, cease, decline, deny, desist, forbear, forgo, give up, keep from, refrain, refuse, reject, renounce, resist, shun, stop.

antonym indulge.

abstemious *adj.* abstinent, ascetic, austere, disciplined, frugal, moderate, restrained, self-denying, self-disciplined, sober, sparing, temperate.

antonyms gluttonous, intemperate, luxurious.

abstention *n.* abstaining, abstinence, avoidance, forbearance, frugality, non-indulgence, refraining, refusal, restraint, self-control, self-denial, self-discipline, self-restraint, sobriety.

abstinence *n.* abstemiousness, asceticism, avoidance, forbearance, frugality, moderation, non-indulgence, refraining, self-denial, self-discipline, self-restraint, sobriety, teetotalism, temperance.

antonyms indulgence, self-indulgence.

abstract *adj.* abstruse, academic, complex, conceptual, deep, general, generalised, hypothetical, indefinite, intellectual, metaphysical, non-concrete, philosophical, profound, subtle, theoretical, unpractical, unrealistic.

antonyms actual, concrete, real.

n. abridgement, compression, digest, epitome, essence, outline, précis, recapitulation, résumé, summary, synopsis.

v. abbreviate, abridge, compress, condense, detach, digest, dissociate, extract, isolate, outline, précis, remove, separate, shorten, summarise, withdraw.

antonyms expand, insert.

abstracted *adj.* absent, absent-minded, distraught, dreamy, faraway, inattentive, pensive, preoccupied, remote, withdrawn.

antonym alert.

abstraction *n.* 1 concept, conception, formula, generalisation, generality, hypothesis, idea, notion, theorem, theory, thought. 2 absent-mindedness, absorption, distraction, dream, dreaminess, inattention, pensiveness, preoccupation. 3 extraction, isolation, separation, withdrawal.

abstruse *adj.* abstract, cryptic, dark, deep, difficult, enigmatic, hidden, incomprehensible, mysterious, mystical, obscure, occult, perplexing, profound, puzzling, subtle, tortuous, unfathomable, vague.

antonyms concrete, obvious, simple.

absurd *adj.* comical, crazy, daft, derisory, fantastic, farcical, foolish, funny, humorous, idiotic, illogical, implausible, incongruous, irrational, laughable, ludicrous, meaningless, non-sensical, paradoxical, preposterous, ridiculous, risible, senseless, silly, stupid, unreasonable, untenable.

antonyms logical, rational, sensible.

abundant *adj.* ample, bountiful, copious, exuberant, filled, full, generous, in plenty, lavish, overflowing, plentiful, profuse, rank, rich, teeming, well-supplied.

antonyms scarce, sparse.

abuse *v.* damage, deceive, defame, disparage, exploit, harm, hurt, ill-treat, injure, insult, libel, malign, maltreat, misapply, misuse, molest, oppress, revile, scold, slander, smear, spoil, swear at, take advantage of, upbraid, violate, wrong.

antonyms care for, cherish, praise.

n. cursing, damage, defamation, disparagement, exploitation, harm, hurt, ill-treatment, imposition, injury, insults, libel, maltreatment, misconduct, misuse, offence, oppression, reproach, scolding, sin, slander, spoiling, swearing, tirade, upbraiding, violation, wrong, wrong-doing.

antonyms attention, care.

abusive *adj.* censorious, cruel, defamatory, derogatory, destructive, disparaging, harmful, hurtful, injurious, insulting, libellous, maligning, offensive, pejorative, reproachful, reviling, rough, rude, scathing, scolding, slanderous, upbraiding, vilifying.

antonyms complimentary, polite.

academic *adj.* abstract, bookish, conjectural, educational, erudite, highbrow, hypothetical, impractical, instructional, learned, literary, notional, pedagogical, scholarly, scholastic, speculative, studious, theoretical, well-read.

n. don, fellow, lecturer, man of letters, master, pedant, professor, scholar, student, tutor.

academy *n.* college, institute, school, university.

accelerate *v.* advance, expedite, facilitate, forward, further, hasten, hurry, pick up speed, precipitate, promote, quicken, speed, speed up, step up, stimulate.

antonyms decelerate, delay, slow down.

accent *n.* accentuation, articulation, beat, cadence, emphasis, enunciation, force, inflection, intensity, intonation, pitch, pronunciation, pulsation, pulse, rhythm, stress, tone.

