

A

A, a /ei/ the first letter of the alphabet

a (also **an**) strong /ei/ weak /ə/ **determiner**
1 BEFORE NOUN ▷ **A1** used before a noun to refer to a single thing or person but not a particular thing or person or not one that you have referred to before: *I need a new car.* ◦ *I saw a woman speaking to him.* **2 ONE** ▷ **A1** one: *a hundred dollars* ◦ *a dozen eggs* **3 EVERY/EACH** ▷ **A1** every or each: *A child needs love.* ◦ *Take one tablet three times a (= each) day.* **4 TYPE** ▷ **A1** used to say what type of thing or person something or someone is: *It's a guinea pig.* ◦ *She's a doctor.* **5 AN ACTION** ▷ **A2** used before some action nouns when referring to one example of the action: *Take a look at this.* ◦ UK *I'm just going to have a wash.* **6 TWO NOUNS** ▷ **A2** used before the first of two nouns that are often used together: *a cup and saucer* **7 AMOUNTS** ▷ **A2** used before some phrases saying how much of something there is: *a few days* ◦ *a bit of sugar* **8 NAME** ▷ used before a person's name when referring to someone you do not know: *There's a Ms Leeming to see you.*

! Common learner error: **a** or **an**?

Remember to use **an** in front of words that begin with a vowel sound. These are words that start with the letters a, e, i, o, or u, or with a sound like those letters.

a car, an orange, an hour

a- /ei/ prefix not, without: *atypical* ◦ *amoral*

aback /ə'bæk/ **adv** **be taken aback** to be very surprised or shocked: *I was rather taken aback by her honesty.*

abacus /'æbəkəs/ **noun** [C] a square object with small balls on wires, used for counting

abandon /ə'bændən/ **verb** [T] **1** **B2** to leave someone or something somewhere, sometimes not returning to get them: *They were forced to abandon the car.* **2** to stop doing something before it is finished, or to stop following a plan, idea, etc: *The match was abandoned because of rain.* • **abandoned** **adj** • **abandonment** **noun** [U]

☞ Word partners for **abandon**

be forced to abandon sth • **abandon an attempt/effort/idea/plan/search**

abate /ə'beɪt/ **verb** [I] formal to become less strong: *By the weekend, the storms had abated.*

abattoir /'æbətwa:/' **noun** [C] mainly UK (mainly US **slaughterhouse**) a place where animals are killed for meat

abbey /'æbi/ **noun** [C] a group of buildings that is a home for monks or nuns (= religious men or women who live separately from other people)

abbreviate /ə'bri:vɪət/ **verb** [T] to make a word or phrase shorter: *The word 'street' is often abbreviated to 'St'.*

abbreviation /ə,bri:vi'eɪʃən/ **noun** [C] a shorter form of a word or phrase, especially used in writing: *A doctor is often called a 'GP'; an abbreviation for 'general practitioner'.*

abdicate /'æbdɪkeɪt/ **verb** [I] [I] If a king or queen abdicates, they choose to stop being king or queen. **2** **abdicate responsibility** formal to decide not to be responsible for something any more • **abdication** /'æbdɪ'keɪʃən/ **noun** [C, U]

abdomen /'æbdəmən/ **noun** [C] formal the lower part of a person or animal's body, containing the stomach and other organs • **abdominal** /'æbdəmɪnəl/ **adj** to do with the abdomen: *abdominal pains*

abduct /əb'dʌkt/ **verb** [T] to take someone away illegally: *He was abducted by a terrorist group.* • **abduction** /əb'dʌkʃən/ **noun** [C, U]

aberration /,æbə'reɪʃən/ **noun** [C] formal a temporary change from what usually happens

abet /ə'bet/ **verb** (**abetting**, **abetted**) see **aid²** and **abet** (sb)

abhor /əb'hɔ:t/ **verb** [T] (**abhorring**, **abhorred**) formal to hate something or someone very much • **abhorrence** /əb'hɔ:rns/ **noun** [U] formal

abhorrent /əb'hɔ:rnt/ **adj** formal morally very bad: *an abhorrent crime*

abide /ə'baɪd/ **verb** **can't abide sb/sth** to strongly dislike someone or something: *I can't abide rudeness.*

PHRASAL VERB **abide by sth** to obey a rule: *Staff who refused to abide by the rules were fired.*

abiding /ə'baɪdɪŋ/ **adj** [always before noun] An abiding feeling or memory is one that you have for a long time: *My abiding memory is of him watering his plants in the garden.* → See also **law-abiding**

ability /ə'bɪləti/ **noun** [C, U] **B1** the physical or mental skill or qualities that you need to do something: *athletic/academic ability* ◦ [+ to do sth] *He had the ability to explain things clearly.*

◦ *The report questions the technical ability of the staff.* → Opposite **inability** → Compare **disability**

☞ Word partners for **ability**

have/lack/possess ability • **innate/remarkable/uncanny ability**

abject /'æbdʒekt/ **adj** **1** **abject misery/terror/poverty etc** extreme sadness, fear etc **2** showing that you are very ashamed of what you have done: *an abject apology*

ablaze /ə'bleɪz/ **adj** [never before noun] burning strongly

able /'eɪbl/ **adj** **1** **be able to do sth** **A2** to have the ability to do something or the possibility of doing something: *He'll be able to help you.* → Opposite **be unable to do sth** **2** clever or good at doing something: *She's a very able student.* • **ably** **adv** *Ably assisted by her mother, she learnt how to make jam.*

able-bodied

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able-bodied /eɪbəl'bɒdɪd/ **adj** having all the physical abilities that most people have

abnormal /æb'nɔ:məl/ **adj** different from what is normal or usual, in a way that is strange or dangerous: *abnormal behaviour/weather* • *They found abnormal levels of lead in the water.* • **abnormally adv** *abnormally high temperatures*

abnormality /æb'nɔ:'mæləti/ **noun** [C, U] something abnormal, usually in the body: a **genetic abnormality**

aboard /ə'bo:d/ **adv, preposition** on or onto a plane, ship, bus, or train: *Welcome aboard flight BA109 to Paris.*

abode /ə'bo:d/ **noun** [C] formal a home

abolish /ə'bɒlɪʃ/ **verb** [T] ② to officially end something, especially a law or system: *The slave trade was abolished in the US in 1808.* • **abolition** /æ'bɒlɪʃən/ **noun** [U] the abolition of slavery

abominable /ə'bɒmɪnəbl/ **adj** extremely bad: *abominable behaviour* • **abominably adv**

Aboriginal /æbə'rɪdʒɪ'nəl/ **adj** relating or belonging to the original race of people who lived in Australia

