

## Style and usage labels used in the dictionary

<b>abbreviation</b>	a shortened form of a word
<b>approving</b>	praising someone or something
<b>Australian English</b>	
<b>child's word/expression</b>	used by children
<b>disapproving</b>	used to express dislike or disagreement with someone or something
<b>female</b>	
<b>figurative</b>	used to express not the basic meaning of a word, but an imaginative one
<b>formal</b>	used in serious or official language or when trying to impress other people
<b>humorous</b>	used when you are trying to be funny
<b>informal</b>	used in ordinary speech (and writing) and not suitable for formal situations
<b>Indian English</b>	
<b>Irish English</b>	
<b>legal</b>	specialized language used in legal documents and in law courts
<b>literary</b>	formal and descriptive language used in literature
<b>male</b>	
<b>Northern English</b>	used in the north of England
<b>not standard</b>	commonly used but not following the rules of grammar
<b>offensive</b>	very rude and likely to offend people
<b>old-fashioned</b>	not used in modern English – you might find these words in books, used by older people, or used in order to be funny
<b>old use</b>	used a long time ago in other centuries
<b>polite word/expression</b>	a polite way of referring to something that has other ruder names
<b>saying</b>	a common phrase or sentence that gives advice, an opinion, etc.
<b>Scottish English</b>	
<b>slang</b>	extremely informal language, used mainly by a particular group
<b>South African English</b>	
<b>specialized</b>	used only by people in a particular subject such as doctors or scientists
<b>trademark</b>	the official name of a product
<b>UK</b>	British English
<b>US</b>	American English
<b>written abbreviation</b>	a shortened form of a word used in writing
<b>A1 A2 B1 B2 C1 C2</b>	These symbols show the <i>English Vocabulary Profile</i> level of a word, phrase, or meaning. A1 is the lowest level and C2 is the highest.

# Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary

Fourth Edition

Edited by  
Colin McIntosh



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## To the learner

In the few short years since the last edition of the *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary* was published, there has been a revolution in the way people communicate. The expansion of the internet, social media, electronic communication, and the integration of telecoms devices with the internet have all had an enormous impact on the way in which learners encounter English, as well as on the way dictionaries are used and what they are used for.

### New words

The language has undergone change, particularly in the form of words and expressions related to new technologies and their uses. Hundreds of these new words have been added to the dictionary. (For example, try looking up these words: *autocomplete*, *cloudware*, *QR code*, *unfriend*.)

And of course new words have entered the language in fields other than technology. Just to mention a few, there have been additions in the fields of media (*blogosphere*, *catch-up TV*, *pap*, *phone hacking*), fashion and lifestyle (*on-trend*, *spray tan*, *steampunk*), and society (*helicopter parent*, *megacity*, *Z-list*). Informal language changes rapidly; new arrivals include *eww*, *peeps*, and *zhuzh*.

### New types of English

The growth of internet use has meant that distinctions between different varieties of English are far less watertight than they once were. When someone uses a search engine to access a website, the country of origin or type of English is not usually of high importance. Learners are therefore much more likely to experience different types of English from all over the world. For this reason, the fourth edition of the *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary* contains increased coverage of language from the US (*bump-start*, *double major*, *hydroplaning*), India (*crore*, *foreign-returned*), Australia (*hotel*, *lounge room*), and South Africa (*milliard*, *stoep*).

### New ways of accessing the dictionary

At this moment you are reading a printed book, but it is likely that you also read English using other media, for example on the Web or using a mobile device or e-reader. The *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary* is available in a variety of different formats, to give you access to the dictionary in whichever

situation you find yourself. These formats include online, CD-ROM, and mobile app.

#### Online

If you have an internet connection, the online dictionary, at *Cambridge Dictionaries Online*, is a convenient way to look up words when using your computer. You will also find extra help with your vocabulary learning here. You can find it at:

[www.dictionary.cambridge.org](http://www.dictionary.cambridge.org)

#### CD-ROM

Together with the printed dictionary you may have the CD-ROM. This offers you the maximum amount of information and ease of use, and without the need for an internet connection.

Extras on the CD include more entries and example sentences, spoken pronunciation, and a unique thesaurus feature, the *SMART-thesaurus*, which allows you to search for words that have a similar meaning or that belong to the same topic area.

