

Collins COBUILD ADVANCED DICTIONARY



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Sample Pages Inside

Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary

LEVEL: High-intermediate to advanced

With innovations such as DefinitionsPLUS and vocabulary builders, the *Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary* transforms the learner's dictionary from an occasional reference into the ultimate resource and must-have dictionary for language learners.

Promote learning through DefinitionsPLUS

- **Defining style:** Each definition is written in full sentences to help the learner understand the meaning of the word and to model how to use the word correctly.
- **Collocations:** Each definition is written using the high-frequency words native speakers naturally use with the target word.
- **Grammar:** Each definition includes naturally occurring grammatical patterns to improve accurate language use.
- **Natural English:** Each definition is a model of how to use the language appropriately.

Includes:

- 263 'Word Webs'
- 490 'Word Links'
- 46 'Picture Dictionary' boxes
- 1108 'Word Partnerships'
- 720 'Thesaurus' entries
- 100 'Usage' notes

Learners gain exclusive access to the expanded online dictionary and other resources through www.myCOBUILD.com.

See back cover of sampler for more information.



gravity /grævɪti/ **N** **UNCOUNT** Gravity is the force which causes things to drop to the ground. ☐ Arrows would continue to fly forward forever in a straight line were it not for gravity, which brings them down to earth. → see also centre of gravity
N **UNCOUNT** The gravity of a situation or event is its extreme importance or seriousness. ☐ [+ +] They deserve punishment which matches the gravity of their crime. ☐ Not all acts of vengeance are of equal gravity. **N** **UNCOUNT** The gravity of someone's behaviour or speech is the extremely serious way in which they behave or speak. ☐ There was an appealing gravity to everything she said.
 → see flight, moon

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The Bank of English™

The Bank of English™ is the original and the most current computerised corpus of authentic English. This robust research tool was used to create each definition with language appropriate for intermediate level learners. All level-appropriate sample sentences are drawn from the rich selection that the corpus offers. www.collins.co.uk

'Word Webs'

present related vocabulary within a context.

Word Web restaurant

Britons eat 35 percent of their meals in restaurants. In addition to traditional sit-down eateries, the food service business includes coffee shops, cafeterias, fast-food and take away places. With so many choices of places to eat it is not surprising that the restaurant industry is worth more than 27 billion pounds. More than half a million people work in restaurants in the United Kingdom. Restaurants have staff whose job is serving customers, such as managers, waiters and waitresses, in the dining room, and a staff in the bar. In the kitchen there are cooks and sometimes a

Picture Dictionary mountain

ridge, pass, glacier, cliff, peak, summit

'Picture Dictionary' boxes illustrate vocabulary and concepts.

Word Link popul = people : populace, popular, population

'Word Links'

exponentially increase language awareness.

Thesaurus release Also look up:
V. clear, excuse, free; (ant.) detain, imprison
N. acquittal, liberation; (ant.) detention, imprisonment

'Thesaurus'

entries offer both synonyms and antonyms.

Word Partnership Use outside with:
N. the outside of a building
 outside a building, outside a car, outside a room, outside a store
 outside interests, the outside world
 outside a city/town, outside a country
 outside sources
ANT. cold outside, dark outside
V. gather outside, go outside, park outside, sit outside, stand outside, step outside, wait outside

'Word Partnerships'

show high-frequency word patterns.

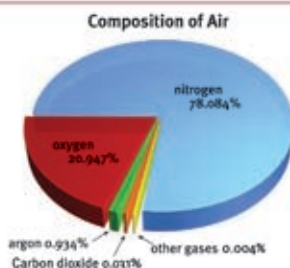
Usage brake and break
 Brake and break sound the same, but they have very different meanings. You step on the brake to make your car slow down or stop: Sometimes, Nayana steps on the accelerator when she means to step on the brake. If you break something, you damage it: I learned something today - if your laptop falls off your desk, it will probably break!

'Usage'

notes explain shades of meaning and clarify cultural references.

Word Web air

The air we breathe contains seventeen different gases. Surprisingly, it is composed mostly of nitrogen, not oxygen. Recently, human activities have created imbalances in the earth's atmosphere. The widespread burning of coal and oil increased levels of carbon dioxide gas. Scientists believe this air pollution may be responsible for global warming. Certain chemical compounds used in air conditioners, agricultural processes, and manufacturing are the problem. With less protection from the sun, the air temperature rises. This leads to harmful effects on people, agriculture, animals, and the natural environment.



the car when they are thrown forward in the crash.
→ see car

air base (air bases) also **airbase** N-COUNT An **air base** is a centre where military aircraft take off or land and are serviced, and where many of the centre's staff live.

air bed /æɪrbed/ (airbeds) also **air bed** N-COUNT An **airbed** is a plastic or rubber mattress which can be folded or stored flat and which you fill with air before you use it.

airborne /æɪrˈbɔːn/ ■ ADJ [v-link ADJ] If an aircraft is **airborne**, it is in the air and flying. □ The pilot did manage to get airborne. ■ ADJ [ADJ n] **Airborne** troops use parachutes to get into enemy territory. □ The allies landed thousands of airborne troops. ■ ADJ [USU ADJ n] **Airborne** means in the air or carried in the air. □ Many people are allergic to airborne pollutants such as pollen.
→ see pollution

air brake (air brakes) N-COUNT **Air brakes** are brakes which are used on heavy vehicles such as buses and trains and which are operated by means of compressed air.

airbrush /æɪrˈbrʌʃ/ (airbrushes, airbrushing, airbrushed) ■ N-COUNT An **airbrush** is an artist's tool which sprays paint onto a surface. ■ VERB To **airbrush** a photograph or other image means to change it using an airbrush, especially to make it more beautiful or perfect. □ [v-ed] ...bits of photographs cut, pasted and then airbrushed to create a convincing whole. [Also v n]

Airbus /æɪrˈbʌs/ (Airbuses) N-COUNT An **Airbus** is an aeroplane which is designed to carry a large number of passengers for fairly short distances. [TRADEMARK]

air-con N-UNCOUNT **Air-con** is the same as **air conditioning**. [INFORMAL] □ The bus is a 45-seater with air-con and videos.

air conditioned ADJ If a room or vehicle is **air conditioned**, the air in it is kept cool and dry by means of a special machine. □ ...our new air conditioned trains.

air conditioner (air conditioners) N-COUNT An **air conditioner** is a machine which keeps the air in a building cool and dry.

air conditioning N-UNCOUNT [oft n n] **Air conditioning** is a method of providing buildings and vehicles with cool dry air.

air-cooled ADJ [USU ADJ n] An **air-cooled** engine is prevented from getting too hot when it is running by cool air that passes over it, rather than being cooled by a liquid. □ The car was powered by a four cylinder air-cooled engine.

aircraft ■ /æɪrˈkraːft, -kræft/ (aircraft) N-COUNT An **aircraft** is a vehicle which can fly, for example an aeroplane or a helicopter. □ The return flight of the aircraft was delayed. □ At least three military aircraft were destroyed.
→ see fly

aircraft carrier (aircraft carriers) N-COUNT An **aircraft carrier** is a warship with a long, flat deck where aircraft can take off and land.
→ see ship

aircrew /æɪrˈkruː/ (aircrews) also **air crew** N-COUNT [with sing or pl verb] The **aircrew** on a plane are the pilot and other people who are responsible for flying it and for looking after any passengers who are on it.

airdrome /æɪrˈdroum/ (airdromes) N-COUNT An **airdrome** is a place or area where small aircraft can land and take off. [AM]

in BRIT, use **aerodrome**

air drop (air drops, air dropping, air dropped) also **airdrop**, **air-drop** ■ N-COUNT An **air drop** is a delivery of supplies by aircraft to an area that is hard to get to. The supplies are dropped from the aircraft on parachutes. ■ VERB If a country or organization **air drops** supplies to a place, it drops supplies there from aircraft.

airfare /æɪrˈfeɪ/ (airfares) N-COUNT The **airfare** to a place is the amount it costs to fly there.

airfield /æɪrˈfi:ld/ (airfields) N-COUNT An **airfield** is an area of ground where aircraft take off and land. It is smaller than an airport.

airflow /æɪrˈfləʊ/ N-UNCOUNT The **airflow** around an object or vehicle is the way that the air flows around it.
→ see flight

air force ■ (air forces) N-COUNT An **air force** is the part of a country's armed forces that is concerned with fighting in the air. □ ...the United States Air Force.

air freshener (air fresheners) N-VAR An **air freshener** is a product people can buy which is meant to make rooms smell pleasant.

airgun /æɪrˈɡʌn/ (airguns) also **air gun** N-COUNT An **airgun** is a gun which is fired by means of air pressure.

airhead /æɪrˈhed/ (airheads) N-COUNT If you describe someone, especially a young woman, as an **airhead**, you are critical of them because you think they are not at all clever and are interested only in unimportant things. [INFORMAL, DISAPPROVAL]

air hostess (air hostesses) N-COUNT An **air hostess** is a woman whose job is to look after the passengers in an aircraft. [BRIT, OLD-FASHIONED]

in AM, use **stewardess**

airing cupboard (airing cupboards) N-COUNT In British houses, an **airing cupboard** is a warm cupboard where you put clothes and other things that have been washed and partly dried, to make sure they are completely dry.

airless /æɪrˈlɛs/ ADJ If a place is **airless**, there is no fresh air in it. □ ...a dark, airless room.

airlift /æɪrˈlɪft/ (airlifts, airlifting, airlifted) ■ N-COUNT An **airlift** is an operation to move people, troops, or goods by air, especially in a war or when land routes are closed. □ [+ of] President Garcia has ordered an airlift of food, medicines and blankets. ■ VERB If people, troops, or goods are **airlifted** somewhere, they are carried by air, especially in a war or when land routes are closed. □ [be v-ed + to] The injured were airlifted to hospital in Prestwick.

airline ■ /æɪrˈlaɪn/ (airlines) N-COUNT [oft in names] An **airline** is a company which provides regular services carrying people or goods in aeroplanes. □ ...the Dutch national airline KLM.

airliner /æɪrˈlaɪnə/ (airliners) N-COUNT An **airliner** is a large aeroplane that is used for carrying passengers.

airlock /æɪrˈlɒk/ (airlocks) also **air lock** ■ N-COUNT An **airlock** is a small room that is used to move between areas

Word Web biosphere

Earth is the only place in the universe where we are sure that life exists. A geologist, Eduard Suess*, invented the term **biosphere** in 1875. For him it included the land, water, and atmosphere in which all life occurs. Later scientists studied the relationships among living things and the biosphere. They created the term **ecosystem** to describe these interactions. In the 1980s, scientists built a research centre called Biosphere 2 in the American state of Arizona. They hoped to create an artificial biosphere for people to use on the moon. Today, the center performs research into the effects of **greenhouse gases** on the environment.