v. emphasise, stress, underline.

accentuate *v.* accent, deepen, emphasise, highlight, intensify, strengthen, stress, underline.

antonyms play down, weaken.

accept *v.* 1 acquire, gain, obtain, receive, secure, take. 2 acknowledge, admit, adopt, agree to, allow, approve, believe, consent to, recognise, take on. 3 abide by, bear, face up to, put up with, stand, stomach, tolerate, yield to.

antonyms 1 refuse, turn down. 2 reject.

acceptable *adj.* adequate, admissible, all right, conventional, correct, desirable, grateful, gratifying, moderate, passable, pleasant, satisfactory, suitable, tolerable, unexceptionable, welcome.

antonyms unacceptable, unsatisfactory, unwelcome.

acceptance *n.* accepting, acknowledgement, acquiring, admission, adoption, affirmation, agreement, approval, assent, belief, concession,

concurrence, consent, credence, gaining, getting, having, obtaining, OK, permission, ratification, receipt, recognition, securing, stamp of approval, taking, tolerance, toleration, undertaking.

antonyms dissent, refusal, rejection.

accepted *adj.* acceptable, acknowledged, admitted, agreed, approved, authorised, common, confirmed, conventional, correct, customary, established, normal, ratified, received, recognised, regular, sanctioned, standard, time-honoured, traditional, universal, unwritten, usual.

antonyms controversial, unorthodox.

access *n.* admission, admittance, approach, course, door, entering, entrance, entry, gateway, key, passage, path, road.

antonyms exit, outlet.

accessible *adj.* achievable, approachable, attainable, available, exposed, friendly, get-at-able, handy, informal, near, nearby, obtainable, on hand, open, possible, reachable, ready, sociable.

antonyms inaccessible, remote, unapproachable.

accession *n.* acquisition, addition, agreement, assumption, attainment, consent, enlargement, entering upon, increase, installation, purchase, submission, succession, taking over, yielding.

accessory *n.* accompaniment, accomplice, addition, adornment, aid, appendage, assistant, associate, attachment, colleague, component, confederate, convenience, decoration, extension, extra, frill, help, helper, partner, supplement, trimming.

accident *n.* blow, calamity, casualty, chance, collision, contingency, crash, disaster, fate, fluke, fortuity, fortune, hazard, luck, misadventure, miscarriage, mischance, misfortune, mishap, pile-up, prang, serendipity, shunt.

accidental *adj.* casual, chance, fluky, fortuitous, haphazard, inadvertent, incidental, random, uncalculated, uncertain, unexpected, unforeseen, unintended, unintentional, unlooked-for, unplanned.

antonyms calculated, intentional, premeditated.

acclaim *v.* announce, applaud, approve, celebrate, cheer, clap, commend, crown, exalt, extol, honour, praise, salute, welcome.

n. acclamation, applause, approval, celebration, cheering, clapping, commendation, eulogising, eulogy, exaltation, honour, ovation, praise, welcome.

antonym criticism.

acclamation *n.* acclaim, applause, approbation, cheer, cheering, cheers, commendation, declaration, enthusiasm, homage, ovation, praise, shouting, tribute.

antonym disapproval.

acclimatise *v.* accommodate, accustom, adapt, adjust, attune, conform, familiarise, get used to, habituate.

accolade *n.* award, honour, laurels, praise.

accommodate *v.* 1 board, house, lodge, put up, shelter. 2 aid, assist, comply, conform, help, oblige, provide, serve, supply. 3 acclimatise.

accustom, adapt, adjust, compose, fit, harmonise, modify, reconcile, settle.

accommodating *adj.* considerate, co-operative, friendly, helpful, hospitable, indulgent, kind, obliging, polite, sympathetic, unselfish, willing, *antonyms* disobliging, rude.

accommodation *n.* bed and breakfast, billet, board, digs, domicile, dwelling, harbouring, house, housing, lodgings, quarters, residence, shelter.

accompaniment *n.* accessory, background, back-up, complement, concomitant, support.

accompany *v.* attend, belong to, chaperon, co-exist, coincide, complement, conduct, convoy, escort, follow, go with, occur with, supplement, usher.

accomplice *n.* abettor, accessory, ally, assistant, associate, collaborator, colleague, confederate, conspirator, helper, helpmate, henchman, mate, participator, partner.

