A1, a /ə/ strong /iː/ determiner (also an) NOT PARTICULAR - 1 (a) used before a noun to refer to a single thing or person that has not been mentioned before a particular thing or person: I've bought a cat. «She's got a boyfriend.» There was a sudden loud noise. «Is he a friend of yours (= one of your friends)?» 2 (a) used to say what type of thing or person something or someone is: She wants to be a doctor when she grows up. «This is a very mild cheese.» Experts think the pandemic may be a Piscass (= Piscassio) for music. 3 (a) used to mean any or every thing or person of the type you are referring to: Can you ride a bike? «A cheetah can run faster than a lion.» A teacher needs to have a lot of patience. 4 used before some UNCOUNTABLE nouns when you want to limit their meaning: I have a lot of books, such as when describing them more completely or referring to one example of them: I only have a limited knowledge of Spanish. «He has a great love of music.» «There was a fierceness in her voice.» 5 (a) used before some nouns of action when referring to one example of the action: Take a look at this, Jen. «I'm just going to have a wash.» There was a knocking at the door. 6 (a) used when referring to a unit or container of something, especially something you eat or drink: I'll have a coffee. «All I had for lunch was a yogurt.» 7 (a) used before the first but not the second of two nouns that are referred to as one unit: a cup and saucer «a knife and fork» 8 (a) used before some words that express a number or amount: a few days «a bit of work» a lot of money 9 used in front of a person's name when referring to someone who you do not know: There's a Ms Evans to see you. 10 used before the name of a day or month to refer to one example of it: My birthday is on a Friday this year. «It's been a very wet June.» ONE 1 1 one: a hundred «a thousand» a dozen «there were three men and a woman.» 12 (a) used between a fraction and a unit of measurement: half a mile «a quarter of an hour» six tenths of a second 13 (a) used when saying how often something happens in a certain period: Take one tablet three times a day. «I swim once a week.» 14 (a) used when saying how much someone earns or how much something costs in a certain period: She earns $100,000 a year. «My plumber charges £20 an hour.»

A2 /eər/ noun [C] (plural A2s) a public exam taken in England and Wales by children aged 17 or 18. Students take as LEVEL exams when A2s, usually a year later, which together make up a full A LEVEL qualification. «See also A LEVEL, A2 LEVEL.»

A3 /eərˈthr/ noun [U] paper that is a standard size of 29.7 centimetres by 42 centimetres: a sheet of A3 «A3 paper»

A4 /ˈeərˌfɔːs/ [F]/ˈeərˌfɔːs/ noun [U] paper that is a standard size of 21 centimetres by 29.7 centimetres: a sheet of A4 «A4 paper»

AAA /eɪˈeɪ/ noun DEGREE - 1 [C] abbreviation for Associate in Arts: a degree given by an American college to someone after they have finished a two-year course, or a person who has this degree

AABC /eɪˈeɪ/ noun abbreviation for Associate in Business: an organization in the US that gives help and information to drivers who are members of it

AAH /eɪˈeɪ/ noun abbreviation for American Auto-Mobile Association: an organization in the US that gives help and information to drivers who are members of it

A B /eɪbɪ/ noun [C] US for BA

A C B /eɪbɪ/ noun [C] UK for Bachelor of Arts

A1 common mistake: a or an? Use an in front of words that begin with a vowel sound; Don't say 'a animal' or 'a old building', say an animal or an old building. Warning: do not use a or an to refer to uncountable nouns:

- I have an exciting news for you.
- I have some exciting news for you.
- I have an exciting piece of news for you.

DEFINING

- More information

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abase /əbˈeɪs/ verb formal base yourself to make yourself seem less important or not to deserve respect • abase oneself in/against noun [U] The pilgrims knelt in self-abasement.

abashed /əˈbaʃt/ adj [after verb] embarrassed: He said nothing but looked abashed.

abate /əˈbeɪt/ verb [T] to become less strong: The storm/rain has started to abate. • The fighting in the area shows no sign of abating. • See also unabated • abatement -ment noun [U] (mainly US)

abattoir /əˈbaːtɔːr/ noun [C] (mainly US) a place where animals are killed for their meat

abbeys /əˈbeɪs/ noun [pl] (C) a woman who is in charge of a convent

abbey /əˈbeɪ/ or /ˈeɪb/ noun [C] a building where monks or nuns live or are used to live. Some abbeys are now used as churches: Westminster Abbey

abbot /əˈbeɪt/ or /ˈeɪb/ noun [C] a man who is in charge of a monastery

abbreviate /əˈbiːvɪət / verb [T usually passive] to make a word or phrase shorter by using only the first letters of each word: 'Daniel' is often abbreviated to 'Dan'. • Abbreviation is abbreviated as 'CEO'. • abbreviated /əˈbiːvɪətɪd/ or /-tɪd/ adj 'Di' is the abbreviated form of 'Diane'.

abbreviation /əˈbiːvɪəʃən/ noun [C] a short form of a word or phrase: 'ITV' is the abbreviation for 'Independent Television'.