Eduard Suess (1831-1914): an Austrian geologist.



biodiesel /baɪˈoʊdi:zəl/ N-UNCOUNT **Biodiesel** is fuel made from natural sources such as plant oils, that can be used in diesel engines.

biodiversity /baɪˈoʊdɪvɜːsɪti/ N-UNCOUNT **Biodiversity** is the existence of a wide variety of plant and animal species living in their natural environment.

bioengineering /baɪˈoʊendʒɪnɪrɪŋ/ ■ N-UNCOUNT People sometimes use **bioengineering** to talk about genetic engineering. ■ N-UNCOUNT **Bioengineering** is the use of engineering techniques to solve medical problems, for example to design and make artificial arms and legs.

biofuel /baɪˈoʊfju:əl/ N-VAR A **biofuel** is a gas, liquid, or solid from natural sources such as plants that is used as a fuel. □ Biofuels can be mixed with conventional fuels.

biographer /baɪˈɒɡrəfə/ (biographers) N-COUNT [oft with poss] Someone's **biographer** is a person who writes an account of their life.

biographical /baɪˈɒɡrəfɪkəl/ ADJ [USU ADJ n] **Biographical** facts, notes, or details are concerned with the events in someone's life. □ The book contains few biographical details.

Word Link bio = life : **biodegradable**, **biography**, **biology**

Word Link graph = writing : **autograph**, **biography**, **graph**

biography /baɪˈɒɡrəfi/ (biographies) ■ N-COUNT [oft with poss] A **biography** of someone is an account of their life, written by someone else. ■ N-UNCOUNT **Biography** is the branch of literature which deals with accounts of people's lives. □ ...a volume of biography and criticism.
→ see library

biol. Biol. is a written abbreviation for **biology** or **biological**.

biological /baɪˈɒlədʒɪkəl/ ■ ADJ [USU ADJ n] **Biological** is used to describe processes and states that occur in the bodies and cells of living things. □ The living organisms somehow concentrated the minerals by biological processes. □ This is a natural biological response. • **biological** /baɪˈɒlədʒɪkəl/ ADV [ADV with v] □ Much of our behaviour is biologically determined. ■ ADJ [ADJ n] **Biological** is used to describe activities concerned with the study of living things. □ ...the university's school of biological sciences. ■ ADJ [USU ADJ n] **Biological** weapons and **biological** warfare involve the use of bacteria or other living organisms in order to attack human beings, animals, or plants. □ Such a war could result in the use of chemical and biological weapons. ■ ADJ [ADJ n] **Biological** pest control is the use of bacteria or other living organisms in order to destroy other organisms which are harmful to plants or crops. □ ...Jim Litsinger, a consultant on biological control of agricultural pests. ■ ADJ [ADJ n] A child's **biological** parents are the man and woman who caused him or her to be born, rather than other adults who look after him or her. □ ...foster parents for young teenagers whose biological parents have rejected them.
→ see war, zoo

biological clock (biological clocks) N-COUNT [oft poss n] Your **biological clock** is your body's way of registering time. It does not rely on events such as day or night, but on factors such as your habits, your age, and chemical changes taking place in your body. □ For women, the 'biological clock' governs the time for having children.

biological diversity N-UNCOUNT **Biological diversity** is the same as **biodiversity**.

Word Link ist = one who practices : **biologist**, **conformist**, **pharmacist**

Word Link logy, ology = study of : **anthropology**, **biology**, **geology**

biology /baɪˈɒlədʒi/ ■ N-UNCOUNT **Biology** is the science which is concerned with the study of living things.

• **biologist** /baɪˈɒlədʒɪst/ (biologists) N-COUNT □ ...biologists studying the fruit fly. ■ N-UNCOUNT The **biology** of a living thing is the way in which its body or cells behave. □ The biology of these diseases is terribly complicated. □ ...human biology. ■ → see also **molecular biology**

biomedical /baɪˈoʊmɪdɪkəl/ ADJ [ADJ n] **Biomedical** research examines the effects of drugs and medical techniques on the biological systems of living creatures. □ Biomedical research will enable many individuals infected with HIV to live longer, more comfortable lives.

biometric /baɪˈoʊmɪtrɪk/ ADJ [ADJ n] **Biometric** tests and devices use biological information about a person to create a detailed record of their personal characteristics. □ ...the use of biometric information such as fingerprints.
→ see technology

bionic /baɪˈɒnɪk/ ADJ [USU ADJ n] In science fiction books or films, a **bionic** person is someone who has special powers, such as being exceptionally strong or having exceptionally good sight, because parts of their body have been replaced by electronic machinery. □ ...the Bionic Woman.

biopic /baɪˈoʊpɪk/ (biopics) N-COUNT A **biopic** is a film that tells the story of someone's life. □ [+ of] Oliver Stone's biopic of Alexander the Great won't be out until Christmas Eve.

biopsy /baɪˈɒpsɪ/ (biopsies) N-VAR A **biopsy** is the removal and examination of fluids or tissue from a patient's body in order to discover why they are ill.

biosphere /baɪˈɒsfiə/ N-SING The **biosphere** is the part of the earth's surface and atmosphere where there are living things. [TECHNICAL]
→ see Word Web: **biosphere**

biotech /baɪˈoʊteɪk/ N-UNCOUNT [USU N n] **Biotech** means the same as **biotechnology**. □ The convergence of I.T. and biotech is the next big thing. □ ...the biotech industry.

biotechnological /baɪˈoʊteɪknɒlədʒɪkəl/ ADJ [ADJ n] **Biotechnological** means relating to biotechnology. [TECHNICAL] □ ...modern biotechnological methods of genetic manipulation.

biotechnology /baɪˈoʊteɪknɒlədʒi/ N-UNCOUNT **Biotechnology** is the use of living parts such as cells or bacteria in industry and technology. [TECHNICAL] • **biotechnologist** /baɪˈoʊteɪknɒlədʒɪst/ (biotechnologists) N-COUNT □ ...biotechnologists turning proteins into pharmaceuticals.
→ see technology

bioterrorism /baɪˈoʊtɛrɪzəm/ also **bio-terrorism** N-UNCOUNT **Bioterrorism** is terrorism that involves the use of biological weapons. □ ...the threat of bioterrorism.

• **bioterrorist** /baɪˈoʊtɛrɪst/ (bioterrorists) N-COUNT [oft n n] □ ...the war against bioterrorists. □ ...a bioterrorist attack.

Word Web climate

During the past 100 years, the surface air temperature of the earth has increased by about 1° Fahrenheit (F). Alaska has warmed by about 1.6°C. At the same time, precipitation over the northern hemisphere increased by 10%. The global sea level also rose 10–20 centimetres. The years 1998, 2001, and 2002 were the three hottest ever recorded. This warm period followed what some scientists call the “Little Ice Age.” Researchers found that from the 1400s to the 1800s the Earth cooled by about 2.4°C. Air and water temperatures were lower, glaciers grew quickly, and ice floes came further south than usual.

St. Mark's Square in Venice flooded 111 times in 2002.



Word Link climat = climate : = region : acclimatize, climatic, climatic

climatic /klaɪmætɪk/ ADJ [ADJ N] Climatic conditions, changes, and effects relate to the general weather conditions of a place. □ ...the threat of rising sea levels and climatic change from overheating of the atmosphere.

climatologist /klaɪmɒlədʒɪst/ (climatologists) N-COUNT A climatologist is someone who studies climates.

climax /klaɪmæks/ (climaxes, climaxing, climaxed) N-COUNT The climax of something is the most exciting or important moment in it, usually near the end. □ [+ of/to] For Pritchard, reaching an Olympics was the climax of her career. □ [+ to] It was the climax to 24 hours of growing anxiety. □ The last golf tournament of the European season is building up to a dramatic climax. VERB The event that climaxes a sequence of events is an exciting or important event that comes at the end. You can also say that a sequence of events climaxes with a particular event. [JOURNALISM] □ [v n] The demonstration climaxed two weeks of strikes. □ [v + with] They've just finished a sell-out U.K. tour that climaxed with a three-night stint at Brixton Academy. N-Var A climax is an orgasm. VERB When someone climaxes, they have an orgasm. □ [v] Often, a man can enjoy making love but may not be sufficiently aroused to climax.

climb + /klaɪm/ (climbs, climbing, climbed) VERB If you climb something such as a tree, mountain, or ladder, or climb up it, you move towards the top of it. If you climb down it, you move towards the bottom of it. □ [v n] He picked up his suitcase and climbed the stairs. □ [v + up] I told her about him climbing up the drainpipe. □ [v + down] Kelly climbed down the ladder into the water. □ [v] Children love to climb. N-COUNT Climb is also a noun. □ ...an hour's leisurely climb through olive groves and vineyards. VERB If you climb somewhere, you move there carefully, for example because you are moving into a small space or trying to avoid falling. □ [v prep/adv] The girls hurried outside, climbed into the car, and drove off. □ [v prep/adv] He must have climbed out of his cot. VERB When something such as an aeroplane climbs, it moves upwards to a higher position. When the sun climbs, it moves higher in the sky. □ [v] The plane took off for LA, lost an engine as it climbed, and crashed just off the runway. [Also v prep] VERB When something climbs, it increases in value or amount. □ [v] The nation's unemployment rate has been climbing steadily since last June. □ [v + by] Prices have climbed by 21% since the beginning of the year. □ [v + to/from] The FA Cup Final's audience climbed to 12.3 million. □ [v amount] Jaguar shares climbed 43 pence to 510 pence. → see also climbing a mountain to climb → see mountain

climb down PHRASAL VERB If you climb down in an argument or dispute, you admit that you are wrong, or change your intentions or demands. □ [v] If Lafontaine is forced to climb down, he may wish to reconsider his position. □ [v + on/over] He has climbed down on pledges to reduce capital gains tax.