Aborigine /æbə'rɪdʒɪ'ni/ **noun** [C] an Aboriginal person

abort /ə'bɔ:t/ **verb** 1 **STOP** ▷ [T] to stop a process before it has finished: *The take-off was aborted due to bad weather.* 2 **PREGNANCY** ▷ [T] to end a pregnancy that is not wanted using a medical operation 3 **COMPUTER** ▷ [I, T] to stop a computer process before it is complete: **abort a program**

abortion /ə'bɔ:ʃən/ **noun** [C, U] a medical operation to end a pregnancy when the baby is still too small to live: *She had an abortion.*

abortive /ə'bɔ:tv/ **adj** [always before noun] An abortive attempt or plan fails before it is complete.

abound /ə'baʊnd/ **verb** [I] formal to exist in large numbers: *Rumours abound about a possible change of leadership.*

about 1 /ə'baʊt/ **preposition** 1 ④ relating to a particular subject or person: *a book about the Spanish Civil War* • *What was she talking about?* 2 (also US **around**) ② to or in different parts of a place, often without purpose or order: *We heard someone moving about outside.* 3 **what/how about ...?** a used to make a suggestion: *How about France for a holiday?* b ⑤ used to ask for someone's opinion on a particular subject: *What about Ann – is she nice?*

about 2 /ə'baʊt/ **adv** 1 **APPROXIMATELY** ▷ ④ used before a number or amount to mean approximately: *It happened about two months ago.* 2 **DIRECTION** ▷ (also US **around**) ② to or in different parts of a place, often without purpose or order: *She's always leaving her clothes lying about.* 3 **NEAR** ▷ informal (also US **around**) If someone or something is about, they are near to the place where you are now: *Is Kate about?* 4 **be about to do sth** ② to be going to do something very soon: *I stopped her just as she was about to leave.*

above 1 /ə'boʊv/ **adv, preposition** 1 **HIGHER POSITION** ▷ ④ in or to a higher position than

something else: *There's a mirror above the washbasin.* • *I could hear music coming from the room above.* 2 **MORE** ▷ ④ more than an amount or level: *It says on the box it's for children aged three and above.* • *Rates of pay are above average.* 3 **RANK** ▷ in a more important or advanced position than someone else: *Sally's a grade above me.* 4 **TOO IMPORTANT** ▷ too good or important for something: *No one is above suspicion in this matter.* 5 **above all** ③ most importantly: *Above all, I'd like to thank everyone.*

above 2 /ə'boʊv/ **adj, adv** ③ higher on the same page: *the above diagram* • *the address shown above*

above board **adj** [never before noun] honest and legal: *We hired a lawyer to make sure the agreement was all above board.*

abrasive /ə'breɪsɪv/ **adj** 1 An abrasive substance is rough and can be used for rubbing surfaces, to make them clean or smooth. 2 speaking or behaving in a rude and unpleasant way: *an abrasive manner*

abreast /ə'brest/ **adv** 1 **keep (sb) abreast of sth** to make sure you or someone else knows about the most recent changes in a subject or situation: *I'll keep you abreast of any developments.* 2 **two/three/four, etc abreast** If people who are moving are two/three/four, etc abreast, that number of people are next to each other, side by side: *They were cycling four abreast, completely blocking the road.*

abridged /ə'brɪdʒd/ **adj** An abridged book or other piece of writing has been made shorter. → Opposite **unabridged** • **abridge** /ə'brɪdʒ/ **verb** [T]

abroad /ə'brɔ:d/ **adv** ⑥ in or to a foreign country: *He goes abroad a lot with his job.*

Word partners for **abroad**

go/live/travel/work abroad • a holiday/trip abroad

abrupt /ə'brʌpt/ **adj** 1 sudden and not expected: *Our conversation came to an abrupt end.* 2 dealing with people in a quick way that is unfriendly or rude: *She has a rather abrupt manner.* • **abruptly adv**

abscess /'æbses/ **noun** [C] a painful, swollen area on the body that contains a yellow liquid

abscond /əb'skɒnd/ **verb** [I] formal to leave somewhere suddenly without permission because you want to escape, or because you have stolen something

absence /'æbsəns/ **noun** 1 [C, U] ② a time when you are not in a particular place: *Lisa will be acting as manager in Phil's absence* (= while Phil is not here). • A large number of **absences from work** are caused by back problems. 2 [U] ② the fact of not existing: *In the absence of any proof, it is impossible to accuse her.*

Word partners for **absence**

a lengthy/long/prolonged absence • an absence from sth • during/in sb's absence

absent /'æbsənt/ **adj** ⑥ not in the place where

you are expected to be, especially at school or work: *He has been **absent from** school all week.*

absentee /ˌæbsɪˈnɪː/ **noun** [C] someone who is not in a place where they should be • **absenteeism** **noun** [U] a situation in which someone is often absent from work or school

absently /ˈæbsəntli/ **adv** without thinking about what you are doing: *He stared **absently** at the television screen.*

absent-minded /ˌæbsɪntˈmaɪndɪd/ **adj** often forgetting things • **absent-mindedly** **adv** • **absent-mindedness** **noun** [U]

absolute /ˈæbsəluːt/ **adj** [always before noun] **1** **CE** complete: *absolute power/control* • *The party was an absolute disaster.* **2** definite: *There was no absolute proof of fraud.*

absolutely /ˌæbsəˈluːtli/ **adv** **1** **CE** completely: *The food was absolutely delicious.* • *There's absolutely nothing (= nothing at all) left.* **2** **Absolutely.** used to strongly agree with someone: “Do you think it helped his career?” “**Absolutely.**” **3** **Absolutely not.** used to strongly disagree with someone or to agree with something negative: “Are you suggesting that we should just ignore the problem?” “No, **absolutely not.**”

absolve /əbˈzɒlv/ **verb** [T] formal to formally say that someone is not guilty of something, or to forgive someone

absorb /əbˈzɔːb/ **verb** [T] **1** **LIQUID** ▷ **B2** If a substance absorbs a liquid, it takes it in through its surface and holds it: *The fabric absorbs all the moisture, keeping your skin dry.* **2** **be absorbed in sth** **B2** to give all your attention to something that you are doing: *Simon was so absorbed in his computer game, he didn't notice me come in.* **3** **REMEMBER** ▷ to understand and remember facts that you read or hear: *It's hard to absorb so much information.* **4** **BECOME PART OF** ▷ **CE** If something is absorbed into something else, it becomes part of it: *The drug is quickly absorbed into the bloodstream.*

absorbent /əbˈzɔːbənt/ **adj** An absorbent substance can take liquids in through its surface and hold them.

absorbing /əbˈzɔːbɪŋ/ **adj** very interesting: *an absorbing book/game*

abstain /əbˈsteɪn/ **verb** [I] **1** formal to not do something that you enjoy because it is bad or unhealthy: *The doctor suggested that he abstain from alcohol.* **2** to choose not to vote for or against something: *63 members voted in favour, 39 opposed and 5 abstained.* • **abstention** /əbˈsteɪnəns/ **noun** [C, U]

abstinence /ˈæbstɪnəns/ **noun** [U] formal not doing something that you enjoy because it is bad or unhealthy

abstract /ˈæbstrækt/ **adj** **1** **CE** relating to ideas and not real things: *an abstract concept* **2** **CE** Abstract art involves shapes and colours and not images of real things or people.