ABC /eɪˈbiːsɛi/ noun [C] Alphabet • 1 [S] (US usually ABCs [plural]) the alphabet: He’s learning his ABC at school. 2 [S] (US usually ABCs [plural]) basic information about a subject: What I need is a book that contains the ABCs of carpentry. • 3 abbreviation for American Broadcasting Company: an organization that broadcasts on television in the US, the ABC for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation; an organization that broadcasts on radio and television in Australia and is paid for by the government

abide /əˈbaɪd/ verb KING/QUEEN • 1 [T or I] If a king or queen abides, or she makes a formal statement that she or he no longer wants to be king or queen: King Edward VIII abdicated (the British throne) in 1936.

abdicate /əˈbaɪdɪkt/ verb [T] to force someone to go somewhere with you, often using threats or violence: The company director was ab ducted from his car by terrorists. • abductor /əˈbaɪdɪktər/ noun [C] She was tortured by her abductors. • abduction /əˈbaɪdɪkʃən/ noun [C or U] There has been a series of abductions of young children from schools in the area.

aberrant /əˈbeərənt/ adj formal different from what is typical or usual, especially in an unacceptable way: aberrant behaviour/sexuality

aberration /əˈbɛrəʃən/ noun [C or U] formal a temporary change from the typical or usual way of behaving: In a moment of aberration, she agreed to go with him. • I'm sorry I'm late - I had a mental aberration and forgot we had a meeting today.

abet /əˈbet/ verb [T] (to) to help or encourage someone to do something wrong or illegal: His accountant had aided and abetted him in the fraud. • abettor /əˈbetər/ noun [C] (also abettor) noun

abeyance /əˈbiːəns/ noun [U] formal a state of not happening or being used at present: Hostilities between the two groups have been in abeyance since last June. The project is being held in abeyance until agreement is reached.

abhor /əˈhɒər/ verb [T] (not continuous) to hate something or someone: I abhor all forms of racism.

abhorrence /əˈhɒrəns/ noun [C or U] formal a feeling of hating something or someone: She looked at him in utmost abhorrence. • She has an abhorrence of change.

abhorrent /əˈhɒrənt/ adj formally very bad: an abhorrent crime • Racism of any kind is abhorrent to me.

abide /əˈbaɪd/ verb [T] If you can’t abide someone or something, you dislike them very much: I can’t abide her. • He couldn’t abide laziness.

ability /əˈbɪlɪtɪ/ noun [C or U] formal the physical or mental power or skill needed to do something: There’s no doubting her ability. • [+ to infinitive] She had the ability to explain things clearly and concisely. • She’s a woman of considerable abilities.

- I have children in my class of very mixed abilities

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More information
ablution /əˈblʌʃən/ noun [U] the act of washing yourself: Ablution is part of some religious ceremonies. 2 ablutions [plural] humorous Your ablutions are the things you do when you wash yourself. I must just perform my ablutions!

able /əˈbləb/ adjective describes someone who is healthy and has no illness, injury, or condition that makes it difficult to do the things that other people do: All able-bodied young men were forced to join the army.

the _able-bodied_ noun [plural]

ablation /əˈbleɪʃən/ noun formal 1 [U] the act of removing something: Ablation is part of some religious ceremonies. 2 ablations [plural] humorous Your ablations are the things you do when you wash yourself. I must just perform my ablations!

able /əˈbləb/ adjective skilfully: He performs his duties very ably.

abnegate /əˈbɛnjɪg/ verb [T] formal to not allow yourself to have something, especially something you like or want 2 to not accept something, or to say that you do not have something: to abnegate responsibility/guilt • abnegation /əbˈnɛʃən/ noun [U]

abnormal /əˈbɜːnəl/ adjective different from what is usual or average, especially in a way that is bad: abnormal behaviour/weather/conditions • Tests revealed some abnormal skin cells. • abnormally /əˈbɜːrnəl/ adverb

abnormality /əˈbɜːrnələtɪ/ noun [C or U] something abnormal, usually in the body: genetic/congenital abnormalities • An increasing number of tests are available for detecting foetal abnormalities. • The Khareys showed some slight abnormality.

Abol /əˈbɒl/ adjective British English offensive word for an Aborigine

Abolish /əˈbɒlɪʃ/ verb [T] to cause something to be no longer recognized or permitted: National Service was abolished in the UK in 1962. • abolition /əˈbɒlɪʃn/ noun [U] the act of abolishing abolitionist /əˈbɒlɪʃn ɪst/ noun [C] a person who supports the abolition of something

abominable /əˈbɒmənəbl/ adjective very bad or unpleasant: The prisoners are forced to live in abominable conditions. • the weather’s been abominable all week. • abominably /əˈbɒmənəbli/ adverb He behaved abominably towards her.

Abominable Snowman noun [C] a yeti

abominate /əˈbɒmɪneɪt/ verb [T] to hate something very much: abominable • continuous] formal to hate something very much: He abominates cruelty of all kinds.

abomination /əˈbɒmɪneɪʃn/ noun [C] formal something that you dislike and disapprove of: Cruelty to animals is an abomination.

aboriginal /əˈbɒrɪɡənl/ adjective describes a person or living thing that has existed in a country or continent since the earliest time known to people: aboriginal forests • aboriginal inhabitants

aboriginal /əˈbɒrɪɡənl/ noun [C] an Aborigine • Aboriginal adj Aboriginal art/traditions

Aborigine /əˈbɒrɪɡɪn/ noun [C] a member of the race of people with dark skins who were the first people to live in Australia

abort /əˈbɔːrt/ verb [T] to cause something to stop or fail before it begins or before it is complete: The plan/fight had to be aborted at the last minute.