Word Partnership Use climb with:

PREP. climb down/up, climb in/on
N. climb the stairs
prices climb
V. begin/continue to climb

climb-down (climb-downs) also **climbdown** N-COUNT A climb-down in an argument or dispute is the act of admitting that you are wrong or of changing your intentions or demands. □ In an embarrassing climb-down, the Home Secretary lifted the deportation threat.

climber /klaɪmə/ (climbers) N-COUNT A climber is someone who climbs rocks or mountains as a sport or a hobby. N-COUNT A climber is a plant that grows upwards by attaching itself to other plants or objects.

climbing /klaɪmɪŋ/ N-UNCOUNT Climbing is the activity of climbing rocks or mountains. → see also climb, rock climbing, social climbing

climbing frame (climbing frames) N-COUNT A climbing frame is a structure that has been made for children to climb and play on. It consists of metal or wooden bars joined together. [BRIT]

in AM, use jungle gym

clime /klaɪm/ (climes) N-COUNT [usu pl, usu adj n] You use clime in expressions such as warmer climes and foreign climes to refer to a place that has a particular kind of climate. [LITERARY] □ [+ of] He left Britain for the sunnier climes of Southern France.

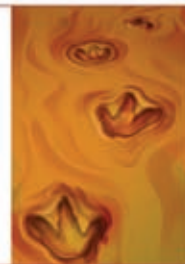
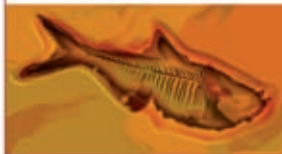
clinch /klaɪntʃ/ (clinches, clinching, clinched) VERB If you clinch something you are trying to achieve, such as a business deal or victory in a contest, you succeed in obtaining it. □ [v n] Hibernian clinched the First Division title when they beat Hamilton 2-0. □ [v n + with] This has fuelled speculation that he is about to clinch a deal with an American engine manufacturer. VERB The thing that clinches an uncertain matter settles it or provides a definite answer. □ [v n] Evidently this information clinched the matter. □ [v it] That was the clue which clinched it for us.

clinch /klaɪntʃə/ (clinchers) N-COUNT A clincher is a fact or argument that finally proves something, settles a dispute, or helps someone achieve a victory. [INFORMAL] □ DNA fingerprinting has proved the clincher in this investigation. □ The clincher was City's second goal, scored minutes from the end.

cling /klaɪŋ/ (clings, clinging, clung) VERB If you cling to someone or something, you hold onto them tightly. □ [v + to/onto] Another man was rescued as he clung to the riverbank. □ [v + together] They hugged each other, clinging together under the lights. VERB If someone clings to a position or a possession they have, they do everything they can to keep it even though this may be very difficult. □ [v + to/onto] He appears determined to cling to power. □ [v + on] Another minister clung on with a majority of only 18. □ [v + on to] Japan's productivity has overtaken America in some industries, but elsewhere the United States has clung on to its lead.

Word Web fossil

There are two types of animal fossils—body fossils and trace fossils. Body fossils help us understand how the animal looked when it was alive. Trace fossils, such as tracks and footprints, show us how the animal moved. Since we don't find tracks of dinosaurs' tails, we know they lifted them up as they walked. Footprints tell us about the weight of the dinosaur and how fast it moved. Scientists use two methods to calculate the date of a fossil. They sometimes count the number of rock layers covering it. They also use carbon dating.



will forward your letters to him. [Also v n] N-COUNT In football, basketball, or hockey, a forward is a player whose usual position is in the opponents' half of the field, and whose usual job is to attack or score goals. → see also centre-forward backwords and forwards → see backwords forwarding address (forwarding addresses) N-COUNT A forwarding address is an address that you give to someone when you go and live somewhere else so that they can send your mail on to you. □ The former owner had not left any forwarding address.

forward-looking ADJ If you describe a person or organization as forward-looking, you approve of the fact that they think about the future or have modern ideas. [APPROVAL]

forwards /fɔːwərdz/ → see forward

forward slash (forward slashes) N-COUNT A forward slash is the sloping line '/' that separates letters, words, or numbers.

forwent /fɔːwɛnt/ Forwent is the past tense of forgo.

fossil /fɒsəl/ (fossils) N-COUNT A fossil is the hard remains of a prehistoric animal or plant that are found inside a rock. → see Word Web: fossil

fossil fuel (fossil fuels) also **fossil-fuel** N-Var Fossil fuel is fuel such as coal or oil that is formed from the decayed remains of plants or animals.

→ see electricity, greenhouse effect, solar

fossilize /fɒsɪlaɪz/ (fossilizes, fossilizing, fossilized)

in BRIT, also use fossilise

VERB If the remains of an animal or plant fossilize or are fossilized, they become hard and form fossils, instead of decaying completely. □ [v] The most important parts, the flowers, rarely fossilise. □ [be v-ed] The survival of the proteins depends on the way in which bones are fossilised. □ [v-ed] ...fossilized dinosaur bones. VERB If you say that ideas, attitudes, or ways of behaving have fossilized or have been fossilized, you are criticizing the fact that they are fixed and unlikely to change, in spite of changing situations or circumstances. [DISAPPROVAL] □ [v n] What they seem to want to do in fact is fossilize the particular environment in which people live and work. □ [v] Needs change while policies fossilize. • fossilized ADJ □ ...these fossilized organisations.

foster /fɒstə/ AM fɒstə-/ (fosters, fostering, fostered) ADJ [ADJ N] Foster parents are people who officially take a child into their family for a period of time, without becoming the child's legal parents. The child is referred to as their foster child. □ Little Jack was placed with foster parents. VERB If you foster a child, you take it into your family for a period of time, without becoming its legal parent. □ [v n] She has since gone on to find happiness by fostering more than 100 children.

VERB To foster something such as an activity or idea means to help it to develop. □ [v n] He said that developed countries had a responsibility to foster global economic growth to help new democracies.

fought /fɔːt/ Fought is the past tense and past participle of fight.

foul /faʊl/ (fouler, foulest, fouls, fouling, fouled) ADJ If you describe something as foul, you mean it is dirty and smells or tastes unpleasant. □ ...foul polluted water. □ The smell was quite foul. ADJ [usu ADJ n] Foul language is offensive and

contains swear words or rude words. □ He was sent off for using foul language in a match last Sunday. □ He had a foul mouth.

ADJ [usu ADJ n] If someone has a foul temper or is in a foul mood, they become angry or violent very suddenly and easily. □ Collins was in a foul mood even before the interviews began. ADJ Foul weather is unpleasant, windy, and stormy. VERB If an animal fouls a place, it drops faeces onto the ground. □ [v n] It is an offence to let your dog foul a footpath. VERB In a game or sport, if a player fouls another player, they touch them or block them in a way which is not allowed according to the rules. □ [v n] Middlesbrough's Jimmy Phillips was sent off for fouling Steve Tilson. N-COUNT A foul is an act in a game or sport that is not allowed according to the rules. □ [+ on] He picked up his first booking for a 45th-minute foul on Bull. • ADJ [ADJ n] Foul is also an adjective. □ ...a foul tackle. PHRASE If you fall foul of someone or run foul of them, you do something which gets you into trouble with them. [mainly BRIT] □ He had fallen foul of the FBI.

foul-mouthed ADJ If you describe someone as foul-mouthed, you disapprove of them because they use offensive words or say very rude things. [DISAPPROVAL]

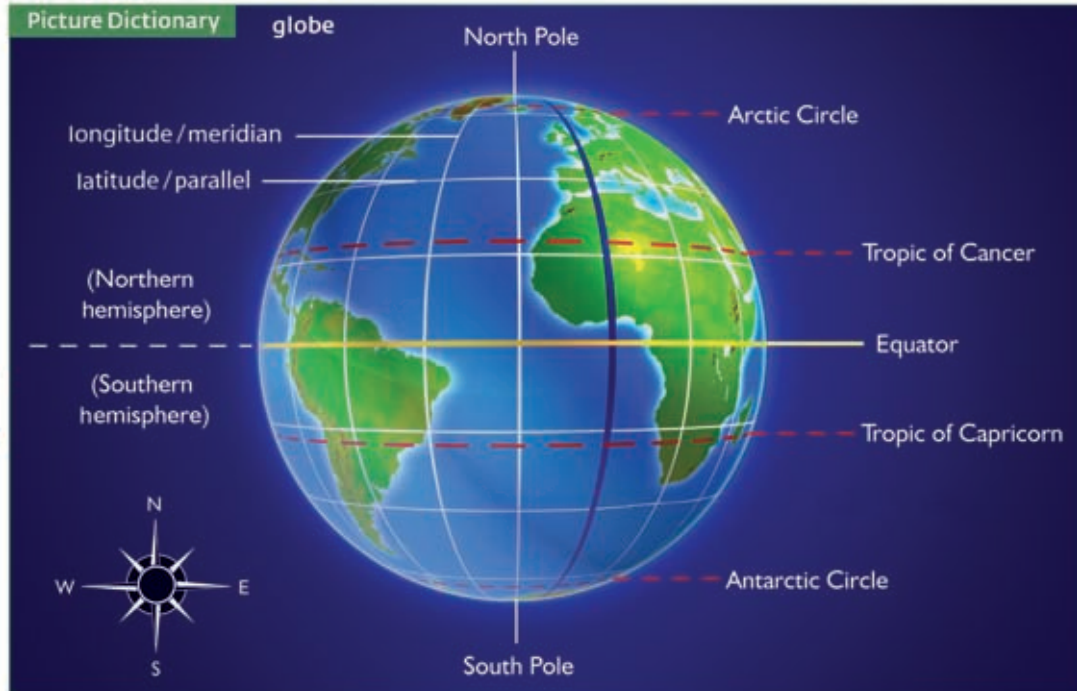
foul play N-UNCOUNT Foul play is criminal violence or activity that results in a person's death. □ The report says it suspects foul play was involved in the deaths of two journalists. N-UNCOUNT Foul play is unfair or dishonest behaviour, especially during a sports game. □ Players were warned twice for foul play.

foul-up (foul-ups) N-COUNT A foul-up is something that has gone badly wrong as a result of someone's mistakes or carelessness. [INFORMAL] □ A series of technical foul-ups delayed the launch of the new product.

found + /faʊnd/ (founds, founding, founded) VERB Found is the past tense and past participle of find. VERB When an institution, company, or organization is founded by someone or by a group of people, they get it started, often by providing the necessary money. □ [be v-ed] The Independent Labour Party was founded in Bradford on January 13, 1893. □ [v n] He founded the Centre for Journalism Studies at University College Cardiff. □ [v-ed] The business, founded by Dawn and Nigel, suffered financial setbacks. • foundation /faʊndəʃn/ N-SING [with poss] □ [+ of] ...the 150th anniversary of the foundation of Kew Gardens. • founding N-SING [with poss] □ I have been a member of the Sunday Times Wine Club since its founding in 1973. VERB [usu passive] When a town, important building, or other place is founded by someone or by a group of people, they cause it to be built. □ [be v-ed] The town was founded in 1610. → see also founded, founding

Word Link found = base : foundation, founded, founder

foundation + /faʊndəʃn/ (foundations) N-COUNT The foundation of something such as a belief or way of life is the things on which it is based. □ [+ of] The issue strikes at the very foundation of our community. □ [+ for] This laid the foundations for later modern economic growth. • PHRASE If an event shakes the foundations of a society or a system of beliefs, it causes great uncertainty and makes people question their most deeply held beliefs. □ [+ of] The destruction of war and the death of millions of young people shook the foundations of Western idealism. N-PLURAL The foundations of a building or other



of carbon dioxide and other gases in the atmosphere. □ The threat of global warming will eventually force the U.S. to slow down its energy consumption.