absurd /əbˈzɜːd/ **adj** **CE** very silly: *an absurd situation/suggestion* • **absurdity** **noun** [C, U] • **absurdly** **adv**

abundance /əˈbʌndəns/ **noun** [U, no plural] formal a lot of something: *an abundance of*

flowers • *There was food in abundance (= a lot of food).*

abundant /əˈbʌndənt/ **adj** existing in large quantities: *an abundant supply of food* • **abundantly** **adv**

abuse¹ /əˈbjuːz/ **noun** **1** **WRONG USE** ▷ [C, U] **CE** the use of something for the wrong purpose in a way that is harmful or morally wrong: **drug/alcohol abuse** • *abuse of public money* **2** **VIOLENCE** ▷ [U] **CE** violent, cruel treatment of someone: **child abuse** • **sexual abuse** **3** **LANGUAGE** ▷ [U] rude and offensive words said to another person: *Rival fans shouted abuse at each other.*

abuse² /əˈbjuːz/ **verb** [T] **1** **VIOLENCE** ▷ to treat someone cruelly and violently: *He was **physically abused** by his alcoholic father.* **2** **WRONG USE** ▷ to use something for the wrong purpose in a way that is harmful or morally wrong: *to abuse alcohol* **3** **LANGUAGE** ▷ to say rude and offensive words to someone: *The crowd started abusing him.* • **abuser** **noun** [C]

abusive /əˈbjuːsɪv/ **adj** saying rude and offensive words to someone: *an abusive phone call*

abysmal /əˈbɪzməl/ **adj** very bad, especially of bad quality: *the team's **abysmal performance** last season* • **abysmally** **adv**

abyss /əˈbɪs/ **noun** [C] **1** a very bad situation that will not improve: [usually singular] *The country is sinking into an **abyss** of violence and bloodshed.* **2** literary a very deep hole

.ac /dɒtˈæk/ internet abbreviation for academic institution: used in some internet addresses for organizations such as universities

academia /ˌækəˈdɪmiə/ **noun** [U] the people and organizations, especially universities, involved in studying

academic¹ /ˌækəˈdemɪk/ **adj** **1** **EDUCATION** ▷ **CE** related to education, schools, universities, etc: **academic ability/standards** • *It's the start of the **academic year.*** **2** **SUBJECTS** ▷ related to subjects that involve thinking and studying and not technical or practical skills: **academic subjects** **3** **CLEVER** ▷ clever and good at studying **4** **NOT REAL** ▷ If what someone says is academic, it has no purpose because it relates to a situation that does not exist: *The whole discussion is academic since management won't even listen to us.* • **academically** **adv**

academic² /ˌækəˈdemɪk/ **noun** [C] someone who teaches at a university or college, or is paid to study there

academy /əˈkædəmi/ **noun** [C] **1** a college that teaches people the skills needed for a particular job: *a military academy* **2** an organization whose purpose is to encourage and develop an art, science, language, etc: *the Royal Academy of Music*

accelerate /əkˈseləreɪt/ **verb** **1** [I, T] to start to drive faster **2** [I, T] to start to happen more quickly, or to make something start to happen more quickly: *Inflation is likely to accelerate this year.* • **acceleration** /əkˈseləˈreɪʃn/ **noun** [U]

accelerator /əkˈseləreɪtə/ **noun** [C] (also US **gas pedal**) the part of a car that you push with your

accent

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A

foot to make it go faster → See colour picture **Car** on page Centre 7

accent /ˈæksənt/ **noun** [C] **1 PRONUNCIATION** ▷ **31** the way in which someone pronounces words, influenced by the country or area they come from, or their social class: *an American accent* • *a French accent* **2 WRITTEN MARK** ▷ **32** a mark above a letter to show you how to pronounce it, for example (à) and (é) **3 WORD EMPHASIS** ▷ the word or part of a word that you emphasize when you are speaking: *In the word 'impossible' the accent is on the second syllable.* **4 the accent on sth** particular importance or attention that you give to something: *a wonderful menu with the accent on fresh fish*

Word partners for **accent**

have/speak with a [local/northern/strong, etc] accent • lose your accent • a heavy/strong/thick accent

accentuate /ək'sentʃueɪt/ **verb** [T] to emphasize something so that people notice it: *make-up to accentuate the eyes*

accept /ək'sept/ **verb** **1 AGREE** ▷ [I, T] **81** to agree to take something that is offered to you: **accept an invitation/offer** • *He won't accept advice from anyone.* **2 ADMIT** ▷ [T] **32** to admit that something is true, often something unpleasant: [+ (that)] *He refuses to accept that he's made a mistake.* **3 ALLOW TO JOIN** ▷ [T] **32** to allow someone to join an organization or become part of a group: *She's been accepted by two universities.* **4 accept responsibility/blame** **32** to admit that you caused something bad that happened: *The company has now accepted responsibility for the accident.* **5 UNDERSTAND** ▷ [T] to understand that you cannot change a very sad or unpleasant situation: *The hardest part is accepting the fact that you'll never see that person again.*

Common learner error: **accept** or **agree**?

When you accept an invitation, job, or offer, you say yes to something that is offered.

Accept is never followed by another verb.

*They offered me the job and I've accepted it.
 They offered me the job and I've accepted to take it.*

When you agree to do something, you say that you will do something that someone asks you to do.

They offered me the job and I agreed to take it.

acceptable /ək'septəbl/ **adj** **1 31** good enough: *work of an acceptable standard* • *We still hope to find a solution which is acceptable to both sides.* **2 allowed or approved of: *Smoking is less and less socially acceptable.* → Opposite **unacceptable** • **acceptability** /ək'septə'bɪləti/ **noun** [U]**

acceptance /ək'septəns/ **noun** [C, U] the act of accepting something: *his acceptance of the award* • *There is a growing public acceptance of alternative medicine.*

Word partners for **acceptance**

sb/sth gains/wins acceptance • general/growing/grudging/public acceptance
 • acceptance of sth

accepted /ək'septɪd/ **adj** agreed or approved by most people: *an accepted spelling*

access¹ /ˈækses/ **noun** [U] **1 81** the right or opportunity to use or see something: *I don't have access to that kind of information.* • *Do you have Internet access?* **2 31** the way in which you can enter a place or get to a place: *The only access to the village is by boat.*

access² /ˈækses/ **verb** [T] **32** to find or see information, especially using a computer: *You can access the files over the Internet.*

accessible /ək'sesəbl/ **adj** **1 32** easy to find or reach: *Information such as this is freely accessible to the public.* • *The hotel is in a quiet but easily accessible part of the resort.* → Opposite **inaccessible** **2** easy to understand: *They are attempting to make opera accessible to a wider audience.* • **accessibility** /ək'sesə'bɪləti/ **noun** [U]

accessory /ək'sesəri/ **noun** [C] **1** something extra that is not necessary but is attractive or useful: [usually plural] *bathroom accessories* • *computer accessories* **2** formal someone who helps a criminal to commit a crime: *an accessory to murder*

access provider **noun** [C] a company that makes you able to use the Internet, so that you can use email and see or show documents

accident /'æksɪdɪnt/ **noun** [C] **1 32** something bad that happens that is not intended and that causes injury or damage: *a car/traffic accident* • *She had an accident in the kitchen.* • *I didn't mean to spill his drink. It was an accident.* **2 by accident** **31** without being intended: *I deleted the wrong file by accident.*