accomplish *v.* achieve, attain, bring about, carry out, complete, conclude, consummate, discharge, do, effect, engineer, execute, finish, fulfil, manage, obtain, perform, produce, realise.

accomplished *adj.* adept, adroit, consummate, cultivated, expert, gifted, masterly, polished, practised, professional, proficient, skilful, skilled, talented.

antonyms incapable, inexperienced, unskilled.

accomplishment *n.* ability, achievement, aptitude, art, attainment, capability, carrying out, completion, conclusion, consummation, deed, discharge, doing, execution, exploit, faculty, feat, finishing, forte, fruition, fulfilment, gift, management, perfection, performance, production, proficiency, realisation, skill, stroke, talent, triumph.

accord *v.* agree, allow, bestow, concur, confer, conform, correspond, endow, give, grant, harmonise, match, render, suit, tender.

antonyms deny, disagree.

n. accord, agreement, assent, correspondence, harmony, sympathy, unanimity, unity.

antonyms conflict, discord, disharmony.

accordance *n.* agreement, concert, conformity, correspondence.

according to *adv.* after the manner of, commensurate with, consistent with, in accordance with, in conformity with, in keeping with, in line with, in proportion to, in relation to, in the light of, in the manner of, obedient to.

accordingly *adv.* appropriately, as a result, consequently, correspondingly, hence, in accord with, in accordance, in consequence, properly, so, suitably, therefore, thus.

accost *v.* approach, button-hole, confront, detain, halt, importune, salute, solicit, stop, waylay.

account *n.* 1 chronicle, communiqué, description, explanation, ground, history, memoir, narrative, note, portrayal, presentation, record, report, sketch, statement, story, tale, version, write-up. 2 balance, bill, book, books, charge,

check, computation, inventory, invoice, ledger, reckoning, register, score, statement, tab, tally, tick.

account for *phr.* answer for, clear up, destroy, elucidate, explain, illuminate, incapacitate, justify, kill, put paid to, rationalise, vindicate.

accountable *adj.* amenable, answerable, bound, charged with, liable, obliged, responsible.

accredited *adj.* appointed, approved, attested, authorised, certified, commissioned, empowered, guaranteed, licensed, official, qualified, recognised, sanctioned, vouched for. *antonym* unauthorised.

accrue *v.* accumulate, amass, arise, be added, build up, collect, emanate, enlarge, ensue, fall due, gather, grow, increase, issue, proceed, result, spring up.

accumulate *v.* accrue, aggregate, amass, assemble, build up, collect, cumulate, gather, grow, hoard, increase, multiply, pile up, stash, stockpile, store.

antonym disseminate.

accumulation *n.* assembly, build-up, collection, conglomeration, gathering, growth, heap, hoard, increase, mass, pile, reserve, stack, stock, stockpile, store.

accuracy *n.* authenticity, carefulness, closeness, correctness, exactness, faithfulness, fidelity, precision, truth, veracity.

antonym inaccuracy.

accurate *adj.* authentic, careful, close, correct, exact, factual, faithful, faultless, just, mathematical, meticulous, minute, nice, perfect, precise, proper, regular, right, rigorous, scrupulous, sound, spot-on, strict, true, truthful, unerring, veracious, well-directed, well-judged, word-perfect.

antonyms imprecise, inaccurate, inexact, wrong.

accusation *n.* allegation, charge, complaint, denunciation, impeachment, imputation, incrimination, indictment, recrimination.

accuse *v.* allege, arraign, attribute, blame, censure, charge, cite, criminate, denounce, impeach, impugn, impute, incriminate, indict, inform against, recriminate.

accustomed *adj.* acclimatised, acquainted, adapted, confirmed, conventional, customary, disciplined, established, everyday, expected, familiar, fixed, general, given to, habitual, in the habit of, normal, ordinary, prevailing, regular, routine, seasoned, traditional, trained, used, usual, wonted.

antonyms unaccustomed, unusual.

ache *v.* agonise, crave, desire, grieve, hanker, hunger, hurt, itch, long, mourn, need, pain, pine, pound, smart, sorrow, suffer, throb, twinge, yearn.

n. anguish, grief, hurt, itch, misery, mourning, need, pain, pang, pounding, smarting, soreness, sorrow, suffering, throb, throbbing, yearning.

achieve *v.* accomplish, acquire, attain, bring about, carry out, complete, consummate, do, earn, effect, execute, finish, fulfil, gain, get, manage, obtain, perform, procure, produce.

