



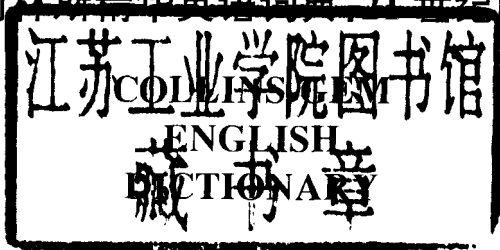
柯林斯精学英汉词典

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柯林斯精华英语词典 21 世纪版



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BANK *of* ENGLISH

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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.

USING THE DICTIONARY

Main Entry Words printed in large bold type, e.g.

abbey

All main entry words, including abbreviations and combining forms, in one alphabetical sequence, e.g.

abbot

abbreviate

ABC

abdicate

Variant Spellings

shown in full, e.g.

adrenalin, adrenaline

Note: where the spellings **-ize** and **-ization** are used at the end of a word, the alternative forms **-ise** and **-isation** are equally acceptable.

Pronunciations

given in square brackets for words that are difficult or confusing; the word is respelt as it is pronounced, with the stressed syllable in bold type, e.g.

antipodes [an-**tip**-pod-deez]

Parts of Speech

shown in italics as an abbreviation, e.g.

ablaze *adj*

When a word can be used as more than one part of speech, the change of part of speech is shown after a lozenge, e.g.

mock *v* make fun of; mimic. ♦ *adj* sham or imitation.

Parts of speech may be combined for some words, e.g.

alone *adj, adv* without anyone or anything else.

USING THE DICTIONARY

- Cross References** shown in small capital letters, e.g.
doner kebab *n* SEE KEBAB.
- Irregular Parts** or confusing forms of verbs, nouns, adjectives, and adverbs shown in bold type, e.g.
begin *v* -ginning, -gan, -gun.
regret *v* -gretting, -gretted.
anniversary *n*, *pl* -ries.
angry *adj* -grier, -griest.
well *adv* better, best.
- Meanings** separated by semicolons, e.g.
casual *adj* careless, nonchalant; (of work or workers) occasional; for informal wear; happening by chance.
- Phrases and Idioms** included immediately after the meanings of the main entry word, e.g.
hand *n* ... *v* ... **have a hand in** be involved in.
lend a hand help. ...
- Related Words** shown in the same paragraph as the main entry word, e.g.
absurd *adj* incongruous or ridiculous.
absurdly *adv* **absurdity** *n*
Note: where the meaning of a related word is not given, it may be understood from the main entry word, or from another related word.
- Compounds** shown in alphabetical order at the end of the paragraph, e.g.
ash *n* ... **ashtray** *n* receptacle for tobacco ash and cigarette butts. **Ash Wednesday** first day of Lent.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE DICTIONARY

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

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A a

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

AA Alcoholics Anonymous; Automobile Association.

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

AB able-bodied seaman.

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

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

abase *v* humiliate or degrade (one-self). **abatement** *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* alphabet; 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* sudden change from what is normal, accurate, or correct; brief lapse in control of one's thoughts or feelings. **aberrant** *adj* showing aberration.

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

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

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

abide *v* endure, put up with; *Obs* stay or dwell, e.g. *abide with me*.

abide by *v* obey (the law, rules, etc.). **abiding** *adj* lasting.

ability *n*, *pl* **-ties**. competence, power; talent.

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

abjure *v* deny or renounce on oath.

ablative *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.

ablutions *pl n* act of washing.