Word partners for **accident**

have/be involved in an accident • an accident happens/occurs • a fatal/serious/tragic accident • [killed, paralyzed, etc] in an accident • a car/traffic accident

accidental /ˌæksɪ'dentəl/ **adj** **32** not intended: **accidental damage** • **accidentally** **adv** **32** *She accidentally knocked over a glass of red wine.*

accident-prone /'æksɪdɪnt.prəʊn/ **adj** Someone who is accident-prone often has accidents.

acclaim /ə'kleɪm/ **noun** [U] praise from a lot of people: **international/critical acclaim**

acclaimed /ə'kleɪmd/ **adj** praised by a lot of people: *the acclaimed singer and songwriter, Norah Jones*

acclimatize (also UK **-ise**) /ə'klaɪmətaɪz/ **verb** [I, T] to start to feel happy with the weather, the way of life, etc in a new place, or to make someone do this • **acclimatization** /ə'klaɪmə'taɪzɪʃən/ **noun** [U]

accolade /'ækələɪd/ **noun** [C] formal a prize or praise given to someone because they are very good at something

accommodate /ə'kɒmədeɪt/ **verb** [T] **1 HAVE SPACE FOR** ▷ to have enough space somewhere

for a number of things or people: *We need more roads to accommodate the increase in traffic.* **2 HELP** ▷ to do what someone wants, often by providing them with something: *He requires special equipment and, where possible, we've accommodated those needs.* **3 GIVE A HOME** ▷ to provide someone with a place to live or stay: *The athletes will be accommodated in a special Olympic village.*

accommodating /ə'kɒmədeɪtɪŋ/ **adj** willing to change your plans in order to help people

accommodation /ə'kɒmədeɪʃən/ **noun** [U] **(B1)** (also US **accommodations** [plural]) a place where you live or stay: *rented accommodation* • *The price includes travel and accommodation.*

accompaniment /ə'kʌmpənɪmənt/ **noun** **1** [C] formal something that is nice to eat or drink: *salmon with an accompaniment of green salad* **2** [C, U] music that is played with the main instrument or with a singing voice: *a song with piano accompaniment*

accompany /ə'kʌmpəni/ **verb** [T] **1 GO WITH** ▷ formal **(B1)** to go somewhere with someone: *We accompanied her back to her hotel.* **2 HAPPEN TOGETHER** ▷ **(B1)** to happen or exist at the same time as something else: *The teachers' book is accompanied by a CD.* **3 MUSIC** ▷ to play a musical instrument with someone else who is playing or singing

accomplice /ə'kʌmplɪs/ **noun** [C] someone who helps a criminal to commit a crime

accomplish /ə'kʌmplɪʃ/ **verb** [T] to succeed in doing something good: *I feel as if I've accomplished nothing all day.*

accomplished /ə'kʌmplɪʃt/ **adj** having a lot of skill in art, music, writing, etc: *an accomplished musician/painter*

accomplishment /ə'kʌmplɪʃmənt/ **noun** **1** [U] success in doing something good: *Finishing the course gave me a great sense of accomplishment.* **2** [C] formal a skill in art, music, writing, etc

accord¹ /ə'kɔ:d/ **noun** **1** of your own accord If you do something of your own accord, you choose to do it and no one else forces you: *Luckily, she left of her own accord.* **2** [C] an official agreement, especially between countries: *a peace/trade accord*

accord² /ə'kɔ:d/ **verb** [T] formal to treat someone specially, usually by showing respect: *the respect accorded to doctors*

accordance /ə'kɔ:dəns/ **noun** formal in **accordance with sth** agreeing with a rule, law, or wish: *Both companies have insisted that they were acting in accordance with the law.*

accordingly /ə'kɔ:dɪŋli/ **adv** in a way that is suitable: *We'll wait until we hear the decision and act accordingly.*

according to /ə'kɔ:dɪŋtu:/ **preposition** **1** **(B1)** as said by someone or shown by something: *According to our records, she was absent last Friday.* **2** **(B2)** based on a particular system or plan: *Children are allocated to schools according to the area in which they live.*

accordion /ə'kɔ:diən/ **noun** [C] a musical

instrument with a folding centre part and keyboards at both ends, which you play by pushing the two ends together

accost /ə'kɒst/ **verb** [T] If someone you do not know accosts you, they move towards you and start talking to you in an unfriendly way.

account¹ /ə'kaʊnt/ **noun** [C] **1 REPORT** ▷ **(B2)** a written or spoken description of something that has happened: *They gave conflicting accounts of the events.* **2 BANK** ▷ (also **bank account**) **(B1)** an arrangement with a bank to keep your money there and to let you take it out when you need to: *I paid the money into my account.* **3 SHOP** ▷ an agreement with a shop or company that allows you to buy things and pay for them later **4 take sth into account; take account of sth** **(B2)** to consider something when judging a situation: *You have to take into account the fact that he is less experienced when judging his performance.* **5 on account of sth** formal **(B2)** because of something: *He doesn't drink alcohol on account of his health.* **6 by all accounts** as said by a lot of people: *The party was, by all accounts, a great success.* **7 on my account** just for or because of me: *Please don't change your plans on my account.* **8 on no account; not on any account** UK not for any reason or in any situation: *On no account must these records be changed.* → See also **checking account, current account, deposit account**

Word partners for account

- 1 give an account of sth • a brief/detailed/full account • an eye-witness/first-hand account • an account of sth
- 2 close/open an account • have an account with [name of bank] • a joint/personal/savings account • an account holder/number

account² /ə'kaʊnt/ **verb**

PHRASAL VERB account for sth **1** to be part of a total number of something: *Oil accounts for 40% of Norway's exports.* **2** to be the reason for something, or to explain the reason for something: *She was asked to account for the missing money.*

accountable /ə'kaʊntəbl/ **adj** [never before noun] having to be responsible for what you do and able to explain your actions: *Hospitals must be held accountable for their mistakes.* • *Politicians should be accountable to the public that elects them.* → Opposite **unaccountable** • **accountability** /ə'kaʊntə'bɪləti/ **noun** [U]

accountancy /ə'kaʊntənsi/ **noun** [U] UK (US **accounting**) the job of being an accountant

accountant /ə'kaʊntənt/ **noun** [C] **(B1)** someone whose job is to keep or examine the financial records of a company or organization

accounting /ə'kaʊntɪŋ/ **noun** [U] (UK **accountancy**) the job of being an accountant