Looking up a word is easy. You can find the word the you are looking for even if you do not know the correct spelling, and using the *QUICKfind* button you can find a word (and hear its pronunciation) simply by pointing at it using your mouse.

#### Mobile app

Using the mobile app, you can access the dictionary wherever you are in the world, hold a vast amount of information in one hand, and look up words and phrases in a fraction of a second.

You can find out more about the CALD mobile app by visiting *Cambridge Dictionaries Online*.

#### The dictionary for reference

Ease of access is not just for the electronic versions of the dictionary. With long entries it can be hard to find the exact information you are looking for. The new design of the printed dictionary will make it easier for you to find different parts of speech, idioms, and phrasal verbs, and the guidewords, printed in capital letters and in colour, will guide you towards the meaning you are looking for.

#### The dictionary for learning

Checking the dictionary for meanings and spellings may be what it is used for most, but you can get a lot more out of your dictionary.

In particular, the *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary* can help you to learn English.

### English Vocabulary Profile

In the dictionary entries you will see the symbols **A1**, **A2**, **B1**, **B2**, etc. These symbols show you the words, meanings, and phrases that learners know at different levels, based on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). A1 is the lowest level and C2 is the highest. You can use this information to decide which words you need to prioritize in your vocabulary learning.

Part of the English Profile Programme (a large research programme sponsored by the Council of Europe), the wordlists are based on extensive research using the *Cambridge Learner Corpus*, a collection of over 45 million words of English written by learners from all over the world. Combined with solid evidence of use in other sources, such as examination wordlists and classroom materials, this corpus confirms what learners can and cannot do at each level.

### The dictionary for study

English is increasingly being used as a vehicle for the study of other subjects. You may be taking a business studies course in the US, or you may be in Sweden studying engineering – or planning to. In many cases, in English-speaking countries or not, you will need English for your studies.

For this edition of the dictionary we have added a new 30-page *Focus on Writing* section, which covers the essentials of writing for academic courses and for exams.

You will also find increased coverage of many fields of academic study, including applied linguistics and language teaching (*sociolect, fortis, CLIL*), bioscience and medicine (*genomics, circadian, norovirus*), economics and finance (*Keynesian, haircut, quantitative easing*), politics and international relations (*Tea Party, biosecurity, failed state*), and ecology and the environment (*carbon-zero, upcycling, vertical farming*).

As well as these specialized words, you will also find more high-level general academic vocabulary (*anonymized, societal, typology*), which are used in many different fields of study.

### The dictionary for communicating

The *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary* helps you to communicate naturally, fluently, and correctly.

### Natural English

One of the most important resources we have for getting information about how English

works and what people actually say or write is the *Cambridge International Corpus*, a collection of over a billion and a half words of written and spoken language from a huge variety of sources. The corpus provides the evidence that the editors use when deciding what to say about words in the dictionary. It allows us to see which ways of saying things are more common, and helps us to write the example sentences which are such a useful model for learners to follow.

### Fluent English

One of the best ways to sound fluent when speaking or writing is to use phrases to hang your ideas on. Ready-made phrases, such as *not as easy as it looks*, and collocations (words that go together), such as *a unique opportunity*, can be memorized and used when needed without having to construct your sentences word by word.

The example sentences in the entries are a good source of ready-made phrases. You will also notice that certain words in the examples are shown in bold type, for example, in the entry for **hurry**: *That's all right, there's no **great** hurry and Are you **in** a hurry?* These show common collocations that are worth learning as units.

The *Focus on Writing* section also provides a wealth of these phrases for you to use and adapt for your own writing.

### Correct English

Cambridge also has an invaluable resource in the form of the *Cambridge Learner Corpus*, which contains over 45 million words of English written by learners. The CLC has been developed in partnership with Cambridge English Language Assessment, whose exams are taken by students all over the world. More than 23 million words of the CLC have been coded according to the mistakes learners make. We have looked at the most common mistakes made by advanced learners, and included 500 *Common Mistake* notes to help avoid them.

### The Fourth Edition

This new edition of the *Cambridge Advanced Learner's* takes the dictionary to new places and new audiences. Getting there has involved hard work and dedication from the large team of specialists listed on page vii, to whom thanks are due. Thanks are also due to the community of millions of users around the world who use and love the dictionary, many of whom have given comments and advice that have informed the new edition.

