

OXFORD Illustrated Children's Dictionary



The perfect family dictionary

pollen noun

pollen is yellow powder found inside flowers, containing male seeds for fertilizing other flowers

petal noun (plural **petals**)

each of the separate coloured outer parts of a flower



flower noun (plural **flowers**)

1 the part of a plant from which the seed or fruit develops
2 a plant with a flower
to be in flower is to be producing flowers

flower verb (**flowers, flowering, flowered**)
to produce flowers

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overcast *adjective*
covered with cloud • *The sky is grey and overcast.*

overcoat *noun*
a warm outdoor coat

overcome *verb* (**overcomes, overcoming, overcame, overcome**)

1 to overcome a problem or difficulty is to succeed in dealing with it or controlling it • *He overcame injury to win a gold medal.* **2** to be overcome by something is to become helpless from it • *She was overcome by the fumes.* **3** to overcome someone is to beat them

overdose *noun*
too large a dose of a drug or medicine

overdue *adjective*
something is overdue when it is later than it should be • *The train is overdue.*

overflow *verb*
to overflow is to flow over the edges or limits of something

overgrown *adjective*
a place is overgrown when it is thickly covered with weeds or unwanted plants

overhaul *verb*
to overhaul a machine or vehicle is to check it thoroughly and repair it if necessary

overhead *adjective, adverb*
above your head; in the sky

overhear *verb*
to overhear something is to hear it accidentally or without the speaker knowing

overlap *verb* (**overlapping, overlapped**)

one thing overlaps another when it lies across part of it • *The carpet overlapped the fireplace.*

overlook *verb*
not to notice it **2** to overlook a mistake or offence is not to punish it **3** to overlook a place is to have a view over it • *The hotel overlooks the sea.*

overnight *adverb, adjective*
of or during a night • *We stayed overnight in a hotel.* • *There will be an overnight stop in Paris.*

overpower *verb*
to overpower someone is to defeat them because you are stronger **overpowering** *adjective* very strong

overrun *verb* (**overrunning, overran, overrun**)

1 to overrun an area is to spread harmfully over it • *The place is overrun with mice.* **2** something overruns when it goes on longer than it should • *The programme*

overran by ten minutes.

overseas *adverb*

abroad • *They travelled overseas.*

overseas *adjective*
from abroad; foreign • *We met some overseas students.*

oversight *noun*
a mistake you make by not noticing something

oversleep *verb* (**oversleeping, overslept**)

to sleep longer than you meant to

overtake *verb* (**overtaking, overtook, overtaken**)

to overtake a moving vehicle or person is to catch them up or pass them in the same direction

overthrow *verb* (**overthrowing, overthrew, overthrown**)

to overthrow a government is to remove it from power by force

overthrow *noun*
the overthrow of a government is when it is forced out of power

overtime *noun*
time someone spends working outside their normal hours

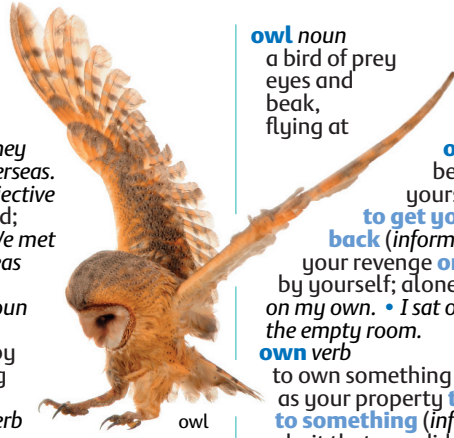
overture *noun*
a piece of music played at the start of a concert, opera, or ballet

overturn *verb*
1 to overturn something is to make it turn over or fall over
2 to overturn is to turn over • *The car went out of control and overturned.*

overweight *adjective*
too heavy

overwhelm *verb*
1 to overwhelm someone is to have a very strong effect on them • *I was overwhelmed by everyone's kindness.* **2** to overwhelm someone is to defeat them completely

owe *verb*
1 to owe something, especially money, is to have a duty to pay or give it to someone • *I owe you a pound.* **2** to owe something to someone is to have it thanks to them • *They owed their lives to the pilot's skill.* **owing to something** *adjective* because of it • *The train was late owing to leaves on the line.*



owl

owl *noun*
a bird of prey with large eyes and beak, flying at night

with large eyes and beak, flying at night

own *adjective*
belonging to yourself or itself

to get your own back (*informal*) is to have your revenge **on your own** by yourself; alone • *I did it all on my own.* • *I sat on my own in the empty room.*

own *verb*
to own something is to have it as your property **to own up to something** (*informal*) is to admit that you did it

owner *noun*
the person who owns something **ownership** *noun*
ownership is owning something

ox *noun* (**oxen**)
a male animal of the cow family, used for pulling loads

oxygen *noun*
O oxygen is one of the gases in the air that people need to stay alive

oyster *noun*
a kind of shellfish whose shell sometimes contains a pearl

ozone *noun*
ozone is a strong-smelling gas that is a form of oxygen

ozone layer *noun*
a layer of ozone high in the atmosphere, which protects the earth from the sun's radiation