END PREGNANCY • 2 [T] to stop the development of a baby that has not been born, usually by having a medical operation: Do you think it’s wrong to use abortion foetuses for medical research? 3] another word for miscarry (miscarriage)

abortion /əˈbɔːtʃən/ noun [U] END OF PREGNANCY • 1 [C] or [U] the intentional ending of a
abortionist

4

Common mistake: about or regarding;

Warning: about is usually only used to introduce a topic in informal styles.

In formal writing, don't use 'About …', use 'Regarding …' or 'With regard to …'.

About my wages, I kindly request that you review the situation.

Common alternatives to 'about' are approxi-mately or around:

The job will take approximately three months.

The accident happened around four o'clock.

When you are talking about an approximate number, you can use roughly:

There were roughly two hundred people at the meeting.

If you want to say 'about' and possibly more than a particular number, you can use the phrase or so or or the suffix -ish.

They raised £200 or so for charity.

Her son must be 40-odd years old by now.

d to do something very soon: I was about to leave when Mark arrived. - She looked as if she was about to cry.

d a short time ago:

I had a short time ago.

I was about to leave when I heard the doorbell.

about: a verb

about: 1 little more or less than the stated number or amount: about six feet tall - about two months ago

What time are you leaving work today? - About five

ALMOST 2 almost: We're about ready to leave. - Well, I think that's about it for now (= we have almost finished what we are doing for the present). ALL DIRECTIONS 3 mainly UK (US usually around) in many different directions: They heard someone moving about outside. - I've been running about all morning trying to find you.

NO ORDER 2 mainly UK (US usually around) positions around a place, often without a clear purpose or order: Their belongings were flung about the room.

POSITION 3 UK formal in a particular place: Do you have such a thing as a pen about you/person? (Have you got a pen?)

IDiom how/what about…?

used when suggesting or offering something to someone: How about a trip to the zoo this afternoon? - Coffee, Sarah? - No, thanks. - 'What about you, Kate?'

adv APPROXIMATELY

1 little more or less than the stated number or amount: about six feet tall - about two months ago

What time are you leaving work today? - About five

ALMOST 2 almost: We're about ready to leave. - Well, I think that's about it for now (= we have almost finished what we are doing for the present). ALL DIRECTIONS 3 mainly UK (US usually around) in many different directions: They heard someone moving about outside. - I've been running about all morning trying to find you.

NO ORDER 2 mainly UK (US usually around) positions around a place, often without a clear purpose or order: They usually leaves her clothes lying about on the floor. - She always leaves her clothes lying about on the floor.

PLACE 5 mainly UK (US usually around) in or near a place: Is John about (= somewhere near)? - There's a lot of flu about (= many people have it) at the moment.

INTENDING 7 be about to do sth 39 to be going

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in meetings. **cleaning substance** 2 An abrasive substance is slightly rough, and often used for cleaning surfaces: an abrasive cleaner/powder/liquid • abrasively /əˈbrɛsɪvli/ adv • abrasiveness /ˈæbrəsɪvnəs/ noun [U] • noun [C] a substance used for rubbing away the surface of something, usually to clean it or make it shiny: You’ll need a strong abrasive for cleaning this sink.

**abreast** /əˈbreɪst/ adv 1 describes two or more people who are next to each other and moving in the same direction: We were running/cycling two abreast. • The motorcyclist came abreast of her car and shouted abuse at her. 2 keep abreast of sth to make sure you know all the most recent facts about a subject or situation: I try to keep abreast of any developments.

**abridge** /əˈbrɪdʒ/ verb [T] to make a book, play, or piece of writing shorter by removing details and information that is not important: The book was abridged for children. • abridged /əˈbrɪdʒt/ adj the abridged edition/version of her novel • abridgment (also abridgement) /əˈbrɪdʒmənt/ noun [C or U] **abroad** /əˈbrɔːrd/ adv [after verb] **other country** 1 (a) in or to a foreign country or countries: He’s currently abroad on business. • We always go abroad in the summer. 2 (b) after verb: literary or old use elsewhere, or not at home: Not a soul was abroad that morning.

**abrupt** /əˈbrʌpt/ adj **abruptly** /əˈbrʌptli/ adv **abruptness** /əˈbrʌptnəs/ noun [U] **abrupt** /əˈbrʌpt/ adj **abruptly** /əˈbrʌptli/ adv **abruptness** /əˈbrʌptnəs/ noun [U] **abs** /æb/ noun [plural] informal abdominals: exercises to tone/build up your abs

**ABS** /æb.ɛs/ noun [S] abbreviation for anti-lock braking system: a system fitted to some road vehicles that prevents skidding (= uncontrolled sliding) by reducing the effects of stopping suddenly.

**abscess** /æbˈses/ noun [C] a painful swollen area on or in the body, which contains pus (= thick, yellow liquid): She had an abscess on her gum.