→ see air, greenhouse effect

Word Link globe = sphere : global, globe, globule

globe /glɒb/ (globes) **N-SING** You can refer to the world as the globe when you are emphasizing how big it is or that something happens in many different parts of it. □ ...bottles of beer from every corner of the globe. □ 70% of our globe's surface is water. **N-COUNT** A globe is a ball-shaped object with a map of the world on it. It is usually fixed on a stand. □ ...a globe of the world. □ Three large globes stand on the floor. **N-COUNT** Any ball-shaped object can be referred to as a globe. □ The overhead light was covered now with a white globe.

→ see Picture Dictionary: globe

globe artichoke (globe artichokes) → see artichoke

globe-trot (globe-trots, globe-trotting, globe-trotted) also **globetrot** **VERB** [usu cont] If someone spends their time globe-trotting, they spend a lot of time travelling to different parts of the world. [INFORMAL] □ [v] The son of a diplomat, he has spent much of his life globe-trotting. • **globe-trotting** **ADJ** □ ...globe-trotting academic superstars. • **globe-trotter** (globe-trotters) **N-COUNT** □ TV globe-trotter Alan Whicker was nearly burned alive by an angry mob in Egypt.

globular /glɒbjʊlə/ **ADJ** [usu ADJ n] A globular object is shaped like a ball. [FORMAL] □ The globular seed capsule contains numerous small seeds.

globule /glɒbjʊl/ (globules) **N-COUNT** [usu pl] Globules of a liquid or of a soft substance are tiny round particles of it. □ [+ of] ...globules of saliva. □ Our bone marrow contains fat in the form of small globules.

glockenspiel /glɒkənʃpi:l/ (glockenspiels) **N-COUNT** A glockenspiel is a musical instrument which consists of metal bars of different lengths arranged like the keyboard of a piano. You play the glockenspiel by hitting the bars with wooden hammers.

→ see percussion

gloom /glɒm/ **N-SING** [oft in/into N] The gloom is a state of near darkness. □ ...the gloom of a foggy November morning.

□ I was peering about me in the gloom. **N-UNCOUNT** [oft a N] Gloom is a feeling of sadness and lack of hope. □ ...the deepening gloom over the economy.

gloomy /glɒmi/ (gloomier, gloomiest) **ADJ** If a place is gloomy, it is almost dark so that you cannot see very well. □ Inside it's gloomy after all that sunshine. □ ...this huge gloomy church. **ADJ** If people are gloomy, they are unhappy and have no hope. □ Miller is gloomy about the fate of the serious playwright in America. • **gloomily** **ADV** [ADV with v] □ He tells me gloomily that he has been called up for army service. **ADJ** If a situation is gloomy, it does not give you much hope of success or happiness. □ They painted a gloomy picture of an economy sliding into recession. □ Officials say the outlook for next year is gloomy.

→ see weather

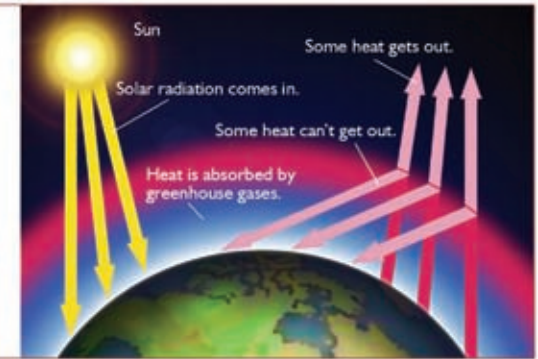
glorified /glɔːrɪfaɪd/ **ADJ** [ADJ n] You use glorified to indicate that something is less important or impressive than its name suggests. □ Sometimes they tell me I'm just a glorified waitress.

glorify /glɔːrɪfaɪ/ (glorifies, glorifying, glorified) **VERB** To glorify something means to praise it or make it seem good or special, usually when it is not. □ [v n] This magazine in no way glorifies gangs. □ [v n] ...the banning of songs glorifying war and racism. • **glorification** /glɔːrɪfɪkeɪʃn/ **N-UNCOUNT** □ ...the glorification of violence. □ ...a glorification of the past.

glorious /glɔːrɪəs/ **ADJ** Something that is glorious is very beautiful and impressive. □ She had missed the glorious blooms of the Mediterranean spring. □ ...a glorious Edwardian opera house. • **gloriously** **ADV** [usu ADV adj] □ ...gloriously embroidered costumes. **ADJ** If you describe something as glorious, you are emphasizing that it is wonderful and it makes you feel very happy. [EMPHASIS] □ The win revived glorious memories of his championship-winning days. □ We opened the windows and let in the glorious evening air. • **gloriously** **ADV** □ ...her gloriously happy love life. **ADJ** A glorious career, victory, or occasion involves great fame or success. □ Harrison had a glorious career spanning more than six decades. • **gloriously** **ADV** [usu ADV adj] □ But the mission was successful, gloriously successful. **ADJ** Glorious weather is hot and sunny. □ I got dressed and emerged into

Word Web greenhouse effect

Over the past 100 years, the global average temperature has risen dramatically. Researchers believe that this global warming comes from added carbon dioxide and other gases in the atmosphere. With water vapour, they form a shield that holds in heat. It acts a little like the glass in a greenhouse. Scientists call this the greenhouse effect. Some natural causes of this warming may include increased solar radiation and tiny changes in the earth's orbit. However, human activities, such as deforestation, and the use of fossil fuels seem to play a much more important role.



G to give someone the green light → see light → see colour, golf, rainbow

greenback /grɪn'bæk/ (greenbacks) **N-COUNT** A greenback is a banknote such as a dollar bill. [AM, INFORMAL]

green bean (green beans) **N-COUNT** [usu pl] Green beans are long narrow beans that are eaten as a vegetable.

green belt (green belts) **N-COUNT** A green belt is an area of land with fields or parks around a town or city, where people are not allowed to build houses or factories by law.

Green Beret (Green Berets) **N-COUNT** A Green Beret is a British or American commando. [INFORMAL]

green card (green cards) **N-COUNT** A green card is a document showing that someone who is not a citizen of the United States has permission to live and work there. □ Nicolette married Harry so she could get a green card.

greenery /grɪ'nɛəri/ **N-UNCOUNT** Plants that make a place look attractive are referred to as greenery. □ They have ordered a bit of greenery to brighten up the new wing at Guy's Hospital.

greenfield /grɪ'nfi:ld/ **ADJ** [ADJ n] Greenfield is used to refer to land that has not been built on before. □ The Government has ruled out the building of a new airport on a greenfield site.

greenfly /grɪ'nflaɪ/ (greenfly or greenflies) **N-COUNT** Greenfly are small green winged insects that damage plants.

green gage /grɪ'ngeɪdʒ/ (greengages) **N-COUNT** A greengage is a greenish-yellow plum with a sweet taste.

greengrocer /grɪ'ngrəʊsə/ (greengrocers) **N-COUNT** A greengrocer is a shopkeeper who sells fruit and vegetables. [mainly BRIT] **N-COUNT** A greengrocer or a greengrocer's is a shop where fruit and vegetables are sold. [mainly BRIT]

greenhouse /grɪ'nhaʊs/ (greenhouses) **N-COUNT** A greenhouse is a glass building in which you grow plants that need to be protected from bad weather. **ADJ** [ADJ n] Greenhouse means relating to or causing the greenhouse effect.

→ see barn

greenhouse effect **N-SING** The greenhouse effect is the problem caused by increased quantities of gases such as carbon dioxide in the air. These gases trap the heat from the sun, and cause a gradual rise in the temperature of the Earth's atmosphere.

→ see Word Web: greenhouse effect

greenhouse gas (greenhouse gases) **N-VAR** Greenhouse gases are the gases which are responsible for causing the greenhouse effect. The main greenhouse gas is carbon dioxide.

→ see biosphere

greening /grɪ'nɪŋ/ **N-SING** The greening of a person or organization means that the person or organization is becoming more aware of environmental issues. [JOURNALISM] □ [+ of] But the country has been slow to react to the greening of the rest of Europe.

greenish /grɪ'nɪʃ/ **ADJ** Greenish means slightly green in colour. □ ...his cold greenish eyes. • **ADJ** Greenish is also a combining form. □ ...greenish-yellow flowers.

green mail /grɪ:nmeɪl/ **N-UNCOUNT** Greenmail is when a company buys enough shares in another company to threaten a takeover and makes a profit if the other company buys back its shares at a higher price. [mainly AM, BUSINESS] □ Family control would prevent any hostile takeover or greenmail attempt.

green onion (green onions) **N-COUNT** Green onions are small onions with long green leaves. [mainly AM] □ In BRIT, usually use spring onions

Green Paper (Green Papers) **N-COUNT** In Britain, a Green Paper is a document containing ideas about a particular subject that is published by the Government so that people can discuss them before any decisions are made.