reach, realise, strike, succeed, win.
antonyms fail, miss.

achievement *n.* accomplishment, acquirement, act, attainment, completion, deed, effort, execution, exploit, feat, fruition, fulfilment, performance, production, qualification, realisation, stroke, success.

acid *adj.* acerbic, biting, bitter, caustic, corrosive, cutting, harsh, hurtful, ill-natured, incisive, mordant, morose, pungent, sharp, sour, stinging, tart, trenchant, vinegary, vitriolic.

acknowledge *v.* 1 accept, admit, allow, concede, confess, declare, grant, recognise. 2 address, greet, notice, recognise. 3 answer, confirm, reply to, respond to.

acknowledged *adj.* accepted, accredited, answered, approved, attested, avowed, conceded, confessed, confirmed, declared, professed, recognised, returned.

acknowledgement *n.* 1 acceptance, admission, confession, declaration, profession, recognition. 2 greeting, notice, recognition, salutation. 3 affirmation, answer, appreciation, gratitude, reaction, reply, response, thanks, tribute.

acquaint *v.* accustom, advise, announce, brief, disclose, divulge, enlighten, familiarise, inform, notify, reveal, tell.

acquaintance *n.* associate, association, awareness, chum, colleague, companionship, contact, experience, familiarity, fellowship, friend, intimacy, knowledge, relationship, understanding.

acquiesce *v.* accede, accept, agree, allow, approve, assent, comply, concur, conform, consent, defer, give in, submit, yield.
antonyms disagree, object.

acquiescence *n.* acceptance, accession, agreement, approval, assent, compliance, conformity, consent, deference, giving in, obedience, sanction, submission, yielding.
antonyms disagreement, rebelliousness.

acquire *v.* achieve, appropriate, attain, buy, collect, cop, earn, gain, gather, get, net, obtain, pick up, procure, realise, receive, secure, win.
antonyms forfeit, forgo, relinquish.

acquisition *n.* accession, achievement, appropriation, attainment, buy, find, gain, learning, possession, procurement, property, purchase, pursuit, securing, take-over.

acquisitive *adj.* avaricious, covetous, grabbing, grasping, greedy, insatiable, possessive.
antonym generous.

acquit *v.* absolve, bear, behave, clear, conduct, deliver, discharge, dismiss, excuse, exonerate, free, fulfil, liberate, release, relieve, repay, reprove, satisfy, settle, vindicate.
antonym convict.

acquittal *n.* absolution, clearance, deliverance, discharge, dismissal, exculpation, excusing, exoneration, freeing, liberation, release, relief, reprove, vindication.
antonym conviction.

acrid *adj.* acerbic, acid, acrimonious, biting, bitter, burning, caustic, cutting, harsh, incisive, irritating, malicious, nasty, pungent, sarcastic,

sardonic, sharp, stinging, trenchant, venomous, virulent, vitriolic.

acrimonious *adj.* abusive, biting, bitter, censorious, cutting, ill-tempered, severe, sharp, spiteful, trenchant, virulent.
antonyms irenic, kindly, peaceable.

acrimony *n.* acerbity, asringency, bitterness, gall, harshness, ill-temper, ill-will, irascibility, mordancy, petulance, rancour, resentment, sarcasm, trenchancy, virulence.

acrobat *n.* balancer, gymnast, somersaulter, stunt-girl, stuntman, tumbler.

act *n.* 1 accomplishment, achievement, action, deed, doing, enterprise, execution, exploit, feat, manoeuvre, move, operation, step, stroke, undertaking. 2 affectation, dissimulation, fake, feigning, front, make-believe, pretence, sham, show. 3 bill, decree, edict, law, measure, ordinance, resolution, statute. 4 gig, performance, sketch, turn.

v. 1 behave, carry out, conduct, do, execute, exert, function, make, operate, work. 2 assume, enact, feign, imitate, impersonate, mime, mimic, perform, play, portray, pretend, put on, represent, simulate.

act up *carry on, cause trouble, give bother, give trouble, malfunction, mess about, misbehave, muck about, play up, rock the boat.*

act (up)on 1 carry out, comply with, conform to, follow, fulfil, heed, obey, take. 2 affect, alter, change, influence, modify, transform.