**abscend** /æbˈskænd/ verb [I] (= ascend) to go away suddenly and secretly in order to escape from somewhere: Two prisoners absconded last night. • She absconded from boarding school with her boyfriend. **steal** 2 to go away suddenly and secretly because you have stolen something, usually money: They absconded with $10,000 of the company’s money.

**absconder** /æbˈskʌndə/ noun [C] • abscend /æbˈskænd/ verb [I] UK (US rappel) to go down a very steep slope by hanging on to a rope that is fastened to the top of the slope: She abseiled down the rock face. • abseil noun [C] UK (US rappel) **absence** /æbˈsɛns/ noun [U or C] the fact of not being where you are usually expected to be: A new manager was appointed during/ in her absence. • She has had repeated absences from

**absolute** work this year. **NOT EXISTS: abs** • **abseil** TING 2 /ˈæbˌsɛl/ the fact of not existing: He drew attention to the absence of concrete evidence against the defendant. • in the absence of (= because there were not) more suitable candidates, we decided to offer the job to Mr Conway.

**absent** adj preposition; verb **absent** /əˈbɛnt/ adj **absent** /əˈbɛnt/ adj **absently** /əˈbɛntli/ adv • **abseil** /əˈbɛnt/ verb **absent** /əˈbɛnt/ adj **absently** /əˈbɛntli/ adv • absence /əˈbɛns/ noun [U or C] the fact of not being where you are usually expected to be: A new manager was appointed during/ in her absence. • She has had repeated absences from

**absence** /æbˈsɛns/ noun [U or C] the fact of not being where you are usually expected to be: A new manager was appointed during/ in her absence. • She has had repeated absences from
absolutely

| or the same in all situations and not depending on anything else: an absolute law/principle/doctrine. Do you think there's such a thing as absolute truth/beauty? 
| Her contribution was better than most, but in absolute terms (without comparing it with anything else) it was still rather poor. |
| 4 describes a ruler who has unlimited power: an absolute monarch. |
| absolutely /əˈbælsətli/ adv 1 completely: I believed/trusted him absolutely. You must be absolutely honest or the birds won't appear. We've achieved absolutely nothing today. |
| 2 used for adding force to a strong adjective that is not usually used with 'very,' or to a verb expressing strong emotion: It's absolutely impossible to work with all this noise. The food was absolutely disgusting/delicious. 1 absolutely loathe/adore jazz. 3 used as a strong way of saying 'yes': 'It was an excellent film, though.' Absolutely! 4 absolutely not 3 used as a strong way of saying 'no': 'Are you too tired to continue?' Absolutely not! |

### Warning: Common word-building error!

If an adjective ends with 'te', just add 'ly' to make an adverb. Don't write 'absolutely' or 'absolutely', write absolutely.

## absolute majorit y noun [C] a situation in which one person or political party wins more than half of the total votes in an election.

### absolute 'zero noun [S] the lowest temperature possible (−273.15°C).

### absolute /əˈbælsət/ adj 

| formal the act of forgiving someone, especially in the Christian religion. Some forgiveness might be thought that the sins are forgiven or forgotten. |

## absolutism

| /əˈbælstɪzəm/ noun [C] a political system in which a single ruler, group, or political party has complete power over a country.

### absorb /əˈbæsbə/ v 1 (espe- 

| cially when used in the sense of 'absorbing' heat, light, or energy: The barrier absorbed the main impact of the crush. 2 to take up someone's attention completely: The project has absorbed her for several years. |

### Synonym engross PAYS

| 5 if a business absorbs the cost of something, it pays that cost easily: Towels absorb moisture. |

### ab- sorbent /əˈbæsbənt/ adj [verb] (after verb) very interested in something and not paying attention to anything else: Simon was so absorbed in his book that he didn't even notice me come in. 2 Synonym engrossed 3 See also self-absorbed

### absorbent /əˌbæsbənt/ adj [noun] able to take liquid in through the surface and to hold it: absorbent paper. 2 absorbency /əˌbæsbənsi/ noun [U] the ability to absorb liquid

### absorbing /əˌbæsbɪŋ/ adj [verb] describes something that is very interesting and keeps your attention: I read her last novel and found it very absorbing.

### absorption /əˌbæsbərʃən/ noun [U] the process of taking something into another substance: Some poisonous gases can enter the body by absorption through the skin. 2 complete interest in something: Her absorption in her work is so great that she thinks about nothing else. |

### ab- stain /əˈbeɪstn/ verb [I] NOT DO 1 not to do something, especially something enjoyable that you think might be bad: He took a vow to abstain from alcohol/smoking/sex. 2 NOT VOTE 3 to decide not to use your vote: 65 members voted in favour, 39 opposed, and 4 abstained. 4 STAY AWAY 5 Indian English to stay away from work: During a recent general strike, employees of all major trade unions abstained. |

### abstainer /əˈbeɪstnri/ noun [C] (after verb) someone who has unlimited power: an absolute monarch |

### abstentious /əˈbeɪstnəs/ noun [U] formal not doing things that give you pleasure, especially not eating good food or drinking alcohol: abstemiously 1 li/ adv |

### abstention /əˈbeɪstnən/ noun [U] formal not doing something in a situation in which one company takes control of another so that they become one company: Reports confirmed the absorption of Kode's operations into DCM's offices.