Green Party **N-PROPER** The Green Party is a political party that is particularly concerned about protecting the environment.

green pepper (green peppers) **N-COUNT** A green pepper is an unripe pepper that is used in cooking or eaten raw in salads.

green revolution also **Green Revolution** **N-SING** The green revolution is the increase in agricultural production that has been made possible by the use of new types of crops and new farming methods, especially in developing countries.

green room /grɪ'nru:m/ (greenrooms) also **green room** **N-COUNT** A green room is a room in a theatre or television studio where performers can rest.

green salad (green salads) **N-VAR** A green salad is a salad made mainly with lettuce and other green vegetables.

Greenwich Mean Time /grɛnɪtʃ mi:n taɪm/ → see GMT **greeny** /grɪ'ni/ **ADJ** Greeny means slightly green in colour. □ ...greeny sea water. • **ADJ** Greeny is also a combining form. □ ...a lightweight, greeny-grey wool suit.

greet /grɪ:t/ (greets, greeting, greeted) **VERB** When you greet someone, you say 'Hello' or shake hands with them. □ [v n] She liked to be home to greet Steve when he came in from school. **VERB** [usu passive] If something is greeted in a particular way, people react to it in that way. □ [be v-ed + with/by] The European Court's decision has been greeted with dismay by fishermen. □ [be v-ed adv] It is unlikely that this suggestion will be greeted enthusiastically in the Baltic States. **VERB** If you are greeted by something, it is the first thing you notice in a particular place. [WRITTEN] □ [be v-ed + by] I was greeted by a shocking sight. □ [v n] The savoury smell greeted them as they went through the door.

greeting /grɪ'tɪŋ/ (greetings) **N-VAR** A greeting is something friendly that you say or do when you meet someone. □ They exchanged greetings. □ He raised a hand in greeting.

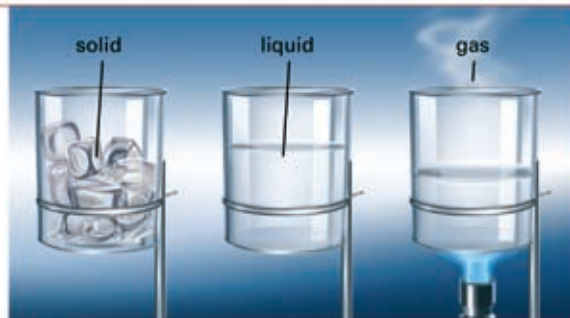
greetings card (greetings cards)

in AM, use greeting card

N-COUNT A greetings card is a folded card with a picture on the front and greetings inside that you give or send to someone, for example on their birthday.

Word Web matter

Matter exists in three states—solid, liquid, and gas. When a solid becomes hot enough, it **melts** and becomes a liquid. When a liquid is hot enough, it **evaporates** into a gas. The process also works the other way around. A gas which becomes very cool will **condense** into a liquid. And a liquid that is cooled enough will freeze and become a solid. Other changes in **state** are possible. Sublimation describes what happens when a solid, dry ice, turns directly into a gas, carbon dioxide. And did you know that glass is actually a liquid, not a solid?



that **matter had anyone else**. ■ CONVENTION You say 'it doesn't **matter**' to tell someone who is apologizing to you that you are not angry or upset, and that they should not worry. □ 'Did I wake you?' — 'Yes, but it doesn't **matter**.' ■ PHRASE If you say that something is **no laughing matter**, you mean that it is very serious and not something that you should laugh or joke about. □ Their behaviour is an offence. It's no laughing matter. ■ PHRASE If you say that something **makes matters worse**, you mean that it makes a difficult situation even more difficult. □ Don't let yourself despair; this will only make matters worse. ■ PHRASE You use **no matter** in expressions such as 'no **matter how**' and 'no **matter what**' to say that something is true or happens in all circumstances. □ No matter what your age, you can lose weight by following this program. ■ PHRASE If you say that you are going to do something **no matter what**, you are emphasizing that you are definitely going to do it, even if there are obstacles or difficulties. [EMPHASIS] □ He had decided to publish the manuscript no matter what. ■ PHRASE If you say that a statement is a **matter of opinion**, you mean that it is not a fact, and that other people, including yourself, do not agree with it. □ We're not that contrived. We're not that theatrical. — 'That's a matter of opinion.' ■ PHRASE If you say that something is just a **matter of time**, you mean that it is certain to happen at some time in the future. □ It would be only a matter of time before he went through with it. ■ a matter of life and death → see death ■ as a matter of course → see course ■ as a matter of fact → see fact ■ mind over matter → see mind

→ see Word Web: matter

matter-of-fact ADJ If you describe a person as **matter-of-fact**, you mean that they show no emotions such as enthusiasm, anger, or surprise, especially in a situation where you would expect them to be emotional. □ John was doing his best to give Francis the news in a matter-of-fact way. ■ **matter-of-factly** ADV [ADV after v] □ 'She thinks you're a spy,' Scott said matter-of-factly.

matting /mætiŋ/ N-UNCOUNT **Matting** is strong thick material, usually made from a material like rope, straw, or rushes, which is used as a floor covering.

matress /mætrəs/ (mattresses) N-COUNT A **mattress** is the large, flat object which is put on a bed to make it comfortable to sleep on. → see bed

maturation /mæʤʊreɪʃən/ ■ N-UNCOUNT The **maturation** of something such as wine or cheese is the process of its being left for a time to become mature. [FORMAL] □ The period of maturation is determined by the cellar master. ■ N-UNCOUNT The **maturation** of a young person's body is the process of it becoming like an adult's. [FORMAL]

mature /məʤʊə/ (matures, maturing, matured, maturer, maturest) ■ VERB When a child or young animal **matures**, it becomes an adult. □ [v] You will learn what to expect as your child matures physically. ■ VERB When something **matures**, it reaches a state of complete development. □ [v] When the trees matured they were cut in certain areas. ■ VERB If someone **matures**, they become more fully developed in their personality and emotional behaviour. □ [v] Hopefully after three years at university I will have matured. ■ ADJ If you describe

someone as **mature**, you think that they are fully developed and balanced in their personality and emotional behaviour. [APPROVAL] □ They are emotionally mature and should behave responsibly. □ We are both mature, freethinking adults. ■ VERB If something such as wine or cheese **matures** or is **matured**, it is left for a time to allow its full flavour or strength to develop. □ [v] Unlike wine, brandy matures only in wood, not glass. □ [be v-ed] ...the cellars where the cheeses are matured. ■ ADJ [usu ADJ n] **Mature** cheese or wine has been left for a time to allow its full flavour or strength to develop. □ Grate some mature cheddar cheese. ■ VERB When an investment such as a savings policy or pension plan **matures**, it reaches the stage when you stop paying money and the company pays you back the money you have saved, and the interest your money has earned. [BUSINESS] □ [v] These bonuses will be paid when your savings plan matures in ten years' time. ■ ADJ If you say that someone is **mature** or of **mature** years, you are saying politely that they are middle-aged or old. [POLITENESS] □ ...a man of mature years who had been in the job for longer than most of the members could remember.

mature student (mature students) N-COUNT A **mature student** is a person who begins their studies at university or college a number of years after leaving school, so that they are older than most of the people they are studying with. [BRIT]

in AM, use adult student

maturity /məʤʊəri/ (maturities) ■ N-UNCOUNT **Maturity** is the state of being fully developed or adult. □ Humans experience a delayed maturity; we arrive at all stages of life later than other mammals. ■ N-UNCOUNT Someone's **maturity** is their quality of being fully developed in their personality and emotional behaviour. □ Her speech showed great maturity and humanity. □ Many teenagers lack self-confidence and maturity. ■ N-VAR When an investment such as a savings policy or pension plan reaches **maturity**, it reaches the stage when you stop paying money and the company pays you back the money you have saved, and the interest your money has earned. [BUSINESS] □ Customers are told what their policies will be worth on maturity.

Thesaurus maturity Also look up:

n. adulthood, manhood, womanhood; (ant.) immaturity ■

maudlin /mɔːdlɪn/ ■ ADJ If you describe someone as **maudlin**, you mean that they are being sad and sentimental in a foolish way, perhaps because of drinking alcohol. □ Jimmy turned maudlin after three drinks. □ ...maudlin self-pity. ■ ADJ If you describe a song, book, or film as **maudlin**, you are criticizing it for being very sentimental. [DISAPPROVAL] □ ...the most maudlin song of all time. □ ...a hugely entertaining (if over-long and maudlin) movie.

maul /mɔːl/ (mauls, mauling, mauled) ■ VERB If you are **mauled** by an animal, you are violently attacked by it and badly injured. □ [be v-ed + by] He had been mauled by a bear. □ [v n] The dog went berserk and mauled one of the girls.

Maundy Thursday /mɔːndɪ θɜːzdeɪ/ N-UNCOUNT **Maundy Thursday** is the Thursday before Easter Sunday.

Word Web pollution

Pollution affects all aspects of the environment. Airborne emissions from industrial plants and vehicle **exhaust** cause air pollution. When these smoky emissions combine with fog, the result is **smog**. Airborne pollutants can travel long distances. **Acid rain** caused by factories in the Midwest falls on states to the east. There it damages trees and kills fish in lakes. Chemical waste from factories, **sewage**, and **garbage** have polluted the water and land in many areas. The overuse of **pesticides** and **fertilizers** have added to the problem. These chemicals accumulate in the soil and poison the earth.



pollinate /pɒlɪneɪt/ (pollinates, pollinating, pollinated) ■ VERB To **pollinate** a plant or tree means to fertilize it with pollen. This is often done by insects. □ [v n] Many of the indigenous insects are needed to pollinate the local plants.