acting *adj.* interim, provisional, reserve, stand-by, stop-gap, substitute, supply, temporary.
n. artistry, characterisation, dramatics, imitating, impersonation, melodrama, performance, performing, play-acting, portrayal, stagecraft, theatre, theatricals.

action *n.* 1 accomplishment, achievement, act, activity, agency, cause, deed, effect, effort, endeavour, energy, enterprise, exercise, exertion, exploit, feat, force, functioning, influence, liveliness, mechanism, motion, move, movement, operation, performance, power, proceeding, process, spirit, undertaking, vigour, work. 2 battle, clash, combat, conflict, contest, engagement, fight, fray, skirmish, warfare. 3 case, lawsuit, litigation, prosecution, suit.

activate *v.* animate, arouse, energeise, excite, fire, galvanise, impel, initiate, mobilise, motivate, move, prompt, propel, rouse, set in motion, set off, start, stimulate, stir, switch on, trigger.

antonyms arrest, deactivate, stop.

active *adj.* 1 activist, ambitious, assertive, busy, committed, devoted, diligent, engaged, enterprising, enthusiastic, forceful, forward, full, hard-working, industrious, involved, militant, occupied, on the go, spirited, vital. 2 agile, alert, animated, energetic, light-footed, lively, nimble, quick, sprightly, vigorous. 3 functioning, in operation, running, working.

antonyms 1 passive. 2 dormant, inert. 3 inactive.

activity *n.* 1 action, activeness, bustle, commotion, deed, exercise, exertion, hustle, industry, interest, labour, life, liveliness, motion,

movement. **2** act, endeavour, enterprise, hobby, job, occupation, pastime, project, pursuit, scheme, task, undertaking, venture, work.

actor *n.* actress, artist, comedian, ham, impersonator, masquerader, mime, participant, participant, performer, play-actor, player.

actual *adj.* absolute, authentic, bona fide, certain, concrete, confirmed, current, definite, existent, factual, genuine, indisputable, legitimate, live, living, material, physical, positive, present, present-day, prevailing, real, realistic, substantial, tangible, true, truthful, unquestionable, verified, veritable.

antonyms apparent, imaginary, theoretical

actuality *n.* fact, factuality, historicity, materiality, reality, realness, substance, substantiality, truth, verity.

actually *adv.* absolutely, as a matter of fact, as it happens, essentially, in fact, in reality, in truth, indeed, really, truly.

actuate *v.* activate, animate, arouse, cause, circulate, dispose, drive, excite, impel, incite, induce, influence, inspire, instigate, lead, mobilise, motivate, move, prod, prompt, propel, quicken, rouse, spur, stimulate, stir, urge.

acumen *n.* astuteness, cleverness, discernment, discrimination, ingenuity, insight, intelligence, intuition, judgement, keenness, penetration, perception, quickness, sense, sharpness, shrewdness, wisdom, wit.

antonym obtuseness.

acute *adj.* **1** crucial, cutting, dangerous, decisive, distressing, extreme, grave, intense, poignant, serious, severe, sharp, urgent, violent. **2** astute, discerning, incisive, judicious, keen, observant, penetrating, perceptive, sharp, shrewd. **3** keen, powerful, sensitive.

antonyms **1** mild, slight, **2** obtuse, **3** poor.

adamant *adj.* determined, firm, fixed, hard, immovable, inflexible, insistent, intransigent, resolute, rigid, set, stiff, stubborn, tough, unbending, uncompromising, unrelenting, unshakable, unyielding.

antonyms flexible, hesitant, yielding.

adapt *v.* acclimatise, adjust, alter, apply, change, comply, conform, convert, customise, familiarise, fashion, fit, harmonise, match, modify, prepare, qualify, remodel, shape, suit, tailor.

adaptable *adj.* adjustable, alterable, amenable, changeable, compliant, conformable, convertible, easy-going, flexible, modifiable, plastic, resilient, variable, versatile.

antonyms inflexible, refractory.

adaptation *n.* accommodation, adjustment, alteration, change, conversion, modification, refitting, remodelling, reshaping, revision, reworking, shift, transformation, variation, version.

add *v.* affix, annex, append, attach, augment, combine, count, include, join, reckon, sum up, supplement, tack on, tot up, total.

antonyms subtract, take away.

add up **1** add, count (up), reckon, sum up, tally, tot up, total. **2** amount, come to, constitute,

indicate. **3** be consistent, be plausible, be reasonable, fit, hang together, make sense, mean, signify.

