

Cambridge Learner's Dictionary

FOURTH EDITION



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Introduction

Welcome to the new, updated edition of the **Cambridge Learner's Dictionary** (4th edition). You have in your hand the ideal dictionary for students at the A2-B2 CEFR levels.

Clear definitions

All the definitions in the dictionary are written in clear, simple English that you will understand.

Examples

This dictionary contains over 28,000 examples of how words are used in natural contexts. The examples help you to know how to use the word and what other words are often used with it.

Grammar

Grammar information is presented in a way that is clear and helpful and will show you how to avoid mistakes.

Collocations (word partners)

Collocations or word partners are words that are often used together, for example, *a good buy* and *a big decision*. Knowing how to put the right words together is extremely important for producing fluent, natural-sounding English. Collocations are highlighted in examples and also in special *word partner* boxes.

Choosing the right word

Other ways of saying boxes show a variety of words and phrases that can be used to express a main idea. Not only does this help you to expand your vocabulary, but choosing exactly the right word also helps you to express your meaning more clearly and accurately.

Common Learner Errors

The Cambridge Learner Corpus is a database of over 45 million words of Cambridge English examination scripts which has been analysed to give information about mistakes that learners make most frequently. This information is presented in the *common learner error* boxes throughout the dictionary. These boxes warn you that mistakes are common with a particular word or aspect of English and help you to avoid making them. There is also a section in the centre that shows the most common learner errors that students of English at Common European Framework levels A1, A2, B1 and B2 make when they write exam papers. This section will help you in your exam preparation.

New words

English is changing all the time. You can be confident that this dictionary is really up-to-date, with new words from many areas, such as technology, the environment, business and communications.

Self-study

This dictionary has a centre section of 70 *extra help pages* that gives clear, useful information and exercises on important topics such as phrasal verbs, grammar and spelling. There are also 16 colour pages of pictures and photographs to help you increase your vocabulary.

Cambridge English Corpus

The features described above were created using the Cambridge English Corpus (CEC). The CEC is a computer database of contemporary spoken and written English, which currently stands at over one billion words. It includes British English, American English and other varieties of English. It also includes the Cambridge Learner Corpus, developed in collaboration with the University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations. Cambridge University Press has built up the CEC to provide evidence about language use that helps to produce better language teaching materials. The corpus gives us the evidence we need to be sure that what we say in the dictionary is accurate and gives the learner a head start in making sure they are learning real, authentic English.

English Profile*

In the dictionary entries you will see the numbers and letters A1, A2, B1 and B2. These are English Vocabulary Profile levels, and they show the words, or meanings of words, that learners know at different levels. A1 words are the most basic words and should be learned first, followed by A2, B1 and B2 words. These levels relate to the international standards of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). You can use these levels to decide what are the important words that you need to study.

CD-ROM

The CD-ROM contains everything that is in the dictionary plus some great extra features, including spoken pronunciations in British and American accents; a feature that allows you to record yourself for pronunciation practice; and the unique SMART thesaurus which gives you alternatives to over-used words, helping you find the exact words you need and building your vocabulary.

We hope you will enjoy using this new edition of the **Cambridge Learner’s Dictionary**.

Visit the world’s favourite learner dictionaries at: <http://dictionary.cambridge.org>

* The English Vocabulary Profile is built as part of English Profile, a collaborative programme designed to enhance the learning, teaching and assessment of English worldwide. Its main funding partners are Cambridge University Press and Cambridge ESOL and its aim is to create a ‘profile’ for English linked to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). English Profile outcomes, such as the English Vocabulary Profile, will provide detailed information about the language that learners can be expected to demonstrate at each CEFR level, offering a clear benchmark for learners’ proficiency. For more information, please visit www.englishprofile.org