• **pollination** /pɒlɪneɪʃn/ N-UNCOUNT □ Without sufficient **pollination**, the growth of the corn is stunted.

pollinator /pɒlɪneɪtə/ (pollinators) N-COUNT A **pollinator** is something which pollinates plants, especially a type of insect. [TECHNICAL]

polling /pɒlɪŋ/ N-UNCOUNT **Polling** is the act of voting in an election. □ There was a busy start to polling in today's elections. → see vote

polling booth (polling booths) ■ N-COUNT [usu pl] **Polling booths** are the places where people go to vote in an election. □ In Darlington, queues formed at some polling booths. ■ N-COUNT A **polling booth** is one of the partly enclosed areas in a polling station, where people can vote in private. □ When you are there, in the polling booth, nobody can see where you put your cross.

polling day N-UNCOUNT **Polling day** is the day on which people vote in an election. [mainly BRIT]

in AM, usually use election day

polling place (polling places) N-COUNT A **polling place** is the same as a polling station. [AM]

polling station (polling stations) N-COUNT A **polling station** is a place where people go to vote at an election. It is often a school or other public building. [BRIT] □ Queues formed even before polling stations opened.

in AM, use polling place

→ see election

Word Link ster = one who does : gangster, mobster, pollster

pollster /pɒlɪstə/ (pollsters) N-COUNT A **pollster** is a person or organization who asks large numbers of people questions to find out their opinions on particular subjects.

pollutant /pɒljʊtənt/ (pollutants) N-VAR **Pollutants** are substances that pollute the environment, especially gases from vehicles and poisonous chemicals produced as waste by industrial processes. □ A steady stream of California traffic clogs the air with pollutants.

pollute /pɒljʊt/ (pollutes, polluting, polluted) ■ VERB To **pollute** water, air, or land means to make it dirty and dangerous to live in or to use, especially with poisonous chemicals or sewage. □ [v n] Heavy industry pollutes our rivers with noxious chemicals. • **polluted** ADJ □ The police have warned the city's inhabitants not to bathe in the polluted river.

polluter /pɒljʊtə/ (polluters) N-COUNT A **polluter** is someone or something that pollutes the environment.

pollution /pɒljʊʃn/ ■ N-UNCOUNT **Pollution** is the process of polluting water, air, or land, especially with poisonous chemicals. □ [+ of] The fine was for the company's pollution of the air near its plants. □ Recycling also helps control environmental pollution by reducing the need for waste dumps.

■ N-UNCOUNT **Pollution** is poisonous or dirty substances that are polluting the water, air, or land somewhere. □ The level of pollution in the river was falling.

→ see Word Web: pollution

→ see air, factory, solar

polo /pɒləʊ/ ■ N-UNCOUNT **Polo** is a game played between two teams of players. The players ride horses and use wooden hammers with long handles to hit a ball. ■ → see also water polo

polo neck (polo necks) also **polo-neck** N-COUNT A **polo neck** or a **polo neck sweater** is a sweater with a high neck which folds over. [BRIT]

in AM, use turtleneck

polo shirt (polo shirts) N-COUNT A **polo shirt** is a soft short-sleeved piece of clothing with a collar, which you put on over your head.

poltergeist /pɒltəˈɡaɪst, AM pɒl-/ (poltergeists) N-COUNT A **poltergeist** is a ghost or supernatural force which is believed to move furniture or throw objects around.

poly /pɒli/ (polys) N-COUNT [oft in names] A **poly** is the same as a **polytechnic**. [mainly BRIT, INFORMAL] □ ...theatre design students from Birmingham Poly.

poly- /pɒli-/ PREFIX **Poly-** is used to form adjectives and nouns which indicate that many things or types of something are involved in something. For example, a polysyllabic word contains many syllables. □ He portrays the psyche as polycentric. □ ...polyclinics that integrate primary and secondary health care.

Word Link poly = many : polyester, polygamy, polyglot

polyester /pɒlɪstə/ AM -es-/ (polyesters) N-VAR **Polyester** is a type of artificial cloth used especially to make clothes. □ ...a green polyester shirt.

polyethylene /pɒlɪˈθiːlɪn/ N-UNCOUNT **Polyethylene** is a type of plastic made into thin sheets or bags and used especially to keep food fresh or to keep things dry. [mainly AM]

in BRIT, usually use polythene

polygamous /pɒlɪˈɡæməs/ ADJ In a **polygamous** society, people can be legally married to more than one person at the same time. A **polygamous** person, especially a man, is married to more than one person. □ Less than 1 percent of the men in any Muslim country are polygamous.

polygamy /pɒlɪˈɡæmi/ N-UNCOUNT **Polygamy** is the custom in some societies in which someone can be legally married to more than one person at the same time.

Word Link gloss, glot = language : gloss, glossary, polyglot

polyglot /pɒlɪˈglɒt/ (polyglots) ■ ADJ [usu ADJ n] **Polyglot** is used to describe something such as a book or society in which several different languages are used. [FORMAL] □ ...Chicago's polyglot population. ■ N-COUNT A **polyglot** is a person who speaks or understands many languages.

polygraph /pɒlɪˈɡrɑːf, -græf/ (polygraphs) N-COUNT A **polygraph** or a **polygraph test** is a test which is used by the police to try to find out whether someone is telling the truth. □ Hill's lawyers announced she had taken and passed a polygraph test.

polymer /pɒlɪmə/ (polymers) N-COUNT A **polymer** is a chemical compound with large molecules made of many smaller molecules of the same kind. Some polymers exist naturally and others are produced in laboratories and factories.

Word Web solar

Traditional fossil fuel energy sources are becoming scarce and expensive. They also cause environmental pollution. Recently scientists have turned to alternative sources of energy such as solar power. There are two ways of using the sun's energy. Thermal systems produce heat. Photovoltaic systems generate electricity.



Thermal systems use a solar collector. This is an insulated box with a transparent cover. It stores the sun's energy for use in household air or water heating systems. Photovoltaic systems use thin layers of semiconductor materials to change the sun's heat into electricity. They are commonly used to power calculators and solar-powered watches.



eyes slightly as though her words might somehow soil him. •soiled
ADJ □ ...a soiled white apron.

→ see farm, grassland, photosynthesis

soi·ree /sɔɪˈriː/, AM sɔɪˈriː/ (soirees) also **soirée** N-COUNT
A soiree is a social gathering held in the evening. [FORMAL]

sojourn /sɔɪˈdʒɔːn/, AM sɔɪˈdʒɔː-/ (sojourns) N-COUNT A
sojourn is a short stay in a place that is not your home.
[LITERARY]

solace /sɒlɪs/ N-UNCOUNT Solace is a feeling of comfort
that makes you feel less sad. [FORMAL] □ I found solace in
writing when my father died three years ago.

solar /sɒlə/ • ADJ [USU ADJ n] Solar is used to describe
things relating to the sun. □ A total solar eclipse is due to take
place some time tomorrow. • ADJ [USU ADJ n] Solar power is
obtained from the sun's light and heat.

→ see Word Web: solar

→ see eclipse, energy, greenhouse effect, photosynthesis

solar cell (solar cells) N-COUNT A solar cell is a device that
produces electricity from the sun's rays.

solarium /sɒləˈrɪəm/ (solariums) N-COUNT A solarium is
a place equipped with special lamps, where you can go to
get an artificial suntan.

solar plexus /sɒləˈplɛksəs/ N-SING Your solar plexus is
the part of your stomach, below your ribs, where it is
painful if you are hit hard.

solar system (solar systems) N-COUNT [USU SING] The
solar system is the sun and all the planets that go round it.
→ see Word Web: solar system

→ see galaxy

sold /sɒld/ Sold is the past tense and past participle of
sell.

solder /sɒldə/, AM sɒˈdɛr/ (solders, soldering, soldered)
• VERB If you solder two pieces of metal together, you join
them by melting a small piece of soft metal and putting it
between them so that it holds them together after it has
cooled. □ [v n] Fewer workers are needed to solder circuit boards.

• N-UNCOUNT Solder is the soft metal used for soldering.

soldering iron (soldering irons) N-COUNT A soldering iron
is a tool used to solder things together.

soldier • /sɒldʒɪə/ (soldiers, soldiering, soldiered)
N-COUNT A soldier is a person who works in an army,
especially a person who is not an officer.

• **soldier on** PHRASAL VERB If you soldier on at something,
you continue to do it although it is difficult or unpleasant.

Word Web solar system

The sun formed when a nebula turned into a star almost 5 billion years ago. All the planets, comets, and asteroids in our solar system started out in this nebula. Today they all orbit around the sun. The four planets closest to the sun are small and rocky. The next four consist mostly of gases. The outermost planet, Pluto, is a dwarf planet. It is composed of rock and ice. Many of the planets have moons orbiting them. Most asteroids are irregularly shaped and covered with craters. Only about 200 asteroids have diameters of over 100 kilometres.



□ [v p] The government has soldiered on as if nothing were wrong.
→ see war

soldierly /sɒldʒɪəli/ ADJ [USU ADJ n] If you act in a
soldierly way, you behave like a good or brave soldier.
[FORMAL] □ There was a great deal of soldierly good fellowship.

soldiery /sɒldʒɪəri/ N-UNCOUNT Soldiery is a group or body
of soldiers. [LITERARY] □ ...the distant shouts and songs of the
drunken soldiery.

sold out • ADJ [v-link ADJ] If a performance, sports event, or
other entertainment is sold out, all the tickets for it have
been sold. □ The premiere on Monday is sold out. • ADJ [v-link
ADJ] If a shop is sold out of something, it has sold all of it
that it had. □ [+ of] The stores are sometimes sold out of certain
groceries. • → see also sell out

sole /səʊl/ (soles) • ADJ [ADJ n] The sole thing or person of a
particular type is the only one of that type. □ Their sole aim is
to destabilize the Indian government. • ADJ [ADJ n] If you have
sole charge or ownership of something, you are the only
person in charge of it or who owns it. □ Many women are left
as the sole providers in families after their husband has died. □ Chief
Hart had sole control over that fund. • N-COUNT The sole of your
foot or of a shoe or sock is the underneath surface of it.
□ ...shoes with rubber soles. □ He had burned the sole of his foot.

• N-COUNT A sole is a kind of flat fish that you can eat.

• N-UNCOUNT Sole is this fish eaten as food.

→ see foot, fish

-soled /-səʊld/ COMB [USU ADJ n] -soled combines with
adjectives and nouns to form adjectives which describe
shoes with a particular kind of sole. □ The lad was wearing
rubber-soled shoes.

solely /səʊli/ ADV [ADV with v] If something involves solely
one thing, it involves only this thing and no others. □ This
program is a production of NPR, which is solely responsible for its
content.

solemn /sɒləm/ • ADJ Someone or something that is
solemn is very serious rather than cheerful or humorous.
□ His solemn little face broke into smiles. □ He looked solemn.