Pp

P
short for penny or pence **pence** *noun*

1 one step in walking, marching, or running **2** speed • *He set a fast pace.*

pace *verb*
to pace is to walk up and down with slow or regular steps • *He was pacing across the room as he spoke.*

pacifist *noun* (*say pas-i-fist*)
someone who believes that war is always wrong **pacifism** *noun*
the belief that war is always wrong

pacify *verb* (**pacifies, pacifying, pacified**) (*say pas-i-fy*)
to pacify someone is to calm them down

pack *noun*

- 1 a bundle or collection of things wrapped or tied together
- 2 a set of playing cards
- 3 a strong bag carried on your back
- 4 a group of hounds, wolves, or other animals
- 5 a group of people, especially a group of Brownies or Cub Scouts

pack *verb*

- 1 to pack a suitcase or bag is to put things in it so that you can store them or take them somewhere
- 2 to pack a room or building is to fill it • *The hall was packed.*

package *noun*

- 1 a parcel or packet
- 2 a number of things offered or accepted together

package holiday *noun*

- a holiday in which all the travel and accommodation is arranged and included in the price

packet *noun*

- a small parcel

pad¹ *noun*

- 1 a number of sheets of blank or lined paper joined together along one edge
- 2 a piece of soft material used to protect or shape something
- 3 a piece of soft material that you wear to protect your leg in cricket and other games
- 4 a flat surface from which helicopters take off or rockets are launched

pad¹ *verb* (**padding, padded**)

- to pad something is to put a piece of soft material on it or into it in order to protect or shape it

pad² *verb* (**padding, padded**)

- to pad is to walk softly

padding *noun*

- padding is soft material used to protect something or make it more comfortable

paddle *verb*

- 1 to paddle is to walk about with bare feet in shallow water
- 2 to paddle a boat is to move it along with a short oar

paddle *noun*

- 1 a time spent paddling in water
- 2 a short oar with a broad blade

paddock *noun*

- a small field for keeping horses

paddy *noun* (**paddies**)

- a field where rice is grown

padlock *noun*



padlock

a lock with a metal loop that you can use to fasten a gate or lock a bicycle

page¹ *noun*

- a piece of paper that is part of a book or newspaper; one side of this piece of paper

page² *noun*

- a boy who acts as an attendant or runs errands

pageant *noun* (*say paj-ent*)

- 1 a play or entertainment about historical events and people
- 2 a procession of people in costume

pageantry *noun*

- pageantry is elaborate display that is part of a ceremony or procession

pagoda *noun* (*say pa-goh-da*)

- a Buddhist tower or Hindu temple in the Far East

pail *noun*

- a bucket

pain *noun*

- 1 pain or a pain is an unpleasant feeling caused by injury or disease • *Are you in pain?*
- 2 pain is also mental suffering

to take pains *is to*

- make a careful effort or take trouble over something

painful *adjective*

- causing you pain • *My ankle is too painful to walk on.*

painfully *adverb*

- to be (for example) painfully thin or painfully slow is to be extremely thin or slow

painstaking *adjective*

- making a careful effort

paint *noun*

- a liquid substance put on something to colour or cover it

paint *verb*

- 1 to paint something is to put paint on it
- 2 to paint a picture is to make it with paints
- 3 to paint someone or something is to make a picture of them using paint

paintbrush *noun*

- a brush used in painting



painter *noun*

- 1 an artist who paints pictures
- 2 a person whose job is painting walls and houses

painting *noun*

- 1 painting is using paints to make a picture • *She likes painting.*
- 2 a painting is a painted picture

pair *noun*

- 1 two things or people that go together or are the same kind • *I need a new pair of shoes.*
- 2 something made of two parts joined together • *Have you got a pair of scissors?*

palace *noun*

- a large and splendid house where a king or queen or other important person lives

palate *noun* (*say pal-at*)