accounts /ə'kaʊnts/ **noun** [plural] an official record of all the money a company or organization has received or paid

accreditation /ə'kredɪ'teɪʃən/ **noun** [U] official approval of an organization • **accredited** /ə'kredɪtɪd/ **adj** officially approved

accumulate

6

A

accumulate /ə'kju:mjəleɪt/ **verb** [I, T] to increase in amount over a period of time, or to make something increase over a period of time: *The chemicals accumulate in your body.* • **accumulation** /ə'kju:mjə'leɪʃn/ **noun** [U]

accuracy /'ækjərəsi/ **noun** [U] ② how correct or exact something is: *The new system should help to improve the accuracy of weather forecasts.*

accurate /'ækjərət/ **adj** ② correct or exact: **accurate information/measurements** • *She was able to give police a fairly accurate description of the man.* → Opposite **inaccurate** • **accurately** **adv**

accusation /,ækju:'zeɪʃn/ **noun** [C] a statement in which you say that someone has done something bad: *He made a number of accusations against his former colleague.*

Word partners for accusation

make an accusation • deny/dismiss/face/reject an accusation • a false/wild accusation • accusations of sth • an accusation against sb • an accusation by/from sb

accuse /ə'kju:z/ **verb** [T] ② to say that someone has done something bad: *He was falsely accused of murder.* • [+ of + doing sth] *She accused Andrew of lying to her.* • **accuser** **noun** [C]

the accused /ə'kju:zd/ **noun** formal the person or people who are accused of a crime in a court of law

accusing /ə'kju:zɪŋ/ **adj** showing that you think someone is responsible for something bad: *Why are you giving me that accusing look?* • **accusingly** **adv** *She looked at me accusingly.*

accustom /ə'kʌstəm/ **verb**

PHRASAL VERB **accustom yourself to sth/doing sth** to experience something often enough for it to seem normal to you

accustomed /ə'kʌstəmd/ **adj** **accustomed to sth/doing sth** If you are accustomed to something, you have experienced it often enough for it to seem normal to you: *I've worked nights for years now so I've grown accustomed to it.*

ace¹ /eɪs/ **noun** [C] **1** a playing card with one symbol on it, that has the highest or lowest value in many games **2** a first shot by a tennis player that is too good for the other player to hit back

ace² /eɪs/ **adj** informal very good

ache¹ /eɪk/ **noun** [C] ② a feeling of pain over an area of your body that continues for a long time: *There's a dull ache in my right shoulder.* → See also **stomach ache**

ache² /eɪk/ **verb** [I] ② if a part of your body aches, it is painful: *My legs ache after all that exercise.*

achieve /ə'tʃi:v/ **verb** [T] ② to succeed in doing something good, usually by working hard: *I've achieved my ambition.* • *I've been working all day but I feel I've achieved nothing.* • **achievable** **adj** possible to achieve: **achievable goals** • **achiever** **noun** [C] *He's from a family of high achievers (= very successful people).*

achievement /ə'tʃi:vmənt/ **noun** **1** [C] ② some-

thing good that you achieve: *This film is his greatest achievement to date.* **2** [U] success in doing something good, usually by working hard: *You get such a sense of achievement when you finish the course.*

Word partners for achievement

a great/notable/outstanding/remarkable achievement • sb's crowning achievement • a sense of achievement

acid¹ /'æɪsɪd/ **noun** [C, U] ② one of several liquid substances with a pH of less than 7 that react with other substances, often burning or dissolving them: *hydrochloric acid*

acid² /'æɪsɪd/ **adj** **1** (also **acidic** /ə'sɪdɪk/) containing acid, or having similar qualities to an acid: *acid soil* • *an acid smell/taste* **2 acid remark/comment, etc** an unkind remark that criticizes someone

acid rain **noun** [U] rain that contains chemicals from pollution and damages plants, etc

acknowledge /ə'kɒnlɪdʒ/ **verb** [T] **1 ACCEPT** ▷ to accept that something is true or exists: [+ (that)] *He acknowledged that there was a problem.* **2 LETTER** ▷ to tell someone, usually in a letter, that you have received something they sent you: *Send a letter acknowledging receipt of his application.* **3 SAY HELLO** ▷ to let someone know that you have seen them, usually by saying hello: *She didn't even acknowledge my presence.*

Word partners for acknowledge

be generally/widely/universally acknowledged • acknowledge sb/sth as/to be sth

acknowledgement (also **acknowledgment**) /ə'kɒnlɪdʒmənt/ **noun** **1 ACCEPT** ▷ [C, U] the act of accepting that something is true or exists: *There was no acknowledgement of the extent of the problem.* **2 LETTER** ▷ [C] a letter telling you that someone has received something that you sent them **3 BOOK** ▷ [C] something written at the front of a book by the author to thank people who have helped them: [usually plural] *His name appears in the acknowledgements.*

acne /'æknɪ/ **noun** [U] a skin problem that young people often have that causes spots on the face

acorn /'eɪkɔ:n/ **noun** [C] an oval nut that grows on oak trees

acoustic /ə'ku:stɪk/ **adj**

1 [always before noun] An acoustic musical instrument does not use electricity: *an acoustic guitar* **2** relating to sound and hearing

acoustics /ə'ku:stɪks/ **noun** [plural] the way in which the shape of a room affects the quality of sound: *The acoustics of the hall were terrible.*

acquaintance /ə'kweɪntəns/ **noun** [C] someone who you know but do not know well: *He's just a business acquaintance.*

acquainted /ə'kweɪntɪd/ **adj** [never before noun] formal **1** If you are acquainted with someone, you have met them but do not know them well: *We're already acquainted – we met at Elaine's party.*



2 be acquainted with sth to know about something: *I'm afraid I'm not yet acquainted with the system.*

acquiesce /ækwi'es/ verb [I] formal to agree to something, often when you do not want to
 • **acquiescence** noun [U] formal

acquire /ə'kwaiə/ verb [T] **1** (B2) to get something: *I managed to acquire a copy of the report.*

2 (B2) to learn something: *to acquire knowledge/skills*

acquisition /ækwi'ziʃn/ noun **1** [U] the process of learning or getting something: *children's acquisition of language* **2** [C] something that you get, usually by buying it: *And the hat – is that a recent acquisition?*

acquit /ə'kwɪt/ verb [T] (acquitting, acquitted) If someone is acquitted of a crime, a court of law decides that they are not guilty: [often passive] *Both men were acquitted of murder.*

acquittal /ə'kwɪtəl/ noun [C, U] a decision by a court of law that someone is not guilty of a crime

acre /'eɪkə/ noun [C] a unit for measuring area, equal to 4047 square metres

acid /ækrɪd/ adj An acid smell is unpleasant and causes a burning feeling in your throat.