addict *n.* adherent, buff, devotee, enthusiast, fan, fiend, follower, freak, junkie, mainliner, tripper, user.

addicted *adj.* absorbed, accustomed, dedicated, dependent, devoted, disposed, fond, hooked, inclined, obsessed.

addiction *n.* craving, dependence, habit, monies, obsession.

addition *n.* **1** accession, accessory, addendum, adding, additive, adjunct, annexation, appendage, appendix, attachment, enlargement, extension, extra, gain, inclusion, increase, increasing, increment, supplement. **2** counting, reckoning, summing-up, totalling, totting-up.

antonyms **1** removal, **2** subtraction.

in addition additionally, also, as well, besides, further, furthermore, moreover, over and above, too.

additional *adj.* added, additive, appended, extra, fresh, further, increased, more, new, other, spare, supplementary.

address *n.* **1** abode, department, direction, dwelling, home, house, inscription, location, lodging, place, residence, situation, whereabouts. **2** discourse, dissertation, lecture, sermon, speech, talk.

v. **1** accost, approach, button-hole, greet, hail, invoke, lecture, salute, speak to, talk to. **2** apply (oneself) to, attend to, concentrate on, devote (oneself) to, engage in, focus on, take care of, turn to, undertake.

adept *adj.* able, accomplished, adroit, deft, experienced, expert, masterly, nimble, polished, practised, proficient, skilled, versed.

antonyms bungling, incompetent, inept.

n. dab hand, expert, genius, maestro, master, old hand, pastmaster, wizard.

antonyms bungler, incompetent.

adequate *adj.* able, acceptable, capable, commensurate, competent, enough, fair, fit, passable, presentable, requisite, respectable, satisfactory, serviceable, sufficient, suitable, tolerable.

antonyms inadequate, insufficient.

adhere *v.* **1** attach, cement, cleave to, cling, coalesce, cohere, combine, fasten, fix, glue, hold, join, link, paste, stick. **2** abide by, agree, comply with, follow, fulfil, heed, keep, obey, observe, respect, stand by.

adherent *n.* admirer, advocate, devotee, disciple, enthusiast, fan, follower, freak, hanger-on, henchman, nut, partisan, satellite, supporter, upholder, votary.

adhesion *n.* adherence, adhesiveness, attachment, bond, cohesion, grip, holding fast, sticking.

adhesive *adj.* adherent, adhering, attaching, clinging, cohesive, gluey, gummy, holding, sticking, sticky, tacky.

n. cement, glue, gum, paste, tape.

adjacent *adj.* abutting, adjoining, alongside,

beside, bordering, close, contiguous, juxtaposed, near, neighbouring, next, touching.
antonyms distant, remote.

adjoin *v.* abut, add, annex, approximate, attach, border, combine, connect, couple, interconnect, join, link, meet, neighbour, touch, unite, verge.

adjourn *v.* continue, defer, delay, discontinue, interrupt, postpone, put off, recess, retire, stay, suspend.

antonyms assemble, convene.

adjournment *n.* break, deferment, deterral, delay, discontinuation, dissolution, interruption, pause, postponement, putting off, recess, stay, suspension.

adjudicate *v.* arbitrate, decide, determine, judge, pronounce, settle, umpire.

adjunct *n.* accessory, addendum, addition, appendage, appendix, auxiliary, complement, extension, supplement.

adjust *v.* acclimatise, accommodate, accustom, adapt, alter, arrange, balance, change, compose, concert, conform, convert, dispose, fine-tune, fit, fix, harmonise, jiggle, measure, modify, reconcile, rectify, regulate, remodel, set, settle, shape, square, suit, temper, tune.

antonyms disarrange, upset.

adjustable *adj.* adaptable, alterable, flexible, modifiable, movable.

antonyms fixed, inflexible.

adjustment *n.* acclimatisation, accommodation, adaptation, alteration, arrangement, arranging, conforming, conversion, fitting, fixing, harmonisation, modification, naturalisation, ordering, orientation, reconciliation, rectification, regulation, remodelling, setting, settlement, shaping, tuning.

ad-lib *v.* extemporise, improvise, invent, make up.
adj. extempore, impromptu, improvised, made up, off-the-cuff, spontaneous, unpremeditated, unprepared, unheard.

antonym prepared.

adv. extemporaneously, extempore, impromptu, impulsively, off the cuff, off the top of one's head, spontaneously.