### abstain /əˈbeɪstn/ verb [I] NOT VOTING 1 (C or U) the fact of not voting in favour of or against something: There were high levels of abstention (from voting) in the last elections. 2 there were ten votes in favour, six against, and three abstentions. 3 NOT DOING 4 (U) formal not doing something, such as drinking alcohol or having sex: Abstention from alcohol is essential while you are taking this medication.

### abstinance /əˈbeɪstnəns/ noun [U] formal not doing something, such as drinking alcohol or having sex: The best way to avoid pregnancy is total abstinance from sex. 2 abstinent /əˈbeɪstnt/ adj sexually abstinent abstract /əˈbeɪstrækt/ adj | noun

### adj GENERAL 1 existing as an idea, feeling, or quality, not as a material object: Truth and beauty are abstract concepts. 2 describes an argument or discussion that is general and not based on particular examples: This debate is becoming too abstract – let's have some hard facts! 3 the abstract general ideas: I have difficulty dealing with the abstract – let's discuss particular cases. |

### Synonym strayed 1 adj abstract art – an abstract painter

### noun [C] SHORT DOCUMENT 1 a short form of a speech, article, book, etc., giving only the most important facts or ideas: There is a section at the end of the magazine that includes abstracts of recent articles/books. 2 a painting that uses shapes, lines, and colour in a way that does not try to represent the appearance of people or things: abstracted /əˈbeɪstrəkt/ adj

### abstract the appearance of people or things: abstracted /əˈbeɪstrəkt/ adj

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you are thinking about something else: He gave her an abstracted glance, then returned to his book.

• abstractedly /ˈæbstrədli/ adj

abstraction /ˈæbstrækʃən/ n [U] formal the situation in which a subject is very general and not based on real situations: She's always talking in abstractions.

abstract noun [C] a noun that refers to a thing that does not exist as a material object: 'Happiness', 'honesty', and 'liberty' are abstract nouns.

→ Compare concrete noun

abstruse /ˈæbstrəs/ adj formal difficult to understand: an abstruse philosophical essay.

absurd /ˈæbsoərd/ /ˈæbsərd/ adj 1 stupid and unreasonable, or silly in a humorous way: What an unreasonable, or silly in a humorous way: It was an absurd situation – neither of them will talk to the other. 2 the absurd things that happen that are stupid or unreasonable: The whole situation borders on the absurd. 3 She has a keen sense of the absurd.

• absurdity /əˈbɜːrdəti/ n [C or U] 1 absurd things 2 it was an absurdly expensive.

• absurdities /əˈbɜːrdətiiz/ plural n the absurd things that happen that are stupid or unreasonable: 3 The absurdity of the situation. 4 There are all sorts of absurdities in the proposal.

abuse /ˈæbjuːs/ n [C] (US or Indian English also B2 C2 US) noun abbreviation for Association of British Travel Agents: a UK organization that protects travellers and people on holiday if a company that arranges travel fails to do something or goes out of business

abundance /əˈbʌndəns/ n [S or U] formal the situation in which there is more than enough of something: There was an abundance of food at the wedding. 2 We had wine in abundance.

abundant /əˈbʌndənt/ adj formal more than enough: an absurd supply of food 3 There is abundant evidence that cars have a harmful effect on the environment.

• abundantly /ˈabʌndəntli/ adv formal The plant grows abundantly in woodland. 4. You've made your feelings abundantly clear (= very clear).

abuse verb; noun

• verb 1 a) to use something for the wrong purpose in a way that is harmful or morally wrong: She is continually abusing her position/authority by getting other people to do things for her. 2 I never expected that he would abuse the trust I placed in him.

• abuse alcohol 3 to abuse alcohol

→ TREAT CRUELLY: 2 to treat someone cruelly or violently. Several of the children had been sexually/physically/emotionally abused.

SPEAK RUDELY: 3 to speak to someone rudely or cruelly

• abuser /ˈæbjʊər/ n [C] a child abuser

• abuse (a drug) /əˈbjuːs/ n or verb

→ noun /ˈæbjuːs/ WRONG USE: 1 a [C or U] the use of something in a way that is harmful or morally wrong: an abuse (= use without permission) of privilege/powen/someone's kindness

→ Drug and alcohol abuse (= using these substances) can be a b
d

• usual causes of early death.

CRUEL BEHAVIOUR: 2 cruel, violent, or unfair treatment of someone: She claimed to have been a victim of child abuse.