Colin McIntosh

## How to use the dictionary

### 1 Finding a word or phrase


Words at the beginning of entries are called **headwords**. Headwords are in alphabetical order.

A headword may have more than one part of speech. All parts of speech are listed at the beginning of the entry.

**Idioms** are shown at the end of the relevant part of speech. Idioms are listed at the first important word.

**Phrasal verbs** are shown after any ordinary verbs, or at the end of entries where there are no other verbs.

#### heap /hi:p/ noun; verb


► **noun** [C]  an untidy pile or mass of things: *a heap of clothes/rubbish*

**IDIOMS** **the bottom of the heap** People who are at the bottom of the heap are poor and unsuccessful and have the lowest position in society. • **collapse/fall in a heap** to fall down heavily and lie on the ground without moving: *The woman staggered and collapsed in a heap.* • **a (whole) heap of sth** informal a lot of something: *I've got a whole heap of work to do.*

► **verb** [T + adv/prep] to put things into a large untidy pile: *He heaped more food onto his plate.*

**PHRASAL VERB** **heap sth on sb** to give someone a lot of praise, criticism, etc.: *He deals well with all the criticism heaped on him.*

Words which are in the same **word family** as the headword, and which can easily be understood by knowing the headword, are shown at the end of entries.

**harmless** /'hɑ:m.ləs/ (US) /'hɑ:rm-/ **adj**  not able or not likely to cause harm: *Peter might look a bit fierce, but actually he's fairly harmless.* • *There were those who found the joke offensive, but Johnson insisted it was just a bit of harmless fun.* • **harmlessly** /-li/ **adv**  
 • **harmlessness** /-nəs/ **noun** [U]

**Compound words** (two or more words used together as a single word) have their own entries, in alphabetical order.

**'hair gel** **noun** [C or U] a thick liquid substance that is put in the hair to help the hair keep a particular shape or style

Sometimes a word in a compound has brackets around it. This shows that the meaning is the same if you use the word in brackets or not.

**hansom (cab)** /'hæ.n.səm.kæb/ **noun** [C] a two-wheeled CARRIAGE pulled by a horse, used like a taxi in the past

If a word has more than one possible spelling, this is shown at the headword.

**Halloween** (also **Hallowe'en**) /,hæl.əʊ'i:n/ (US) /-oo-/ **noun** [C or U] the night of 31 October when children dress in special clothes and people try to frighten each other

Other alternative forms are shown in brackets.

**home run** **noun** [C] (informal **homer**) US a point scored in baseball by hitting the ball so far that you have time to run all the way round the four corners of the playing field before it is returned

Some words include *the* before the headword, to show that they are always used in this form. They are found in the alphabetical order of the second word.

**the heebie-jeebies** /,hi:.br'ji:.biz/ **noun** [plural] informal strong feelings of fear or worry: *Don't start talking about ghosts – they give me the heebie-jeebies.*



## 2 Finding and understanding the right meaning

Numbers show the different meanings of a headword.

**hallowed** /'hæ.ləʊd/ (US) /-oʊd/ **adj** **1** very respected and praised because of great importance or great age: *hallowed icons such as Marilyn Monroe and James Dean*  
**2** holy: *Can atheists be buried in hallowed ground?*

Where headwords have many meanings, or very different meanings, **guidewords** help you find the meaning you need. There can be more than one meaning belonging to a guideword. Entries in this dictionary are ordered by the frequency of the first meaning in each guideword group.

**highly** /'haɪ.li/ **adv** **ABOVE AVERAGE** ▷ **1** **B2** very, to a large degree, or at a high level: *a highly paid job* ◦ *a highly profitable line of products* ◦ *For our country to remain competitive, we need a highly skilled, highly educated workforce.* **2** **think/speak highly of sb** (C) to admire/say admiring things about someone: *He's very highly thought of within the company.* **IMPORTANT** ▷ **3** in an important or influential (= having a lot of influence) position: *According to one highly placed source, the prime minister had threatened to resign over this issue.*

If a meaning of a word is always used in a particular **phrase**, but it is not an idiom, that phrase is shown at the beginning of the meaning.

**haploid** /'hæp.lɔɪd/ **adj** having a single set of **CHROMOSOMES** (= structures containing chemical patterns that control what a plant or animal is like) that comes from one parent only: *a haploid cell* ◦ *Sex cells such as eggs and sperm are haploid.* → Compare **diploid**

Definitions are written using words that learners of English are likely to know. If we have to use a word that is not on the list, it is in **SMALL CAPITALS**.