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 bad. **abominable snowman** large apelike creature said to live in the Himalayas. **abominably** *adv*
- abomination** *n* someone or something that is detestable.
- aborigine** [ab-or-rij-in-ee], **aboriginal** *n* original inhabitant of a country or region, esp. (A-) Australia. **aboriginal** *adj*
- abort** *v* have an abortion or perform an abortion on; have a miscarriage; end a plan or process before completion. **abortion** *n* operation to end a pregnancy; *Informal* something grotesque. **abortionist** *n* person who performs abortions, esp. illegally. **abortive** *adj* unsuccessful.
- abound** *v* be plentiful. **abounding** *adj*
- about** *prep* concerning, on the subject of; in or near (a place). ♦ *adv* nearly, approximately; nearby. **about to** shortly going to. **not about to** determined not to. **about-turn** *n* complete change of attitude.
- above** *adv, prep* over or higher (than); greater (than); superior (to). **above board** in the open, without dishonesty.
- abracadabra** *n* supposedly magic word.
- abrasion** *n* scraped area on the skin.
- abrasive** *adj* harsh and unpleasant in manner; tending to rub or scrape. ♦ *n* 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* to or in a foreign country; at large.
- abrogate** *v* cancel (a law or agreement) formally. **abrogation** *n*
- abrupt** *adj* sudden, unexpected; blunt and rude. **abruptly** *adv* **abruptness** *n*
- abscess** *n* inflamed swelling containing pus.
- abscond** *v* leave secretly.
- abseil** [ab-sale] *v* go down a steep drop by a rope fastened at the top and tied around one's body.
- absent** *adj* not present; lacking; inattentive. ♦ *v* stay away. **absently** *adv* **absence** *n* being away; 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* complete, perfect; not limited, unconditional; pure, e.g. *absolute alcohol*. **absolutely** *adv* completely. ♦ *interj* 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* soak up (a liquid); take in; engage the interest of (someone). **absorption** *n* **absorbent** *adj* able to absorb liquid. **absorbency** *n*
- abstain** *v* choose not to do something; choose not to vote. **abstainer** *n* **abstention** *n* abstaining, esp. from voting. **abstinence** *n* abstaining, esp. from drinking alcohol. **abstinent** *adj*

abstemious *adj* taking very little alcohol or food. **abstemiousness** *n*

abstract *adj* existing as a quality or idea rather than a material object; theoretical; (of art) using patterns of shapes and colours rather than realistic likenesses. ♦ *n* summary; abstract work of art; abstract word or idea. ♦ *v* summarize; remove. **abstracted** *adj* lost in thought. **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* use wrongly; ill-treat violently; speak harshly and rudely to. ♦ *n* prolonged ill-treatment; harsh and vulgar comments; wrong use. **abuser** *n* **abusive** *adj* **abusively** *adv* **abusiveness** *n*

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

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**. society to advance arts or sciences; institution for training in a particular skill; *Scot* secondary school. **academic** *adj* of an academy or university; of theoretical interest only. ♦ *n* lecturer or researcher at a university. **academically** *adv*

academician *n* member of an academy.

acanthus *n* prickly plant.

ACAS Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

accede *v* consent or agree (to);

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* distinctive style of pronunciation of a local, national, or social group; mark over a letter to show how it is pronounced; stress on a syllable or musical note. ♦ *v* place emphasis on.

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

accept *v* receive willingly; agree to; consider to be true. **acceptance** *n* **acceptable** *adj* tolerable; satisfactory. **acceptably** *adv* **acceptability** *n*

access *n* means of or right to approach or enter. ♦ *v* 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**. supplementary part or object; person involved in a crime although not present when it is committed.

accident *n* mishap, usu. one causing injury or death; event happening by chance. **accidental**

adj happening by chance or unintentionally. ♦ *n* *Music* symbol indicating that a sharp, flat, or natural note is not a part of the key signature. **accidentally** *adv*

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

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

accolade *n* award, honour, or praise; award of knighthood.

accommodate *v* provide with lodgings; have room for; oblige, do a favour for; adapt or adjust