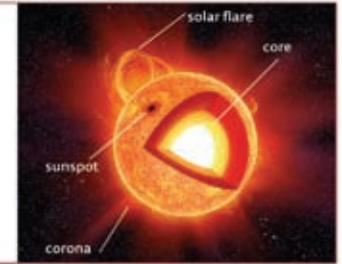
• **solemnity** /sɒləmɪti/ N-UNCOUNT □ [+ of] The setting for this
morning's signing ceremony matched the solemnity of the occasion.

• ADJ A solemn promise or agreement is one that you make
in a very formal, sincere way. □ ...a solemn pledge that he would
never remarry.

sole proprietor (sole proprietors) N-COUNT The sole
proprietor of a business is the owner of the business, when

Word Web sun

The sun's core contains hydrogen atoms. These atoms combine to form helium. This process is called fusion. It produces a core temperature of 15 million degrees Celsius. The corona is a layer of hot, glowing gases surrounding the sun. Large flames called solar flares also burn on the surface. Infrared and ultraviolet light are invisible parts of sunlight. Sometimes dark patches called sunspots appear on the sun. They occur in eleven-year cycles. Scientists believe that sunspots affect the growth of plant life on Earth. They also affect radio transmissions.



Summer school is a summer term at a school, college, or
university, for example for students who need extra
teaching or who want to take extra courses. [mainly AM]

summer time also **summertime** • N-UNCOUNT [oft the N]
Summer time is the period of time during which the
summer lasts. □ It's a very beautiful place in the summertime.

• → see also British Summer Time

summery /sʌməri/ ADJ Something that is summery is
suitable for summer or characteristic of summer. □ ...light
summery fruit salads.

summing-up (summings-up) also **summing up** N-COUNT
In a trial, the judge's summing-up is the speech the judge
makes at the end of the trial to remind the jury of the
evidence and the main arguments of the case they have
heard. □ There was pandemonium in court as the judge gave his
summing-up.

summit • /sʌmɪt/ (summits) • N-COUNT A summit is a
meeting at which the leaders of two or more countries
discuss important matters. □ ...next week's Washington summit.
□ ...the NATO summit meeting in Rome. • N-COUNT The summit
of a mountain is the top of it. □ ...the first man to reach the
summit of Mount Everest.

→ see mountain

summon /sʌmən/ (summons, summoning, summoned)
• VERB If you summon someone, you order them to come to
you. [FORMAL] □ [v n] Howe summoned a doctor and hurried over.

□ [be v-ed prep/adv] Suddenly we were summoned to the interview
room. □ [be v-ed to-inf] He has been summoned to appear in court
on charges of incitement to law-breaking. • VERB If you summon
a quality, you make a great effort to have it. For example, if
you summon the courage or strength to do something, you
make a great effort to be brave or strong, so that you will be
able to do it. □ [v n] It took her a full month to summon the
courage to tell her mother. • PHRASAL VERB Summon up means
the same as summon. □ [v p n] Painfully shy, he finally
summoned up courage to ask her to a game.

• **summon up** PHRASAL VERB If something summons up a
memory or thought, it causes it to come to your mind.

[LITERARY] □ [v p n] The oddest events will summon up memories.

summons /sʌmənz/ (summonses, summoning,
summoned) • N-COUNT A summons is an order to come and
see someone. □ I received a summons to the Palace from Sir Robert
Fellows, the Queen's private secretary. • N-COUNT A summons is
an official order to appear in court. □ She had received a
summons to appear in court. • VERB [USU PASSIVE] If someone is
summoned, they are officially ordered to appear in court.

□ [be v-ed] The men were summonsed and last week 30 appeared
before Hove magistrates.

sumo /suːmoʊ/ N-UNCOUNT [oft n n] Sumo is the Japanese
style of wrestling. □ ...a sumo wrestler.

sump /sʌmp/ (sumps) • N-COUNT [oft n n] The sump is the
place under an engine which holds the engine oil. [mainly
BRIT]

• **in AM, use oil pan**

• N-COUNT A sump is a deep cave which is often filled with
water.

sumptuous /sʌmptʃuəs/ ADJ Something that is
sumptuous is grand and obviously very expensive. □ She
produces elegant wedding gowns in a variety of sumptuous fabrics.

sum total N-SING The sum total of a number of things is
all the things added or considered together. You often use
this expression to indicate that you are disappointed
because the total amount is rather small. □ [+ of] That small
room contained the sum total of the family's possessions.

sun • /sʌn/ (suns) • N-SING The sun is the ball of fire in
the sky that the Earth goes round, and that gives us heat
and light. □ The sun was now high in the southern sky. □ The sun
came out, briefly. □ ...the sun's rays. □ The sun was shining.

• N-UNCOUNT You refer to the light and heat that reach us
from the sun as the sun. □ Deno took them into the courtyard to
sit in the sun. • N-COUNT A sun is any star which has planets
going around it. • PHRASE Everything under the sun means
a very great number of things. Anything under the sun
means anything at all. □ We sat there for hours talking about
everything under the sun. • a place in the sun → see place
→ see Word Web: sun

→ see astronomer, earth, eclipse, navigation, solar, solar
system, star

Sun. Sun. is a written abbreviation for Sunday. □ The Palace
is open Mon-Sun.

sun-baked ADJ [ADJ n] Sun-baked land or earth has been
made hard and dry by the sun shining on it. □ ...a dry, sun-
baked lawn.

sunbathe /sʌnbəθ/ (sunbathes, sunbathing, sunbathed)
VERB When people sunbathe, they sit or lie in a place where
the sun shines on them, so that their skin becomes
brown. □ [v] Franklin swam and sunbathed at the pool every
morning. • sunbather (sunbathers) N-COUNT □ A week ago
Bournemouth beach was thronged with sunbathers soaking up the 80
degrees heat. • sunbathing N-UNCOUNT □ Nearby there is a
stretch of white sand beach perfect for sunbathing.

sunbeam /sʌnbɪm/ (sunbeams) N-COUNT A sunbeam is a
ray of sunlight. □ A sunbeam slants through the west window.

sunbed /sʌnbɛd/ (sunbeds) N-COUNT A sunbed is a piece of
equipment with ultraviolet lights. You lie on it to make your
skin browner.

sunbelt /sʌnbelt/ N-SING The warmer, sunnier parts of a
country or continent, especially the southern United States,
are sometimes referred to as the sunbelt. □ During the last
recession, migration to the sunbelt accelerated.

sunblock /sʌnblok/ (sunblocks) N-VAR Sunblock is a cream
which you put on your skin to protect it completely from the
sun.

sunburn /sʌnbɜːn/ (sunburns) N-VAR If someone has
sunburn, their skin is bright pink and sore because they
have spent too much time in hot sunshine. □ The risk and
severity of sunburn depend on the body's natural skin colour. □ I was
concerned that I was not protected and would get a sunburn.

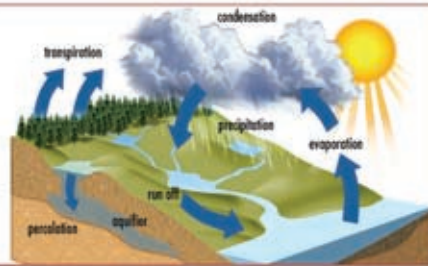
→ see skin

sunburnt /sʌnbɜːnt/ also **sunburned** • ADJ Someone
who is sunburnt has sore bright pink skin because they have
spent too much time in hot sunshine. □ A badly sunburned face
or back is extremely painful. • ADJ Someone who is sunburnt has
very brown skin because they have spent a lot of time in the
sunshine. □ Mr Cooper looked fit and sunburnt.

sunburst /sʌnbɜːst/ (sunbursts) N-COUNT A sunburst is a
pattern or design that resembles the sun with rays coming
from it. □ ...a bronze sunburst pendant.

Word Web water

Water changes its form in the hydrologic cycle. The sun warms oceans, lakes, and rivers. This causes some water to **evaporate**. Evaporation creates a gas called **water vapour**. Plants also give off water vapour through **transpiration**. Water vapour rises into the **atmosphere**. When it hits cooler air, it **condenses** into drops of water and forms **clouds**. When these drops get heavy enough, they begin to fall. They form different types of **precipitation**. Rain forms in warm air. Cold air creates freezing rain, sleet, and snow.

water **water** (waters, watering, watered)

N-UNCOUNT Water is a clear thin liquid that has no colour or taste when it is pure. It falls from clouds as rain and enters rivers and seas. All animals and people need water in order to live. **Get me a glass of water.** **...the sound of water hammering on the metal roof.** **...a trio of children playing along the water's edge.** **N-PLURAL** You use **waters** to refer to a large area of sea, especially the area of sea which is near to a country and which is regarded as belonging to it. **The ship will remain outside Chinese territorial waters.** **[+ of] ...the open waters of the Arctic Ocean.** **N-PLURAL [adj N]** You sometimes use **waters** to refer to a situation which is very complex or difficult. **...the man brought in to guide him through troubled waters.** **The British Government may be in stormy economic waters.** **VERB** If you **water** plants, you pour water over them in order to help them to grow. **[v n] He went out to water the plants.** **VERB** If your eyes **water**, tears build up in them because they are hurting or because you are upset. **[v] His eyes watered from cigarette smoke.** **VERB** If you say that your mouth is **watering**, you mean that you can smell or see some nice food and you might mean that your mouth is producing a liquid. **[v] ...cookies to make your mouth water.** **→ see also mouth-watering** **PHRASE** When a pregnant woman's **waters break**, the fluid in her womb that surrounds the baby passes out of her body, showing that the baby is ready to be born. A doctor or midwife can **break a woman's waters** so that the birth can begin. **[v] My waters broke at six in the morning and within four hours Jamie was born.** **PHRASE** If you say that an event or incident is **water under the bridge**, you mean that it has happened and cannot now be changed, so there is no point in worrying about it any more. **[v] He was relieved his time in jail was over and regarded it as water under the bridge.** **PHRASE** If you are in **deep water**, you are in a difficult or awkward situation. **[v] I could tell that we were getting off the subject and into deep water.** **PHRASE** If an argument or theory does not **hold water**, it does not seem to be reasonable or to be in accordance with the facts. **[v] This argument simply cannot hold water in Europe.** **PHRASE** If you are in **hot water**, you are in trouble. **[INFORMAL] [v] The company has already been in hot water over high prices this year.** **PHRASE** If you **pour cold water** on an idea or suggestion, you show that you have a low opinion of it. **[v] City economists pour cold water on the idea that the economic recovery has begun.** **PHRASE** If you **test the water** or **test the waters**, you try to find out what reaction an action or idea will get before you do it or tell it to people. **[v] You should be cautious when getting involved and test the water before committing yourself.** **PHRASE** **like water off a duck's back** → see **duck** **PHRASE** **to take to something like a duck to water** → see **duck** **PHRASE** **to keep your head above water** → see **head** **PHRASE** **water down** **PHRASAL VERB** If you **water down** a substance, for example food or drink, you add water to it to make it weaker. **[v p n] You can water down a glass of wine and make it last twice as long.** **[v n p] I bought a water-based paint, then decided to water it down even more.** **VERB** If something such as a proposal, speech, or statement is **watered down**, it is made much weaker and less forceful, or less likely to make people angry. **[be v-ed] Proposed legislation affecting bird-keepers has been watered down.** **→ see also watered-down** → see **Word Web: water** → see **biosphere, erosion, glacier, greenhouse effect, lake, ocean, photosynthesis, plumbing, precipitation**

waterbed (waterbeds) also water bed

N-COUNT A **waterbed** is a bed which consists of a plastic case filled with water.