Where it is helpful, a short explanation is added after these words.

## 3 Using words and phrases correctly

Labels in square brackets give you **grammar information**. These labels are explained inside the front cover of the dictionary.

**haste** /'heɪst/ **noun** [U] disapproving (too much) speed: *Unfortunately the report was prepared in haste and contained several inaccuracies.* ◦ [+ to infinitive] *In her haste to get up from the table, she knocked over a cup.*

When grammar information is shown before numbered meanings, it is true for all the meanings of the word.

**IDIOMS** **make haste** old-fashioned hurry up: *Make haste!*  
 • **more haste, less speed** UK saying said to mean that if you try to do things too quickly, it will take you longer in the end

Common grammar patterns are given next to examples that show their use.

**hasten** /'heɪ.sən/ **verb** formal **1** [T] to make something happen sooner or more quickly: *There is little doubt that poor medical treatment hastened her death.* ◦ *These recent poor results have hastened the manager's departure.* **2** [+ to infinitive] If you hasten to do something, you quickly do it: *The president hastened to reassure his people that he was in perfect health.* **3** [+ to infinitive] If you hasten to say something, you want to make it clear: *It was an unfortunate decision and I hasten to say it had nothing to do with me.* ◦ *'People round here dress so badly – except you, Justin,' she hastened to add.*

When grammar information is shown after a sense number, it is only true for that sense.

Plural forms, verb forms, and comparatives and superlatives are shown if they are irregular. If you have the CD of this dictionary, you can see all the inflections of every verb.

**halo** /'heɪ.ləʊ/ (US) /-loʊ/ **noun** (plural **haloes** or **halos**)  
**1** [C] a ring of light around the head of a holy person in a religious drawing or painting **2** [C usually singular] a bright circle of light around something, or something that looks like this: *the halo around the moon* ◦ *a halo of blonde curls*

## How to use the dictionary

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Thousands of **example sentences** adapted from the *Cambridge International Corpus* show you how to use words naturally.

**Bold** words in examples are 'word partners', also known as **collocations**. These are words that are used very often with words you are looking up. If you learn these word partners, your English will sound more natural.

**heavily** /'hev.i.li/ **adv** **TO A GREAT DEGREE** ▷ **1** (3) to a great degree: *The terrorists are heavily armed.* ◦ *The compound is heavily guarded.* ◦ *She's heavily involved in the project.* **WEIGHING A LOT** ▷ **2** in a way which needs a lot of effort to move or lift: *The news she had received weighed heavily on her* (= worried her). **SOLID** ▷ **3** in a strong, thick, or solid way: *He's a heavily built* (= large and strong) man.

**IDIOM** **be heavily into sth** informal to be very interested in and involved with something: *When I was younger I was heavily into politics.*

Many common words have **Word partners** boxes, which show the most useful partners for that word.

### Word partners for heat noun

*feel/generate/give out/withstand heat • great/intense/searing heat • a high/low heat*

## 4 Other useful information

Labels tell you about how a word is used, for example if it is formal or informal. All these labels are explained inside the front cover of the dictionary.

**heedless** /'hi:d.ləs/ **adj** formal not giving attention to a risk or possible difficulty: *Heedless destruction of the rainforests is contributing to global warming.* ◦ *Journalists had insisted on getting to the front line of the battle, heedless of the risks.* • **heedlessly** /-li/ **adv**

If a word or meaning of a word is used only in British English or only in American English, this is shown with the labels UK or US.

**hot button** **noun** [C] US informal a subject that is important to people and about which they have strong opinions: *Gender issues have become something of a hot button.* ◦ *Immigration has become a hot button issue.*

If a word has a different spelling in American and British English, this is shown.

**honourable** UK (US **honorable**) /'ɒn.ərə.bəl/ (US) /'ɑ:.nə-/ **adj** honest and fair, or deserving praise and respect: *an honourable person* • **honourably** (US **honorably**) /-ə.bli/ **adv**

If the word you have looked up is used only in British English, and a different word is used in American English, this is shown.

**hair slide** **noun** [C] UK (US **barrette**) a small, decorative piece of plastic, metal, or wood that a woman or girl wears in her hair, often to stop it falling in front of her face

**Common mistake** boxes show you mistakes that learners of English often make, and help you avoid them. These notes are based on the *Cambridge Learner Corpus*.