• sexual/physical/intemal abuse had treated her

• abuse (verb) is a term of abuse (= an insulting expression).

abusive /əˈbjuːsiv/ adj using rude and offensive
açai /əˈsaɪə/ noun [U] a small, round, dark purple fruit from Brazil that people believe is good for your health: The cocktails are made of tropical ingredients such as passion fruit and açai berries.

cappella /ˈkæpəˌlə/ adj [before noun], adv specialized sung by a group of people without any musical instruments.

accede /əˈskid/ verb

PHRASAL VERB
ccede to sth formal 1 to agree to do what people have asked you to do: He graciously acceded to our request. → It is doubtful whether the government will ever accede to the nationals’ demands for independence. 2 accede to the throne/accede to power to become king or queen, or to take a position of power: The diaries were written in 1837, when Queen Victoria acceded to the throne.

accelerate /əˈkrelər/ verb 1 to make (a vehicle or its driver) accelerate, the speed of the vehicle increases: I accelerated to overtake the bus. → Opposite decelerate 2 [I] if a person or object accelerates, he, she, or it goes faster: 3 [I] or [T] to happen or make something happen sooner or faster: Inflation is likely to accelerate this year, adding further upward pressure on interest rates. → They use special chemicals to accelerate the growth of crops.

acceleration /əˈkrelərən/ noun 1 the increase in something’s speed, or its ability to go faster: An older car will have poor acceleration. → High winds significantly hampered the plane’s acceleration. 2 [S or T] the increase in the speed at which something happens: The acceleration in the decline of manufacturing industry began several years ago.

accelerator /əˈkrelərər/ noun 1 [U] the result (a part of you that you push with your foot) in a vehicle that makes it go faster 2 specialized in physics, a machine that makes particles (= small pieces of matter) move very fast

accent noun; verb

noun 1 [U] [akˈsent] pronunciation 1 the way in which a group of people in a particular area, country, or social group pronounce words: He’s got a strong French/Scottish accent. → She’s French but she speaks with an impeccable English accent. → He speaks with a broad/heavy/strong/thick Yorkshire accent. → I thought I could detect a slight West Country accent. MARK 2 [M] a mark written or printed over a letter to show you how to pronounce it: a grave accent → There’s an acute accent on the e of café/. → EMPHASIS 3 a special emphasis given to a particular syllable in a word, word in a sentence, or note in a set of musical notes: The accent falls on the final syllable. 4 the accent is on sth great importance is given to a particular thing or event: This season the accent is definitely on long, flowing, romantic clothes. → accentuated /əˈsentjʊətɪd/ 5 [akˈsentjʊətɪd] he/she/it pronounced or said in a particular way: He speaks with an American accent.

verb [T] 1 [akˈsent] 2 [ˈakəsent] to emphasize something: In any advertising campaign, you must accent the areas where your product is better than the competition.

accentuate /əˈsentjʊət/ verb [T] to emphasize a particular feature of something or to make something more noticeable: Her dress was tightly belted, accentuating the slimness of her waist. → The new policy only serves to accentuate the inadequacy of provision for the homeless. → accentuated /əˈsentjʊətɪd/ 3 [akˈsentjʊətɪd] adjective: He/Mr Smith’s behaviour is one of resigned acceptance.

accept /əkˈsent/ verb T 1 to agree to do something: Do you accept credit cards? → She was in London to accept an award for her latest novel. → I offered her an apology, but she wouldn’t accept it. → I accept full responsibility for the failure of the plan. → The new coffee machines will accept coins of any denomination. 2 [I or T] to say ‘yes’ to an offer or invitation: We’ve offered her the job, but I don’t know whether she’ll accept. → I’ve just accepted an invitation to the opening night party. → I’ve been invited to their wedding but I haven’t decided whether to accept.

Warning: accept is not usually followed by another verb.

Don’t say someone ‘accepts to do sth’, say someone agrees to do sth:

My father agreed to pick me up from the airport.

approve /əˈprəʊv/ verb 1 [T] to consider something or someone as satisfactory: The manuscript was accepted for publication last week. → She was accepted as a full member of the society. → His fellow workers refused to accept him (= to include him as one of their group). → BELIEVE 2 [T] to believe that something is true: The police refused to accept her version of the story. → He still hasn’t accepted the situation (= realized that he cannot change it). → [+] that I can’t accept that there’s nothing we can do.

acceptable /əˈsɪktəb(ə)l/ adjective 1 satisfactory and able to be agreed to or approved of: Clearly we need to come to an arrangement that is acceptable to both parties. → This kind of attitude is simply not acceptable. 2 [just good enough, but not very good: Her performance was acceptable, but not stunning.]

acceptability /əkˈseptəb(ə)lɪtɪ/ noun 1 [C or U] a general agreement that something is satisfactory or right, or that someone should be included in a group: The idea rapidly gained acceptance (= became approved of) in political circles. → The party marked his acceptance into the community. 2 [U] the act of agreeing to an offer, plan, or invitation: Her acceptance of the award was very controversial. → an acceptance speech 3 the fact of accepting a difficult or unpleasant situation: His attitude to his children’s behaviour is one of resigned acceptance.

accepted /əkˈsept(ə)d/ adjective generally agreed to be satisfactory or right: ‘Speed bump’ now seems to be the generally accepted term for those ridges in the road that slow traffic down.

access /əˈsɛks/ noun; verb

noun 1 [U] getting near to or into a place of work: The only access to the village is by boat. → The main access to (= entrance to) the building is at the side. → The children’s father was refused access to them at any time (= refused official permission to see them). → RIGHT 2 [akˈses] the right or opportunity to use or look at something: The system has been designed to give the user quick and easy access to the required information. → The tax inspector had gained complete access to the company files.