- the roof of your mouth

pale *adjective*

- 1 almost white • *He had a pale face.*
- 2 not bright in colour; faint • *The sky was a pale blue.*

paleness *noun*

palette *noun* (*say pal-it*)

- a board on which an artist mixes colours

pallid *adjective*

- pale, especially because of illness

palm *noun*

- 1 the inner part of your hand, between your fingers and wrist
- 2 a tropical tree with large leaves and no branches

paltry *adjective*

- not very much or not very valuable • *His reward was a paltry 50 pence.*

pamper *verb*

- to pamper someone is to go to a lot of trouble to make them feel comfortable and let them have whatever they want

pamphlet *noun*

- a thin book with a paper cover

WORD ORIGINS

The word **pamphlet** comes from *Pamphlet*, the name of a 12th-century Latin love poem about someone called Pamphilus.

pan *noun*

- 1 a pot or dish with a flat base, used for cooking
- 2 something shaped like an open dish

pancake *noun*

- a flat round cake of batter fried on both sides

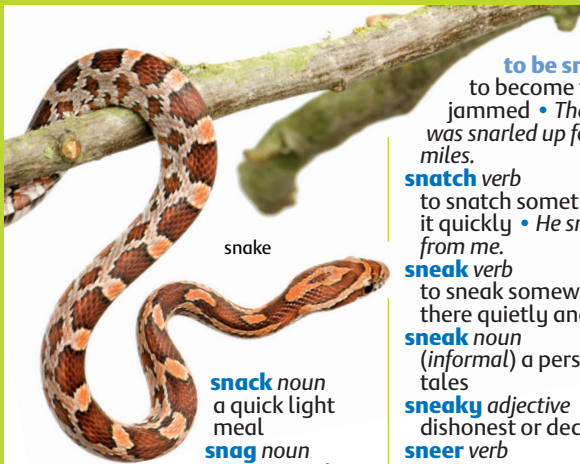
panda *noun*

- a large black and white bear-like animal found in China

pandemonium *noun*

- you say there is pandemonium when there is a loud noise or disturbance • *Suddenly pandemonium broke loose.*

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snake

snack *noun*
a quick light meal
snag *noun*
an unexpected

difficulty or obstacle

snag *verb* (**snagging, snagged**)
to snag something you are wearing is to catch it on something sharp

snail *noun*
a small animal with a soft body in a hard shell

snake *noun*
a reptile with a long narrow body and no legs

snap *verb* (**snapping, snapped**)

1 something snaps when it breaks suddenly with a sharp noise **2** an animal snaps when it bites suddenly or quickly • *The dog snapped at me.* **3** to snap something is to say it quickly and angrily • *There's no need to snap.* **4** to snap your fingers is to make a sharp snapping sound with them **5** to snap something or someone is to take a quick photograph of them

snap *noun*
1 a snap is the act or sound of snapping **2** a snap is also an informal photograph taken quickly **3** snap is a card game in which players shout 'Snap!' when they spot two similar cards

snappy *adjective* (**snappier, snappiest**)
quick and lively

snapshot *noun*
an informal photograph taken quickly

snare *noun*
a trap for catching animals

snare *verb*
to snare an animal is to catch it in a snare

snarl *verb*
an animal snarls when it growls angrily

snarl *noun*
a snarling sound

snarl *verb*
to be snarled up is to become tangled or jammed • *The motorway was snarled up for several miles.*

snatch *verb*
to snatch something is to grab it quickly • *He snatched the bag from me.*

sneak *verb*
to sneak somewhere is to move there quietly and secretly

sneak *noun*
(informal) a person who tells tales

sneaky *adjective*
dishonest or deceitful

sneer *verb*
to sneer is to speak or behave in a scornful way

sneeze *verb*
you sneeze when you push air through your nose suddenly and uncontrollably

sneeze *noun*
the action or sound of sneezing

sniff *verb*
1 to sniff is to make a noise by drawing air in through your nose **2** to sniff something is to smell it with a sniff

sniff *noun*
the action or sound of sniffing or smelling something

sniffle *verb*
to keep sniffing because you have a cold or are crying

snigger *verb*
to snigger is to give a quiet sly laugh

snigger *noun*
a quiet sly laugh

snip *verb* (**snipping, snipped**)
to snip something is to cut a small piece or pieces off it

snip *noun*
an act of snipping something

sniper *noun*
someone who shoots at people from a hiding place

snippet *noun*
a short piece of news or information

snivel *verb* (**snivelling, snivelled**)
to snivel is to cry or complain in a whining way

snob *noun*
someone who looks down on people who have not got wealth or power or particular tastes or interests **snobbery** *noun* snobbery is being a snob