### Common mistake: home

**Warning:** to talk about movement towards or away from someone's own home, you do not need a preposition. Don't say 'go/come/arrive/leave to/at home', say **go/come/arrive/leave home**:

*When I arrived to home, I realized my bag was missing.*

*When I arrived home, I realized my bag was missing.*

To talk about someone moving towards or away from a home that is not their own, it is usual to use a preposition:

*You are welcome to come to my home.*

**Other ways of saying...** boxes give more interesting words to use for very common words.

#### ➤ Other ways of saying **hungry**

The adjective **ravenous** can be used to describe someone who is very hungry:

*I'm **ravenous**; when's dinner ready?*

Informal words which mean 'very hungry' are **famished** or **starving**:

*I'm **famished**! I haven't eaten anything since this morning.*

*Is there anything to eat? I'm **starving**!*

The phrase **have a good appetite** can be used for someone who is often hungry and eats a lot of food:

*Both my children **have very good appetites**.*

**Cross references** help you learn more vocabulary connected with a word.

**hardback** /'hɑ:d.bæk/ (US) /'hɑ:rd-/ **noun** [C or U] (US also **hardcover**) a book that has a stiff cover: *His latest novel will be published **in hardback** later this month.*  
 → Compare **paperback**, **softback**

If you have the CD of this dictionary, you can use the *SMARTthesaurus* to look up synonyms and related words for every meaning of every word in this dictionary.

## 5 Pronunciation

British and American pronunciations of a word are shown after the headword. These are written using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). See inside the back cover of the dictionary for full information about the phonetic symbols.

**harbinger** /'hɑ:bin.dʒə/ (US) /'hɑ:r.bin.dʒə/ **noun** [C] literary a person or thing that shows that something is going to happen soon, especially something bad: a *harbinger of doom*

At entries for compounds, stress marks show you which part or parts you should stress when you say it. The full pronunciation for each word in the compound is shown at the entry for that word.

**'hair spray** **noun** [C or U] (UK also **'hair lacquer**) a sticky liquid that is **SPRAYED** (= forced out in small drops) onto someone's hair to keep it in a particular shape

## 6 English Vocabulary Profile levels

These symbols show you the words, meanings, and phrases that learners know at different levels, based on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). A1 is the lowest level and C2 is the highest. If no level is shown, this means that it is above C2 level. You can use this information to decide which words you need to prioritize in your vocabulary learning.

**happily** /'hæp.i.li/ **adv** **PLEASED** ▷ **1** (B1) in a happy way: *He was happily **married** with two young children.*  
 ◦ *She munched happily on her chocolate bar.* **2** (B2) willingly: *I'd happily offer to help him if I thought it would make any difference.* **LUCKY** ▷ **3** (C1) having a good or lucky result: *Happily, the weather remained fine throughout the afternoon.*

## Numbers that are used as words

You will sometimes find these numbers used like ordinary words in English, especially in newspapers or on the internet. This page tells you what they mean and how they are pronounced.

**\$64,000 question** /ˌsɪk.sti.fɔːθəʊ.zəˈnd.dɒ.ləˈkwes.tʃən/ (US) /-fɔːr.θəʊ.zəˈnd.dɑː.lə-/ **noun** [C usually singular] (also **million-dollar question**) an important or difficult question on which a lot depends: *The \$64,000 question is, can we repeat last year's success?*

**0800 number** /əʊ.eɪtˈhʌn.drəd.nəm.bə/ (US) /,oʊ.eɪtˈhʌn.drəd.nəm.bə/ **noun** [C] in the UK, a free phone number that begins with 0800, provided by companies or other organizations offering advice or information

**0898 number** /əʊ.eɪtˈnaɪn.eɪt.nəm.bə/ (US) /,oʊ.eɪtˈnaɪn.eɪt.nəm.bə/ **noun** [C] in the UK, an expensive phone number that begins with 0898 that is provided by companies offering services such as CHATLINES

**101** /wʌn.əʊ.wʌn/ (US) /-oʊ-/ **adj** mainly US humorous showing the most basic knowledge about a subject: *You should know how to boil an egg – that's cooking 101.* • *Helping people get to the polls is a basic lesson of politics 101.*