water bird (water birds) **N-COUNT** A **water bird** is a bird that swims or walks in water, especially lakes and rivers. There are many kinds of water bird.

water-borne also **waterborne** **ADJ [ADJ n]** A **water-borne** disease or infection is one that people can catch from infected water. **ADJ [ADJ n]** Something that is **water-borne** travels or is transported on water. **[v] ...a water-borne safari down the Nile.** **Environmental pressures are strengthening the case for waterborne freight.**

water bottle (water bottles) **N-COUNT** A **water bottle** is a small container for carrying water to drink on a long journey. **→ see also hot-water bottle**

water buffalo (water buffaloes or water buffalo) **N-COUNT** A **water buffalo** is an animal like a large cow with long horns that curve upwards. In some countries water buffalo are kept for their milk and are used to draw ploughs.

water butt (water butts) **N-COUNT** A **water butt** is a large barrel for collecting rain as it flows off a roof. **[BRIT]**

in AM, use rain barrel

water cannon (water cannons or water cannon) **N-COUNT** A **water cannon** is a machine which shoots out a large, powerful stream of water. It is used by police to break up crowds of people who are protesting or fighting.

water chestnut (water chestnuts) **N-COUNT** A **water chestnut** is the thick bottom part of the stem of a plant which grows in China. It is used in Chinese cookery.

water colour /wɔːtə'kɒlə/ (watercolours)

in AM, use watercolor

N-VAR **Watercolours** are coloured paints, used for painting pictures, which you apply with a wet brush or dissolve in water first. **[v] ...a collection of rich paintings in watercolour, acrylic and oil.** **N-COUNT** A **watercolour** is a picture which has been painted with watercolours. **[v] ...a watercolour by J. M. W. Turner.**

water cooler (water coolers) **N-COUNT** A **water cooler** is a machine that dispenses drinking water, especially in an office. **[mainly AM]** **N-SING** **Water cooler** is used in expressions that refer to the informal conversations that people have in their office or workplace. **[v] Three out of four Americans watched Roots, and then the next day could talk about race relations at the water cooler.**

watercourse /wɔːtə'kɔːs/ (watercourses) also **water course** **N-COUNT** A **watercourse** is a stream or river, or the channel that it flows along. **[FORMAL]**

watercress /wɔːtə'kres/ **N-UNCOUNT** **Watercress** is a small plant with white flowers which grows in streams and pools. Its leaves taste hot and are eaten raw in salads.

watered-down also **watered down** **ADJ** If you describe something such as a proposal, speech, or statement as **watered-down**, you mean that it is weaker or less forceful than its original form. **[v] The British government introduced a watered-down version of the proposals.** **→ see also water down**

waterfall /wɔːtə'fɔːl/ (waterfalls) **N-COUNT** A **waterfall** is a place where water flows over the edge of a steep, high cliff in hills or mountains, and falls into a pool below. **[v] ...Angel Falls, the world's highest waterfall.**

Word Web weather

Researchers believe the **weather** affects our bodies and minds. When **atmospheric pressure** drops before a **storm**, some people get migraine headaches. The difference in pressure may change the blood flow in the brain. **Damp, humid** weather leads to increased problems with arthritis. A sudden **heat wave** can produce heatstroke. Seasonal affective disorder or **SAD** occurs during the short, **gloomy** days of winter. As the word "sad" suggests, people with this condition feel depressed. The bitter cold of a **blizzard** can cause frostbite. The hot, **dry** Santa Ana winds* in southern California create confusion and depression in some people.

Santa Ana winds: strong, hot, dry winds that blow in southern California in autumn and early spring.



WEAR ON **PHRASAL VERB** If you say that time **wears on**, you mean that it passes, especially when it seems to pass slowly. **[v p] As the day wore on Brand found himself increasingly impressed.**

WEAR OUT **PHRASAL VERB** When something **wears out** or when you **wear it out**, it is used so much that it becomes thin or weak and unable to be used any more. **[v p] Every time she consulted her watch, she wondered if the batteries were wearing out.** **[v n p] Horses used for long-distance riding tend to wear their shoes out more quickly.** **[v p n] He wore out his shoes wandering around Mexico City.** **PHRASAL VERB** If something **wears you out**, it makes you feel extremely tired. **[INFORMAL] [v n p] The past few days had really worn him out.** **[v] The young people run around kicking a ball, wearing themselves out.** **[v p n] The effect of the continuous attacks has been to wear out his troops.** **→ see also worn out** **→ see make-up**

Word Partnership Use wear with:

N. wear black/red/white, wear clothes, wear contact lenses, wear glasses, wear gloves, wear a hat/helmet, wear a jacket, wear jeans, wear make-up, wear a mask, wear a suit, wear a uniform **ADJ.** casual wear, day wear, evening wear **→ see make-up**

wearable /weɪəbəl/ **ADJ** **Wearable** clothes are practical, comfortable, and suitable for ordinary people to wear, rather than being very unusual or extreme. **[v] It's fashionable but wearable, and it's easy to look after.**

wear and tear /weɪəŋ teə/ **N-UNCOUNT** **Wear and tear** is the damage or change that is caused to something when it is being used normally. **[+ on] ...the problem of wear and tear on the equipment in the harsh desert conditions.**

wearer /weɪə/ (wearers) **N-COUNT [n n]** You can use **wearer** to indicate that someone is wearing a certain thing on a particular occasion or that they often wear a certain thing. **[v] These suits are designed to protect the wearer from cold shock as they enter the water.** **[v] The mascara is suitable for contact lens wearers.** **[Also + of]**

wearing /weɪrɪŋ/ **ADJ [usu v-link ADJ]** If you say that a situation or activity is **wearing**, you mean that it requires a lot of energy and makes you feel mentally or physically tired. **[v] She finds the continual confrontation very wearing.**

wearisome /weɪrɪsəm/ **ADJ** If you describe something as **wearisome**, you mean that it is very tiring and boring or frustrating. **[FORMAL] [v] ...a long and wearisome journey.** **[v] Sympathising with him eventually becomes somewhat wearisome.**

weary /weɪri/ (wearies, wearying, wearied, wearier, weariest) **ADJ** If you are **weary**, you are very tired. **[v] Rachel looked pale and weary.** **[v] ...a weary traveller.** **ADJ** If you are **weary** of something, you have become tired of it and have lost your enthusiasm for it. **[+ of] They're getting awfully weary of this silly war.** **VERB** If you **weary** of something or it **wearies** you, you become tired of it and lose your enthusiasm for it. **[FORMAL] [v + of] The public had wearied of**

his repeated warnings of a revolution that never seemed to start. **[v n] The political hysteria soon wearied him and he dropped the newspaper to the floor.**

weasel /weɪzəl/ (weasels) **N-COUNT** A **weasel** is a small wild animal with a long thin body, a tail, short legs, and reddish-brown fur.

weather /weðə/ (weathers, weathering, weathered) **N-UNCOUNT** The **weather** is the condition of the atmosphere in one area at a particular time, for example if it is raining, hot, or windy. **[v] The weather was bad.** **[v] I like cold weather.** **[v] Fishing is possible in virtually any weather.** **[v] ...the weather conditions.** **VERB** If something such as wood or rock **weathers** or is **weathered**, it changes colour or shape as a result of the wind, sun, rain, or cold. **[v] Unpainted wooden furniture weathers to a grey colour.** **[be v-ed] This rock has been weathered and eroded.** **[Also v n] •weathered ADJ** **The facade of the building was a little weathered.** **[v] The man had a worn, weathered face.** **VERB** If you **weather** a difficult time or a difficult situation, you survive it and are able to continue normally after it has passed or ended. **[v n] The government has weathered its worst political crisis.** **to weather the storm** → see **storm** **PHRASE** If you say that someone is **making heavy weather** of a task, you are critical of them because they are doing it in an inefficient way and are making it seem more difficult than it really is. **[BRIT, DISAPPROVAL] [v] Some of the riders in this section made heavy weather of the cross-country race.** **PHRASE** If you say that you are **under the weather**, you mean that you feel slightly ill. **[v] I was still feeling a bit under the weather.** **→ see Word Web: weather** **→ see forecast, storm**

Usage weather and whether

Weather and **whether** sound exactly alike, but are very different. **Weather** refers to the conditions out of doors - hot or cold, wet or dry, cloudy or clear; **whether** refers to alternative situations: **Umar doesn't care whether it's rainy or sunny outside - he likes running through the park in all kinds of weather.**

Word Partnership Use weather with:

ADJ. bad weather, clear weather, cold weather, cool weather, dry weather, fair weather, good weather, hot weather, inclement weather, mild weather, nice weather, rainy weather, rough weather, severe weather, stormy weather, sunny weather, warm weather, wet weather **N.** weather conditions, weather prediction, weather report, weather service **V.** weather permitting **→ see make-up**

weather-beaten also **weatherbeaten** **ADJ [usu ADJ n]** If your face or skin is **weather-beaten**, it is rough with deep lines because you have spent a lot of time outside in bad weather. **[v] ...a stout man with a ruddy, weather-beaten face.** **ADJ** Something that is **weather-beaten** is rough and slightly damaged after being outside for a long time. **[v] They would**



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