verb [T] 1 [akˈses] to open a computer file (= a collection of information stored on a computer) in order to look at or change information in it

access/course noun [C] UK a set of classes that people can take to get a qualification that will be used to get into university or college: She didn’t have any formal qualifications but took an access course to get into university.

accessible /əkˈsɛsəbl/ adjective 1 able to be reached or easily got: The resort is easily accessible by road, rail, and air. → The problem with some of these drugs is that
they are so very accessible. 2 easy to understand: Covert Garden has made some attempt to make opera accessible to a wider public. • accessibility /əˈksesərəˈbiːtɪ/ [U] Two new roads are built to increase accessibility to the town centre. • The accessibility of her plays means that she is able to reach a wide audience.

accession /ˈækˌsɛsn/ [noun] 1 formal the time when someone starts a position of authority, especially a king or queen: 1926 was the year of Emperor Hirohito’s accession to the throne. 2 the time when a country officially joins a group of countries or signs an agreement: Poland’s accession to the EU

accesorize /əˈksesərəˌzaɪz/ [verb] [T] to add an accessory or accessories to something: She was wearing a little black dress, accessorized simply with a silver necklace.

accessory /əˈksesəri/ [noun] 1 access [fashion] (also accessorize) an object or things added to something to change its appearance: She put on big, sparkly earrings. • accessory after the fact [CRIMINAL] someone who helps another person to commit a crime but does not take part in it: an accessory to murder 3 accessory after the fact legal someone who helps someone after they have committed a crime, for example by hiding them from the police 4 accessory before the fact legal someone who helps in the preparation of a crime

access pro vider [noun] [C] (also ISP) a company that allows you to use the internet and use email, and gives you space on the internet to put your documents: the UK’s largest internet access provider

access road [noun] [C] (also access route) a road leading from or to a particular place 2 UK a road leading to a main road

accha (also achha) /əˈʃə/ [exclamation Indian English] used for showing that you agree with something or understand something: Achha, that’s good! Go ahead. 2 used for showing surprise or happiness: ‘I managed to buy it for half the price.’ Achha!

accident /ˌæk.sɪˈdɛnt/ [noun] 1 something bad that happens that is not expected or intended and that often damages something or injures someone: Josh had an accident and spilled water all over his work. • She was injured in a car/road accident (when one car hit another). 2 by accident [prepositional phrase] without intending to, or without being intended: I deleted her file by accident.

Word partners for accident
have/be involved in an accident • an accident happen[s]occurs • cause an accident • an accident involving sth • a fatal/major/severe/tragic accident • a freak accident • [killed/paralysed] in an accident

IDIOMS accidents will happen saying said after an accident in order to make it seem less bad • an accident waiting to happen a very dangerous situation in which an accident is very likely • have an accident to urinate or excrete (= pass solid waste) when you do not intend to: Even a six-year-old can have an accident at night sometimes. • more by accident than design because of luck and not because of skill or organization: The play was a success more by accident than by design.

accommodation /əˈkɒm.əˌdeɪʃn/ [noun] 1 informal a place to live, work, stay, etc. • accommodation facility [CRIMINAL] places that help other people, for example by changing his or her lifestyle: • accommodation by chance: Reports suggest that eleven soldiers were killed by accidental fire from their own side. • accidental death [noun] [C] legal a verdict (= an opinion stated at the end of a trial) that is given when a death was the result of an accident and not of murder or suicide. • accidentally [əˈkeɪs.əd.i] by chance or by mistake: I accidentally knocked a glass over.

‘accident-prone’ adj describes someone who often has accidents, usually because they are very awkward • acclaim /əˈkleɪm/ [noun] • verb • noun [U] public approval and praise: Despite the critical acclaim, the novel did not sell well. • Hamlet was played by Ion Caramitrou to rapturous acclaim.

acclimatize /əˈklaɪmatɪzaɪz/ [verb] [T] often passive to give public approval and praise. • She was universally/unde/ly/publicly acclaimed for her contribution to the discovery.

acclimatization /əˈklaɪmatɪˈzeɪʃn/ [noun] [U] mainly UK the time when a country joins the European Union. • accession to the EU

acclaim /əˈklæm/ [noun] • verb [T] • noun [U] • adjective [T often passive] 1 formal or widely recognized: • acclaimed/ • accclaimed artist/writer/poet • Dinner Party; based on the critically acclaimed novel by Bill Davies, was made into a film last year.

acclamation /əˈklaɪməˈneɪʃn/ [noun] [U] formal public approval and praise: His speech was greeted with shouts of acclamation.

acclimatize (UK usually acclimatise) /əˈklaɪmətɪzaɪz/ [verb] [T] to habituate someone to different conditions of life, weather, etc.: More time will be needed for the troops and equipment to become acclimatized to desert conditions. • We found it impossible to acclimatize ourselves to the new working conditions. • The defending champion has acclimatized to the 90°F sunshine by spending the past month in Florida.

accommodation (UK usually acclimatisation) /əˈklaɪməˈneɪʃn/ [noun] [U] formal praise and approval: He’s been granted the ultimate acclaim – his face on a postage stamp. • Her approval was the highest accolade he could receive.

accommodate /əˈkɒm.əˌdeɪt/ [verb] • noun [T] • find a place for 1 to provide with a place to live or to be stored in: New students may be accommodated in halls of residence. • formal There wasn’t enough space to accommodate the files.

accommodating /əˈkɒm.əˌdeɪtɪŋ/ [adj] describes someone who is eager or willing to help, for example by changing his or her plans: I’m sure she’ll help you – she’s always very accommodating.

accommodate yourself to change yourself or your behaviour to suit another person or new conditions: Some find it hard to accommodate themselves to the new working conditions.

accommodating /əˈkɒm.əˌdeɪtɪŋ/ [adj] describes someone who is eager or willing to help, for example by changing his or her plans: I’m sure she’ll help you – she’s always very accommodating.