**112** /wʌn.wʌnˈtuː/ the phone number used in Europe to call the emergency services (sometimes used in addition to national numbers)

**12A** /ˌtwelvˈeɪ/ in the UK, a symbol that marks a film that cannot be legally watched alone by children who are under twelve years old

**15** /fɪfˈtiːn/ in the UK, a symbol used to mark a film that cannot be legally watched by children who are under 15 years old

**18** /eɪˈtiːn/ in the UK, a symbol used to mark a film that cannot be legally watched by children who are under 18 years old

**180** /wʌnˈeɪ.ti/ (US) /-tɪ/ **noun** [C usually singular] US informal a sudden change from a particular opinion, decision, or plan to an opposite one: *Jack's done a 180 and agreed to come on the trip.*

**2:1** /tuːˈwʌn/ **noun** [C] (also **upper 'second'**) a degree qualification from a British university that is below a first and above a 2:2

**2:2** /tuːˈtuː/ **noun** [C] (also **lower 'second'**) a degree qualification from a British university that is below a 2:1 and above a third

**20/20 vision** /ˌtwen.tiˌtwen.tiˈvɪʒ.ən/ (US) /-tɪˌtwen.ti-/ **noun** [S] the ability to see perfectly, without needing to wear glasses or CONTACT LENSES: *You're so lucky to have 20/20 vision, Dom.*

**.22** /ˌpɔɪnt.tuːˈtuː/ **noun** [C] a type of gun that fires small bullets, used especially for hunting small animals

**24/7** /ˌtwen.ti.fɔːˈsev.ən/ (US) /-tɪ.fɔː-/ **adv, adj** informal 24 hours a day, seven days a week: all the time: *We're open for business 24/7.* • *We offer 24/7 internet access.*

**24-hour clock** /ˌtwen.ti.fɔːr.aʊəˈklɒk/ (US) /-tɪ.fɔːr.aʊəˈklɑːk/ **noun** [S] the system of using 24 numbers instead of twelve to refer to the hours in the day

**3-D** /θriːˈdiː/ in a 3-D film or picture, the objects look real and solid instead of looking like a normal flat picture: *a 3-D effect* • *These computer games rely on 3-D graphics.* • *The picture looks great because it's in 3-D*

**3Ws** /θriːˈdʌb.lɪ.juːz/ **noun** something you can say to represent 'www' at the beginning of a website address: *The dictionary website is 3Ws dot dictionary dot cambridge dot org.*

**4G** /fɔːˈdʒiː/ (US) /fɔːr-/ **adj** describes TECHNOLOGY that is new and improved, especially mobile phones on which you can use the internet, watch television, etc. 4G is short for 'fourth generation': *They invested heavily in 4G mobile phone networks.*

**.45** /fɔːˈtiːfəv/ (US) /fɔːr.ti-/ **noun** [C] a large type of PISTOL (= small gun)

**4WD** **noun** [C or U] written abbreviation for **four-wheel drive**: a vehicle that has power supplied by the engine to all four wheels so that it can travel easily over difficult ground

**4x4** /fɔːˈbɑːfɔːr/ (US) /fɔːr.bɑːfɔːr/ **noun** [C or U] abbreviation for **four-wheel drive**: a vehicle that has power supplied by the engine to all four wheels so that it can travel easily over difficult ground

**7/7** /ˌsev.ənˈsev.ən/ used in news reports to refer to 7 July, 2005, when four bombs killed many people in London

**800 number** /eɪtˈhʌn.drəd.nəm.bə/ (US) /-bə/ **noun** [C] in the US, a free phone number that begins with 800, provided by companies or other organizations offering advice or information

**900 number** /ˌnaɪnˈhʌn.drəd.nəm.bə/ (US) /-bə/ **noun** [C] in the US, an expensive phone number that begins with 900, provided by companies offering services such as CHATLINES

**9/11** /ˌnaɪnˈiːlev.ən/ mainly US September the eleventh, written in US style: the date of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in the US in 2001: *Since 9/11 there has been more cooperation between Russia and America.*

**911** /ˌnaɪn.wʌnˈwʌn/ the phone number used in the US to call the emergency services

**999** /ˌnaɪn.naɪnˈnaɪn/ the phone number used in the UK to call the emergency services: *a hoax 999 call* • *There's been an accident – dial 999 and ask for an ambulance.*