- (to something). **accommodation** *n* house or room for living in. **accommodating** *adj* obliging.
- accompany** *v* -nying, -nied. go along with; occur with; provide a musical accompaniment for. **accompaniment** *n* something that accompanies; *Music* supporting part that goes with a solo. **accompanist** *n*
- accomplice** *n* person who helps another to commit a crime.
- accomplish** *v* manage to do; finish. **accomplishment** *n* completion; personal ability or skill. **accomplished** *adj* expert, proficient.
- accord** *n* agreement, harmony. ♦ *v* fit in with.
- accordance** *n* in accordance with conforming to or according to.
- according** *adv* according to as stated by; in conformity with. **accordingly** *adv* in an appropriate manner; 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* report, description; business arrangement making credit available; record of money received and paid out with the resulting balance; person's money held in a bank; importance, value. ♦ *v* judge to be. **on account of** because of. **accountable** *adj* responsible to someone or for something. **accountability** *n*
- accounting** *n* skill or practice of maintaining and auditing business accounts. **accountant** *n* person who maintains and audits business accounts. **accountancy** *n*
- accoutrements** *pl n* clothing and equipment for a particular activity.
- accredited** *adj* authorized, officially recognized.
- accretion** [ak-kree-shun] *n* gradual growth; 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* under a curse; 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* usual; used (to); in the habit (of).
- ace** *n* playing card with one symbol on it; *Informal* expert; *Tennis* unreturnable serve. ♦ *adj* *Informal* excellent.
- acerbic** [ass-sir-bik] *adj* harsh or bitter. **acerbity** *n*
- acetate** [ass-it-tate] *n* *Chem* salt or ester of acetic acid; (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-ill-een] *n* colourless flammable gas used in welding metals.
- ache** *n* dull continuous pain. ♦ *v* be in or cause continuous dull

- pain.
- achieve** *v* gain by hard work or ability. **achievement** *n* something accomplished.
- Achilles heel** [ak-kill-eez] *n* small but fatal weakness.
- Achilles tendon** *n* cord connecting the calf to the heel bone.
- achromatic** *adj* colourless; *Music* with no sharps or flats.
- acid** *n* *Chem* one of a class of compounds, corrosive and sour when dissolved in water, that combine with a base to form a salt; *Slang* LSD. ♦ *adj* containing acid; sour-tasting; sharp or sour in manner.
- acidic** *adj* **acidify** *v* **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* admit, recognize; indicate recognition of (a person); say one has received. **acknowledgment**, **acknowledgement** *n*
- acme** [ak-mee] *n* highest point of achievement or excellence.
- acne** [ak-nee] *n* pimply skin disease.
- acolyte** *n* follower or attendant; *Christianity* person who assists a priest.
- aconite** *n* poisonous plant with hoodlike flowers; poison obtained from this plant.
- acorn** *n* nut of the oak tree.
- acoustic** *adj* of sound and hearing; (of a musical instrument) not electronically amplified. **acoustics** *n* science of sounds. ♦ *pl* features of a room or building determining how sound is heard within it. **acoustically** *adv*
- acquaint** *v* make familiar, inform.
- acquainted** *adj* **acquaintance** *n* person known; personal knowledge.
- acquiesce** [ak-wee-ess] *v* agree to what someone wants. **acquiescence** *n* **acquiescent** *adj*
- acquire** *v* gain, get. **acquisition** *n* thing acquired; act of getting.
- acquisitive** *adj* eager to gain material possessions. **acquisitiveness** *n*
- acquit** *v* **-quitting**, **-quitted**. pronounce (someone) innocent; 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 NATO.
- across** *adv*, *prep* from side to side (of); 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* thing done; law or decree; section of a play or opera; one of several short performances in a show; pretended attitude. ♦ *v* do something; behave in a particular way; perform in a play, film, etc.
- act of God** unpredictable natural

event. **acting** *n* art of an actor.

♦ *adj* temporarily performing the duties of. **actor, actress** *n* person who acts in a play, film, etc.

actinium *n* *Chem* radioactive chemical element.

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

active *adj* moving, working; busy, energetic; *Grammar* (of a verb) in a form indicating that the subject is performing the action, e.g. *threw* in *Kim threw the ball*. **actively** *adv* **activity** *n* state of being active; (*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-kōw-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* severe; keen, shrewd; sharp, sensitive; (of an angle) less than 90°. ♦ *n* 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 *n* wise saying, proverb.

adagio *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* thing produced by adapting something; adapting. **adaptor, adapter** *n* device for connecting several electrical appliances to a single socket.