Common mistake: accommodation
Warning: Check your spelling! Accommodation is one of the 50 most words most often spelled wrongly by learners. Remember: the correct spelling has ‘cc’ and ‘mm’.

accommodation /əˈkɒm.əˌdeɪʃn/ [noun] [U] mainly UK a place to live, work, stay, etc. in: There’s a shortage of cheap accommodation (= places to live).

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accommodations /əˈkɒmədeɪʃən/ noun [plural US] a place to stay when you are travelling, especially a hotel room. Sweepstakes winners will enjoy a week-long stay in luxury accommodations in Las Vegas.

accompaniment /əˈkʌmpəmənt/ noun MUSIC> [C or U] music that is played with someone who is singing or playing the main tune: a song with piano accompaniment - humorous We worked to the accompaniment of (= while hearing the sound of) Mr French's drill. FOOD AND DRINK> [2] something that you eat or drink with something else: A dry champagne makes the ideal accompaniment for/to this dish.

accompanist /əˈkʌmpənɪst/ noun [C] someone who plays an instrument such as the piano or guitar while someone else sings or plays the main tune: The singer's accompanist on the piano was Charles Harman.

accompany /əˈkʌmpəri/ verb [T] GO WITH > to go with someone or to be provided or exist at the same time as something: The course books are accompanied by four CDs. > Depression is almost always accompanied by insomnia. > The salmon was accompanied by (= served with) a fresh green salad.

According to plan happens in the way it was intended: According to Sarah they were to arrive at the moment.

I think -accompany- to me, say in my opinion or I think: According to me, the training course was a waste of time.

In my opinion, the training course was a waste of time.

accomplice /əˈkʌmpəliːs/ noun [C] a person who helps someone else to commit a crime or to do something morally wrong

accomplicated /əˈkʌmpleɪkt/ verb [T] to finish something successfully or to achieve something: The students achieved the task in less than two terms. - She accomplished such a lot during her visit. - I feel as if I've accomplished nothing since I left my job.

accomplished /əˈkʌmplɪʃt/ adj skilled: She's a very accomplished pianist/painter/horsewoman. - He was accomplished in all the arts.

accomplishment /əˈkʌmplɪʃmənt/ noun [C] something that is successful, or that is achieved after a lot of work or effort: Getting the two leaders to sign a peace treaty was his greatest accomplishment. - [U] the finishing of something: We celebrated the successful accomplishment of our task. - (C) a skill: Cordon bleu cookery is just one of her many accomplishments.

accord /əˈkɔːrd/ /əˈkɔːrd/ noun verb

- noun [C or U] 1 (a formal) agreement: On 31 May the two leaders signed a peace accord. - The project is completely in accord with government policy. 2 of your own accord if you do something of your own accord, you do it without being asked to do it: She came of her own accord. No one asked her to come. 3 with one accord formal If people do something with one accord, they do it together and in complete agreement: With one accord, the delegates walked out of the conference.

- verb [T] formal to treat someone specially, usually by showing respect: [+ two objects] The massed crowds of supporters accorded him a hero's welcome. - Certainly in our society doctors don't enjoy the respect that is accorded to doctors and lawyers.

PHRASAL VERB

acord with sth to be the same as something, or to agree with something: His version of events does not accord with witnesses' statements.

accordance /əˈkɔːrnˌsɑːns/ /əˈkɔːr- noun formal in accordance with a rule, law, wish, etc. following or obeying a rule, law, wish, etc: In accordance with her wishes, she was buried in France.

Accordingly /əˈkɔːrli/ /əˈkɔːr-/ adv formal in a way that is suitable or right for the situation: When we receive your instructions we shall act accordingly.

She's an expert in her field, and is paid accordingly.

acording to preposition OPINION> > I as stated by: According to Sarah they're not getting on very well at the moment. - According to our records you owe us $150.

acordable /əˈkɔːrəbl/ adj in a way that agrees with: Students are all put in different groups according to their ability.

acording to plan Something that happens according to plan happens in the way it was intended to: Did it all go according to plan?

accordance /əˈkɔːrnˌsɑːns/ /əˈkɔːr-/ noun [C] a box-shaped musical instrument consisting of a folded central part with a keyboard, played by pushing the two ends towards each other

accost /əˈkɒst/ /əˈkɒst/ verb [T (often passive) formal] to go up to or stop and speak to someone in a threatening way: I'm usually accosted by beggars and drunks as I walk to the station.