acrimonious /ækri'məʊniəs/ adj involving a lot of anger, disagreement, and bad feelings: *an acrimonious divorce* • **acrimony** /ækri'məni/ noun [U] angry, bad feelings between people

acrobat /ækrəbæt/ noun [C] someone who entertains people by performing difficult physical acts, such as walking on a wire high above the ground • **acrobatic** /ækrə'bætɪk/ adj • **acrobatics** /ækrə'bætɪks/ noun [plural] the actions of an acrobat

acronym /æk'rɒnɪm/ noun [C] a word made from the first letters of other words: *AIDS is the acronym for 'acquired immune deficiency syndrome'.*

across /ə'krɒs/ adv, preposition **1 SIDES** ▷ (A2) from one side of something to the other: *I was walking across the road.* • *They've built a new bridge across the river.* **2 OPPOSITE** ▷ (A2) on the opposite side of: *There's a library just across the street.* **3 MEASURE** ▷ used after a measurement to show how wide something is: *The window measures two metres across.*

acrylic /æk'rɪlɪk/ noun **1** [U] a type of cloth or plastic produced by chemical processes **2** [C, U] a type of paint • **acrylic** adj *acrylic paints*

act¹ /ækt/ verb **1 BEHAVE** ▷ [I] (B1) to behave in a particular way: *to act responsibly* • *Jeff's been acting strangely recently.* • *Stop acting like a child!* **2 DO SOMETHING** ▷ [I] (B2) to do something, especially in order to solve a problem: *We have to act now to stop the spread of this disease.* **3 PERFORM** ▷ [I, T] (B1) to perform in a play or film: *He's acted in a number of successful Hollywood films.*

PHRASAL VERBS **act as sth** **1** (B2) to do a particular job, especially one you do not normally do: *He was asked to act as an adviser on the project.* **2** to have a particular effect: *Caffeine acts as a stimulant.* • **act sth out** to perform the actions

and words of a situation or story: *The children acted out a verse from their favourite poem.* • **act up** If someone, especially a child, acts up, they behave badly.

act² /ækt/ noun **1 DO** ▷ [C] (B2) something that someone does: *an act of terrorism/kindness* **2 LAW** ▷ [C] a law made by a government: *an act of Congress/Parliament* **3 THEATRE** ▷ [C] (B1) one of the parts a play is divided into: *Her character doesn't appear until Act 2.* **4 PERFORMERS** ▷ [C] one or several performers who perform for a short while in a show: *a comedy double act* **5 FALSE BEHAVIOUR** ▷ [no plural] behaviour that hides your real feelings or intentions: *Was she really upset or was that just an act?* **6 in the act (of doing sth)** doing something wrong: *I caught him in the act of opening one of my letters.*

IDIOMS **get your act together** informal to organize your activities so that you can make progress • **get in on the act** informal to become involved in something successful that someone else has started

Word partners for act

an act of sth • commit an act • a barbaric/cowardly act • a criminal/terrorist act

acting¹ /'æktɪŋ/ adj **acting chairman/director**, etc someone who does a job for a short time while the person who usually does it is not there

acting² /'æktɪŋ/ noun [U] the job of performing in plays and films: *He's trying to get into acting.*

action /'æksən/ noun **1 DO** ▷ [C, U] (B2) something that you do: *She has to accept the consequences of her actions.* • *We must take action (= do something) before the problem gets worse.* • *So what do you think is the best course of action (= way of dealing with the situation)?* • *It was the first time I'd seen firemen in action (= doing a particular activity).* **2 ACTIVITY** ▷ [U] (B1) things that are happening, especially exciting or important things: *He likes films with a lot of action.* → Opposite **inaction** **3 out of action** damaged or hurt and not able to operate or play sports: *They've got three players out of action.* **4 legal action** a legal process in a court: *They are planning to take legal action against the company.* **5 FIGHTING** ▷ [U] fighting in a war: *He was killed in action (= while fighting).* **6 PROCESS** ▷ [no plural] a movement or natural process: *The rocks are smoothed by the action of water.* → See also **industrial action**, **be all talk**² (and no action)

'action movie noun [C] (also UK **action film**) a movie that has a lot of exciting action

action-packed /'æksən,pækt/ adj An action-packed film or story has a lot of exciting events.

'action replay noun [C] UK (US **instant replay**) a recording of a small part of a sports event that is shown immediately after it happens, often more slowly

activate /'æktɪveɪt/ verb [T] to make something start working: *The alarm can be activated by a laser beam.*

active

8

A

active /'æktɪv/ **adj** **1 INVOLVED** ▷ **32** very involved in an organization or planned activity: *He played an **active role** in the campaign.* **2 BUSY** ▷ **31** doing a lot of things, or moving around a lot: *Even at the age of 80 she's still very active.* **3 GRAMMAR** ▷ **31** An active verb or sentence is one in which the subject of the verb is the person or thing doing the action. For example 'Andy drove the car.' is an active sentence. → Compare **passive** **4 VOLCANO** ▷ An active volcano could throw out rocks, fire, etc at any time.

actively /'æktɪvli/ **adv** **32** in a way that causes something to happen: *He **actively encourages** me to spend money.*

activist /'æktɪvɪst/ **noun** [C] someone who tries to cause social or political change: *a **political activist*** • **activism** **noun** [U]

activity /'æktɪvəti/ **noun** **1 EVENT** ▷ [C] **32** something that you do for enjoyment, especially an organized event: *The centre offers a range of activities, such as cycling, swimming, and tennis.*

2 WORK ▷ [C, U] **32** the work of a group or organization to achieve an aim: **criminal/terrorist activities** **3 MOVEMENT** ▷ [U] **32** a situation in which a lot of things are happening or people are moving around: *There was a sudden **flurry of activity** (= short period of activity) at the back of the hall.* → Opposite **inactivity** (**inactive**)

Word partners for activity

do/perform an activity • frantic/strenuous activity • outdoor/leisure activity • a flurry of activity

actor /'æktə/ **noun** [C] **32** someone, especially a man, whose job is to perform in plays and films

actress /'æktɹəs/ **noun** [C] a woman whose job is to perform in plays and films

actual /'æktʃuəl/ **adj** **1** **32** real, not guessed or imagined: *We were **expecting** about fifty people, though the **actual number** was a lot higher.* **2 in actual fact** UK **32** really: *It was due to start at ten, but in **actual fact**, it didn't begin until nearly eleven.*

Common learner error: actual or current?

Actual means 'real'. It does not mean 'happening now'.

*His friends call him Jo-Jo, but his **actual** name is John.*

Use **current** to talk about things that are happening or that exist now.