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

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

adder *n* small poisonous snake.

addict *n* person who is unable to stop taking drugs; *informal* person devoted to something.

addicted *adj* **addiction** *n* **addictive** *adj* causing addiction.

addition *n* adding; 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* place where a person lives; direction on a letter; location; formal public speech. ♦ *v*

mark the destination, as on an envelope; speak to; 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* sufficient, enough; not outstanding. **adequately** *adv*
- adequacy** *n*
- adhere** *v* stick (to); be devoted (to). **adherence** *n* **adherent** *n* devotee, follower. **adhesion** *n* sticking (to); joining together of parts of the body that are normally separate, as after surgery.
- adhesive** *n* substance used to stick things together. ♦ *adj* 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* near or next (to); having a common boundary; *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* close (a court) at the end of a session; postpone temporarily; *Informal* go elsewhere.
- adjournment** *n*
- adjudge** *v* declare (to be).
- adjudicate** *v* give a formal decision on (a dispute); judge (a competition). **adjudication** *n* **adjudicator** *n*
- adjunct** *n* subordinate or additional person or thing.
- adjure** *v* command (to do); appeal earnestly.
- adjust** *v* adapt to new conditions; alter slightly so as to be suitable.
- adjustable** *adj* **adjuster** *n* **adjustment** *n*
- adjutant** [*aj-oo-tant*] *n* army officer in charge of routine administration.
- ad-lib** *v* -libbing, -libbed. improvise a speech etc. without preparation. ♦ *n* improvised remark.
- admin** *n* *Informal* administration.
- administer** *v* manage (business affairs); organize and put into practice; 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* permission to enter; entrance fee; confession.
- admit** *v* -mitting, -mitted. confess, acknowledge; concede the truth of; allow in. **admittance** *n* permission to enter. **admittedly** *adv* it must be agreed.
- admixture** *n* mixture; ingredient.
- admonish** *v* reprove sternly. **admonition** *n*
- ad nauseam** [*ad naw-zee-am*] *adv* *Latin* to a boring or sickening extent.
- ado** *n* fuss, trouble.
- adobe** [*ad-oh-bee*] *n* sun-dried brick.
- adolescence** *n* period between puberty and adulthood. **adolescent** *n, adj* (person) between puberty and adulthood.
- adopt** *v* take (someone else's child) as one's own; take up (a

- plan or principle). **adoption** *n* **adoptive** *adj* related by adoption.
- adore** *v* love intensely; worship.
- adorable** *adj* **adoration** *n* **adoring** *adj* **adoringly** *adv*
- adorn** *v* decorate, embellish.
- adornment** *n*
- ADP** automatic data processing.
- adrenal** [ad-reen-al] *adj* near the kidneys. **adrenal glands** *n* glands covering the top of the kidneys.
- adrenalin, adrenaline** *n* hormone secreted by the adrenal glands in response to stress.
- adrift** *adj, adv* drifting; 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* fully grown, mature. ♦ *n* adult person or animal. **adulthood** *n*
- adulterate** *v* spoil something by adding inferior material. **adulteration** *n*
- adultery** *n, pl -tries*. sexual unfaithfulness of a husband or wife.
- adulterer, adulteress** *n* **adulterous** *adj*
- adv.** adverb.
- advance** *v* go or bring forward; further (a cause); propose (an idea); lend (a sum of money). ♦ *n* forward movement; improvement; loan. ♦ *pl* approaches to a person with the hope of starting a romantic or sexual relationship. ♦ *adj* done or happening before an event. **in advance** *adv*. **advanced** *adj* at a late stage in development; not elementary. **advancement** *n* promotion.
- advantage** *n* more favourable position or state; benefit or profit; *Tennis* point scored after deuce. **take advantage of** *v* use (a person) unfairly; use (an opportunity). **advantageous** *adj* **advantageously** *adv*
- advent** *n* arrival; (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* person who unscrupulously seeks money or power; person who seeks adventures. **adventurous** *adj*
- 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* unfavourable; antagonistic or hostile. **adversely** *adv*
- adversity** *n* very difficult or hard circumstances.
- advert** *n* Informal advertisement.
- advertise** *v* present or praise (goods or services) to the public in order to encourage sales; make (a vacancy, event, etc.) known publicly. **advertisement** *n* public announcement to sell goods or publicize an event. **advertiser** *n* **advertising** *adj, n*
- advice** *n* recommendation as to what to do. **advise** *v* offer advice to; notify (someone). **advisor, 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