administer *v.* 1 conduct, control, direct, govern, head, lead, manage, officiate, organise, oversee, preside over, regulate, rule, run, superintend, supervise. 2 apply, contribute, disburse, dispense, dispose, distribute, dole out, execute, give, impose, measure out, mete out, provide, supply.

administration *n.* administering, control, direction, directorship, execution, executive, governing, governing body, government, leadership, management, ministry, organisation, overseeing, performance, regime, ruling, running, settlement, superintendence, supervision, term of office.

administrative *adj.* authoritative, directorial, executive, governmental, legislative, management, managerial, organisational, regulatory, supervisory.

administrator *n.* boss, controller, curator, custodian, director, governor, guardian, leader,

manager, organiser, overseer, ruler, superintendent, supervisor, trustee.

admirable *adj.* choice, commendable, creditable, deserving, excellent, exquisite, fine, laudable, praiseworthy, rare, respected, superior, valuable, wonderful, worthy.

antonyms deplorable, despicable.

admiration *n.* adoration, affection, amazement, appreciation, approval, astonishment, delight, esteem, idolism, pleasure, praise, regard, respect, reverence, surprise, veneration, wonder, worship.

antonym contempt.

admire *v.* adore, applaud, appreciate, approve, esteem, idolise, laud, praise, respect, revere, value, venerate, worship.

antonyms censure, despise.

admirer *n.* adherent, boyfriend, devotee, disciple, enthusiast, fan, follower, idoliser, lover, suitor, supporter, sweetheart, worshipper.

antonyms critic, opponent.

admissible *adj.* acceptable, allowable, allowed, justifiable, lawful, legitimate, passable, permissible, permitted, tolerable, tolerated.

antonyms illegitimate, inadmissible.

admission *n.* 1 acceptance, acknowledgement, affirmation, allowance, concession, confession, declaration, divulgence, exposé, granting, initiation, introduction, profession, revelation. 2 access, admittance, disclosure, entrance, entry, inclusion.

antonyms 1 denial. 2 exclusion.

admit *v.* 1 accept, acknowledge, affirm, agree, allow, concede, confess, declare, disclose, divulge, grant, initiate, introduce, profess, receive, recognise, reveal. 2 allow to enter, give access, let in, permit, take in.

antonyms 1 deny. 2 exclude, shut out.

admittance *n.* acceptance, access, admitting, allowing, entrance, entry, letting in, reception.

adolescence *n.* boyhood, boyishness, childishness, development, girlhood, girlishness, immaturity, minority, puberty, teens, transition, youth, youthfulness.

antonym old age.

adolescent *adj.* boyish, girlish, growing, immature, juvenile, maturing, puerile, teenage, young, youthful.

n. juvenile, minor, teenager, youth.

adopt *v.* accept, appropriate, approve, assume, back, choose, embrace, endorse, follow, foster, maintain, ratify, select, support, take in, take on, take up.

antonyms disown, repudiate.

adorable *adj.* appealing, attractive, captivating, charming, darling, dear, delightful, enchanting, fetching, lovable, pleasing, precious, sweet, winning, winsome.

antonyms abominable, hateful.

adoration *n.* admiration, esteem, exaltation, glorification, honour, idolatry, love, reverence, veneration, worship.

antonyms abhorrence, detestation.

adore *v.* admire, cherish, dote on, esteem, exalt,

glorify, honour, idolatrise, idolise, love, revere, venerate, worship.

antonyms abhor, hate.

adorn *v.* bedeck, crown, deck, decorate, doll up, embellish, enhance, enrich, garnish, gild, grace, ornament, trim.

adulation *n.* acclaim, fawning, flattery, idolisation, personality cult, worship.

antonym abuse.

adult *adj.* developed, full-grown, fully grown, grown-up, mature, of age, ripe, ripened.

antonym immature.

adulterate *v.* contaminate, corrupt, debase, defile, deteriorate, devalue, dilute, pollute, taint, water down, weaken.

antonym refine.

advance *v.* 1 ameliorate, flourish, go ahead, go forward, improve, move on, proceed, progress, prosper. 2 accelerate, hasten, send forward, speed. 3 assist, benefit, facilitate, foster, further, grow, increase, promote, support, upgrade. 4 allege, bring forward, cite, furnish, offer, present, provide, submit, suggest, supply. 5 lend, pay beforehand, profit.