*She started her **current** job two years ago.*

actually /'æktʃuəli/ **adv** **1 TRUTH** ▷ **32** used when you are saying what is the truth of a situation: *He didn't **actually** say anything important.* **2 SURPRISE** ▷ **31** used when you are saying something surprising: *She sounds English but she's **actually** Spanish.* • *Did you **actually** meet the president?* **3 MISTAKE** ▷ mainly UK **32** used when you are disagreeing with someone or saying no to a request: *"You didn't tell me." "Actually, I did."* • *"Do you mind if I smoke?" "Actually, I'd rather you didn't."*

acumen /'ækjʊmən/ **noun** [U] the ability to make good judgments and decisions: **business/political acumen**

acupuncture /'ækjʊpʌŋktʃə/ **noun** [U] a way of treating pain or illness by putting thin needles into different parts of the body

acute /ə'kjʊt/ **adj** **1 EXTREME** ▷ An acute problem or negative feeling is extreme: *There's an **acute shortage** of medical staff.* • **acute pain** • **acute anxiety** **2 ANGLE** ▷ An acute angle is less than 90 degrees. **3 QUICK TO NOTICE** ▷ quick to notice or understand things: *an **acute mind*** • *Dogs rely on their **acute** sense of smell.*

acutely /ə'kjʊtli/ **adv** very strongly: *I was **acutely aware** of how Alex felt about the situation.*

ad /æd/ **noun** [C] **31** an advertisement → See also **classified ad**

AD /,eɪ'di:/ abbreviation for Anno Domini: used to show that a particular year came after the birth of Christ: *1066 AD*

adamant /'ædəmənt/ **adj** very sure of what you think and not willing to change your opinion: [+ (that)] *They are **adamant** that they have not broken any rules.* • **adamantly** **adv**

Adam's apple /,ædəmz'æpl/ **noun** [C] the lump in a man's throat that you can see moving up and down when he speaks or swallows

adapt /ə'dæpt/ **verb** **1 CHANGE BEHAVIOUR** ▷ [I] **32** to change your behaviour so that it is suitable for a new situation: *It takes time to **adapt** to a new working environment.* **2 CHANGE SOMETHING** ▷ [T] **32** to change something so that it is suitable for a different use or situation: *Courses have to be **adapted** for different markets.* **3 BOOK** ▷ [T] to change a book or play so that it can be made into a film or television programme: *Both novels have been **adapted** for television.*

adaptable /ə'dæptəbl/ **adj** able to change to suit different situations or uses • **adaptability** /,ædəptə'bɪləti/ **noun** [U]

adaptation /,ædəp'teɪʃən/ **noun** **1** [C] a film, television programme, or play that has been made from a book **2** [C, U] the process or act of changing to suit a new situation: *Evolution occurs as a result of **adaptation** to new environments.*

adapter (also **adaptor**) /ə'dæptə/ **noun** [C] something that is used for connecting two or more pieces of electrical equipment to an electrical supply

add /æd/ **verb** **1 PUT WITH** ▷ [T] **32** to put something with something else: ***Add** the eggs to the cream.* **2 INCREASE** ▷ [I, T] to increase an amount or level: *Then there's the service charge which **adds** another ten percent to the bill.* **3 SAY MORE** ▷ [T] **31** to say another thing: [+ that] *She said she liked him but **added** that he was difficult to work with.* **4 CALCULATE** ▷ [T] **32** to put two or more numbers or amounts together to get a total → See also **add insult² to injury**

PHRASAL VERBS **add (sth) up** **31** to put numbers together in order to reach a total: *When you **add up** everything we've spent, it's cost well over £200.*

• **not add up** informal If something does not add up, you cannot believe it is true: *She gave me an explanation but somehow it doesn't add up.*

adder /'ædə/ **noun** [C] a small, poisonous snake
addict /'ædɪkt/ **noun** [C] **1** **62** someone who cannot stop taking a drug: *a heroin/drug addict*
2 informal someone who likes something very much and does it or has it very often: *a TV/computer game addict*

addicted /ə'dɪktɪd/ **adj** **1** not able to stop taking a drug: *He later became addicted to heroin.*
2 informal liking something very much and doing or having it too often: *He's addicted to chocolate/football.*

addiction /ə'dɪkʃən/ **noun** [C, U] **62** the problem of not being able to stop doing or taking something because you are addicted to it

Word partners for addiction

- fight/have/suffer from an addiction
 • alcohol/drug/gambling addiction
 • addiction to sth

addictive /ə'dɪktɪv/ **adj** If something is addictive, it makes you want more of it so that you become addicted: *Tobacco is highly addictive.*

addition /ə'dɪʃən/ **noun** **1** **in addition (to sth)** **61** added to what already exists or happens, or more than you already do or have: *In addition to teaching, she works as a nurse in the holidays.*
2 [U] **62** the process of adding numbers or amounts together in order to get a total **3** [C] **62** a new or extra thing that is added to something: *Baby Sam is the latest addition to their family.*

additional /ə'dɪʃənəl/ **adj** **62** extra to what already exists: *We plan to take on an additional ten employees over the next year.* • **additionally** adv

additive /'ædɪtɪv/ **noun** [C] a chemical that is added to food in order to make it taste or look better or to keep it fresh

add-on /'ædən/ **noun** [C] a piece of equipment that can be connected to a computer to give it an extra use

address¹ /ə'dres/ **1** **65** /'ædres/ **noun** [C] **1 BUILDING DETAILS** **61** the details of where a building is, including the building number, road name, town, etc **2 ELECTRONIC** **61** a series of letters, signs, or numbers used to send email to someone or to reach a page of information on the Internet: *an email/web address* **3 SPEECH** **61** a formal speech to a group of people → See also **forwarding address, public address system**

Word partners for address

- give sb your address • your business/home/work address • a change of address

address² /ə'dres/ **verb** [T] **1 BUILDING DETAILS** **61** to write a name or address on an envelope or parcel: *A parcel arrived addressed to Emma.*
2 DEAL WITH **61** to deal with a problem: *We have to address the issue/problem before it gets worse.*
3 SPEAK **61** formal to speak to someone, or to give a speech to an audience: *Today she will be addressing a major conference in London.*

4 address sb as sth formal to give someone a particular name or title when you speak or write to them: *Do you think I should address him as 'Mr Benson' or 'Albert'?*

address book **noun** [C] (also US 'address book') **1** a computer document that keeps a list of names and email addresses **2** a book in which you keep a list of names and addresses

adept /'ædept/ **adj** good at doing something difficult: *She's very adept at dealing with the media.*

adequate /'ædɪkwət/ **adj** **1** **62** enough: *I didn't have adequate time to prepare.* **2** **62** good enough, but not very good: *The sound quality isn't exceptional but it's adequate for everyday use.* → Opposite **inadequate** • **adequately** adv **62** *Make sure you are adequately equipped for the journey.*

adhere /əd'hɪə/ **verb** [I] formal to stick to a surface

PHRASAL VERB adhere to sth to obey a rule or principle: *We always adhere strictly to the guidelines.*

adherence /əd'hɪərəns/ **noun** [U] formal the act of obeying a set of rules or principles
 • **adherent** **noun** [C] formal someone who obeys a particular set of rules, principles, etc

adhesive /əd'hɪsɪv/ **noun** [C] a substance used for sticking things together • **adhesive** **adj**

ad hoc /əd'hɒk/ **adj** not regular or planned, but happening only when necessary: *We meet on an ad hoc basis.*

adjacent /ə'dʒeɪsnt/ **adj** formal If two things are adjacent, they are next to each other: *The fire started in an adjacent building.* • *They live in a house adjacent to the railway.*

adjective /'ædʒɪktɪv/ **noun** [C] **61** a word that describes a noun or pronoun. The words 'big', 'boring', 'purple', and 'obvious' are all adjectives.
 • **adjectival** /'ædʒɪktɪvəl/ **adj** containing or used like an adjective: *an adjectival phrase*

adjoining /ə'dʒɔɪnɪŋ/ **adj** next to and joined to something: *an adjoining room*

adjourn /ə'dʒɔ:ɪn/ **verb** [I, T] formal to stop a meeting, especially a legal process, for a period of time or until a later date: *The judge adjourned the case until March 31.* • **adjournment** **noun** [C]

adjudicate /ə'dʒu:dɪkeɪt/ **verb** [I, T] formal to make an official judgment or decision about a competition or disagreement: *Occasionally, he has to adjudicate on a pensions matter.* • **adjudication** /ə'dʒu:dɪkeɪʃən/ **noun** [U] • **adjudicator** **noun** [C]

adjust /ə'dʒʌst/ **verb** **1** [T] **62** to change something slightly so that it works better, fits better, or is more suitable: *You can adjust the heat using this switch here.* • *The figures need to be adjusted for inflation.* **2** [I] **62** to change the way you behave or think in order to suit a new situation: *They found it hard adjusting to life in a new country.*

adjustable /ə'dʒʌstəbəl/ **adj** able to be changed slightly in order to suit different people or situations: *an adjustable seat*

adjustment

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A

adjustment /ə'dʒʌstmənt/ **noun** [C, U] **82** a slight change that you make to something so that it works better, fits better, or is more suitable: *We've made a few adjustments to the schedule.*

ad lib /æd'lib/ **verb** [I, T] to speak in public without having planned what to say: *I had no script so I had to ad lib.*

admin /'ædmɪn/ **noun** [U] UK short for administration

administer /əd'mɪnɪstə/ **verb** [T] **1** to organize or arrange something: *The fund is administered by the Economic Development Agency.* **2** formal to give medicine or medical help to someone: *to administer first aid*

administration /əd'mɪnɪ'streɪʃən/ **noun** **1** [U] the work of organizing and arranging the operation of something, such as a company: *The job involves a lot of administration.* **2** [C] mainly US the President and politicians who govern a country at a particular time, or a period of government: *the Obama administration*

administrative /əd'mɪnɪstrətɪv/ **adj** relating to the organization and management of something: *The work is largely administrative.*

administrative assistant **noun** [C] someone whose job is to do tasks such as arranging meetings and typing letters for someone

administrator /əd'mɪnɪstreɪtə/ **noun** [C] someone who helps to manage an organization

admirable /'ædmərəbl/ **adj** If something is admirable, you respect or approve of it: *He has many admirable qualities.* • **admirably adv**

admiral /'ædmərəl/ **noun** [C] an officer of very high rank in the navy

admiration /əd'mɪəri'eɪʃən/ **noun** [U] **82** the feeling that you admire someone or something: *My admiration for him grows daily.*

Word partners for admiration

express/feel/have admiration • enormous/great/grudging/profound admiration
 • admiration for sb

admire /əd'maɪə/ **verb** [T] **1** **82** to respect or approve of someone or something: *You have to admire him for being so determined.* **2** **81** to look at something or someone, thinking how attractive they are: *We stood for a few minutes, admiring the view.* • **admirer** **noun** [C]

admissible /əd'mɪsəbl/ **adj** formal allowed or acceptable, especially in a court of law: *admissible evidence*

admission /əd'mɪʃən/ **noun** **1** **MONEY** ▷ [U] **81** the money that you pay to enter a place: *Art exhibition – admission free.* **2** **TRUTH** ▷ [C] the act of agreeing that you did something bad, or that something bad is true: *She is, by her own admission, lazy.* • *His departure was seen by many as an admission of guilt.* **3** **PERMISSION** ▷ [C, U] **82** permission to enter somewhere or to become a member of a club, university, etc: *She's applied for admission to law school.*

admissions /əd'mɪʃənz/ **noun** [plural] the people who have been accepted as students or

as members of an organization, or the process of accepting them: *the college admissions office*

admit /əd'mɪt/ **verb** (**admitting, admitted**)

1 [I, T] **81** to agree that you did something bad, or that something bad is true: [+ doing sth] *Both men admitted taking illegal drugs.* • [+ to + doing sth] *She admitted to stealing the keys.* • *I was wrong – I admit it.* • [+ (that)] *He finally admitted that he couldn't cope.* **2** [T] to allow someone to enter somewhere, especially to take someone who is sick into hospital: UK *to be admitted to hospital*/US *to be admitted to the hospital* • *It says on the ticket 'admits 2'.*

Other ways of saying admit

If a person admits that something bad is true, the verbs **accept** and **acknowledge** may be used:

I accept that things should have been done differently.

He refuses to acknowledge the problem.

If a person admits that they have done something bad, the verb **confess** is often used:

Rawlinson finally confessed to the murder.

The phrasal verbs **own up** and (*informal*) **fess up**, and the idiom **come clean** can also be used when a person admits that they have done something bad:

I decided to come clean about the broken vase.

Come on, own up – who's eaten the last sandwich?

admittance /əd'mɪtəns/ **noun** [U] permission to enter a place

admittedly /əd'mɪtɪdli/ **adv** **82** used when you are agreeing that something is true although you do not want to: *Admittedly I was partly to blame but it wasn't all my fault.*

admonish /əd'mɒnɪʃ/ **verb** [T] formal to gently tell someone that they have done something wrong

ado /ə'du:/ **noun** without further/more **ado** without waiting any more

adulthood /əd'ju:lthəʊd/ **noun** [U] the period of time in someone's life between being a child and an adult

adolescent /əd'ɒləsənt/ **noun** [C] a young person who is between being a child and an adult • **adolescent** **adj**

adopt /ə'dɒpt/ **verb** **1** [I, T] **82** to legally become the parents of someone else's child **2** [T] **82** to accept or start using something new: *We've adopted a new approach.* • **adopted** **adj** **82** *an adopted son* • **adoption** /ə'dɒpʃən/ **noun** [C, U]

adorable /ə'dɔ:rəbl/ **adj** very attractive, often because of being small: *an adorable little boy*

adore /ə'dɔ:ə/ **verb** [T] **1** to love someone and have a very good opinion of them: *Sarah adored her father.* **2** to like something very much: *I adore travelling.* • **adoration** /əd'ɔ:reɪʃən/ **noun** [U]

adorn /ə'dɔ:n/ **verb** [T] formal to decorate something: *The room was adorned with flowers.* • **adornment** **noun** [C, U]

adrenalin (also **adrenaline**) /ə'drenəlɪn/ **noun**