antonyms 1 retreat. 3 impede, retard.

n. 1 amelioration, breakthrough, development, furtherance, growth, headway, improvement, increase, progress, step. 2 credit, deposit, down payment, gain, loan, prepayment, profit, rise.

antonyms 1 recession, retreat.

adj. beforehand, early, foremost, forward, in front, leading, preliminary, prior.

in advance ahead, beforehand, earlier, early, in front, in the forefront, in the lead, previously, sooner.

antonyms behind, later.

advanced *adj.* ahead, avant-garde, extreme, foremost, forward, forward-looking, higher, leading, original, precocious, progressive.

antonyms backward, elementary, retarded

advancement *n.* advance, betterment, development, forward movement, furtherance, gain, growth, headway, improvement, maturation, onward movement, preferment, progress, promotion, rise.

antonyms demotion, retardation.

advances *n.* approaches, attentions, moves, overtures, proposals, proposition.

advantage *n.* aid, asset, assistance, avail, benefit, blessing, convenience, edge, fruit, gain, good, help, hold, interest, lead, precedence, pre-eminence, profit, purchase, service, start, superiority, sway, upper hand, use, usefulness, utility, welfare.

antonyms disadvantage, drawback, hindrance.

advantageous *adj.* beneficial, convenient, favourable, gainful, helpful, opportune, profitable, remunerative, rewarding, superior, useful, valuable, worthwhile.

antonyms adverse, damaging, disadvantageous.

adventure *n.* chance, enterprise, experience, exploit, hazard, incident, occurrence, risk, speculation, undertaking, venture.

adventurer *n.* daredevil, fortune-hunter,

gambler, hero, heroine, opportunist, speculator, venturer, voyager, wanderer.

adventurous *adj.* audacious, bold, daring, enterprising, headstrong, impetuous, intrepid, plucky, reckless, risky, venturesome.

antonyms cautious, chary, prudent.

adversary *n.* antagonist, assailant, attacker, competitor, contestant, enemy, foe, opponent, opposer, rival.

antonyms ally, supporter.

adverse *adj.* antagonistic, conflicting, contrary, counter, counter-productive, detrimental, disadvantageous, hostile, hurtful, inauspicious, injurious, inopportune, negative, noxious, opposing, opposite, reluctant, repugnant, uncongenial, unfavourable, unfortunate, unfriendly, unlucky, unwilling.

antonyms advantageous, favourable.

adversity *n.* affliction, bad luck, calamity, catastrophe, disaster, distress, hard times, hardship, ill-fortune, ill-luck, misery, misfortune, reverse, sorrow, suffering, trial, tribulation, trouble, woe, wretchedness.

antonym prosperity.

advertise *v.* announce, blazon, broadcast, declare, display, herald, inform, make known, notify, plug, praise, proclaim, promote, publicise, publish, push, trumpet.

advertisement *n.* ad, advert, announcement, bill, blurb, circular, commercial, display, handbill, handout, hype, leaflet, notice, placard, plug, poster, promotion, propaganda, publicity.

advice *n.* caution, communication, counsel, direction, do's and don'ts, guidance, help, information, injunction, instruction, intelligence, memorandum, notice, notification, opinion, recommendation, suggestion, view, warning, wisdom.

advisable *adj.* appropriate, apt, beneficial, correct, desirable, fit, fitting, judicious, profitable, proper, prudent, recommended, sensible, sound, suggested, suitable, wise.

antonyms foolish, inadvisable.

advise *v.* acquaint, caution, commend, counsel, forewarn, guide, inform, instruct, make known, notify, recommend, report, suggest, teach, tell, tutor, urge, warn.

adviser *n.* aide, authority, coach, consultant, counsellor, guide, helper, instructor, lawyer, mentor, monitor, righthand man, teacher, tutor.

advisory *adj.* advising, consultative, consulting, counselling, helping, hortatory, recommending.

advocate *v.* adopt, advise, argue for, campaign for, champion, countenance, defend, encourage, endorse, favour, justify, patronise, plead for, press for, promote, propose, recommend, subscribe to, support, uphold, urge.

antonyms deprecate, disparage, impugn.

n. 1 campaigner, champion, defender, pleader, promoter, proponent, speaker, spokesman, supporter, upholder, vindicator. 2 attorney, barrister, counsel, counsellor, lawyer, mediator, solicitor.