snobbish *adjective* thinking or behaving like a snob

snooker *noun*
snooker is a game played with long sticks (called cues) and

22 coloured balls on a cloth-covered table

snoop *verb*
to snoop is to pry or try to find out about someone else's business **snooper** or **snoop** *noun* someone who snoops

snore *verb*
to snore is to breathe noisily while you are sleeping

snorkel *noun*
a tube with one end above the water, worn by an underwater swimmer to get air

snort *verb*
to snort is to make a loud noise by forcing air out through your nose

snort *noun*
a snorting noise

snout *noun*
an animal's snout is the front part sticking out from its head, with its nose and mouth

snow *noun*
snow is frozen drops of water falling from the sky as small white flakes

snow *verb*
to fall as snow • *It was still snowing when they went out.* • *It might snow later.*

snowball *noun*
snow pressed into the shape of a ball for throwing

snowdrop *noun*
a small white flower that blooms in early spring

snowflake *noun*
a flake of snow

snowman *noun*
a figure of a person made of snow

snowplough *noun*
a vehicle with a large blade at the front for

clearing snow from a road or railway track

snowstorm *noun*

a storm with snow falling

snowy *adjective* (**snowier, snowiest**)

1 with snow falling • *We're expecting snowy weather.* **2** covered with snow • *The roofs looked snowy.* **3** brightly white



snub *verb* (**snubbing, snubbed**)
to snub someone is to treat them in a scornful or unfriendly way

snug *adjective* (**snugger, snuggest**)

warm and cosy • *We found a snug corner by the fire. **snugly** adverb in a snug way • The little ones are tucked up snugly in bed.*

snuggle *verb*

to snuggle is to curl up in a warm comfortable place
• *She snuggled down in bed.*

so *adverb*

1 in this way; to such an extent
• *Why are you so cross?* **2** very
• *Cricket is so boring.* **3** also
• *I was wrong but so were you.*

and so on and other similar things • *They took food, water, spare clothing, and so on. **or so** or about that number • We need about fifty or so. **so as to** in order to **so far up to now so what?** (informal) what does that matter?*

so *conjunction*

for that reason • *It was dark, so we took a torch.*

soak *verb*

to soak someone or something is to make them very wet or leave them in water **to soak something up** is to take in a liquid in the way that a sponge does

soap *noun*

1 soap is a substance you use with water for washing and cleaning things **2** (informal) a soap is a soap opera **soapy** *adjective* full of soap or covered in soap

soap opera *noun*

a television serial about the ordinary life of a group of imaginary people

soar *verb*

1 to soar is to rise or fly high in the air **2** to soar is also to increase a lot • *Prices were soaring.*

sob *verb* (**sobbing, sobbed**)

to sob is to cry with gasping noises

sob *noun*

a sound of sobbing

sober *adjective*

1 not drunk **2** calm and serious
• *She had a sober expression.*
3 not bright or showy • *The room was painted in sober colours.*

so-called *adjective*

having the name but perhaps not deserving it • *Even the so-called experts couldn't solve the problem.*

soccer *noun*

soccer is a game played by two teams which try to kick an inflated ball into their opponents' goal

sociable *adjective*

(say **soh**-sha-bul)

sociable people are friendly and like to be with other people

sociably *adverb* **sociability** *noun*

social *adjective* (say **soh**-shal)

1 to do with people meeting one another in their spare time
• *Let's join a social club.* **2** living in groups, not alone • *Bees are social insects.* **3** to do with society or a community • *They were writing a social history of the area.* **socially** *adverb* in your spare time, not at work

social work *noun*

social work is work helping people in a community who have problems **social worker** *noun* someone who has a job in social work

society *noun* (**societies**)

1 a society is a community of people; society is people living together in a group or nation **2** a society is also a group of people organized for a particular purpose • *He's joined a dramatic society.*

sock *noun*

a soft piece of clothing that covers your foot and the lower half of your leg

to pull your socks up

(informal) is to try to do better

socket *noun*

a device or hole that something fits into, especially the place where an electric plug or bulb is put to make a connection

soda *noun*

1 soda is a substance made from sodium **2** soda is also soda water

soda water *noun*

soda water is fizzy water used in drinks

sodium *noun* (say **soh**-di-um)

sodium is a soft silvery-white metal

sofa *noun*

a long soft seat with sides and a back

soft *adjective*

1 not hard or firm; easily pressed or cut into a new shape
2 smooth; not rough or stiff
3 gentle; not loud • *He spoke in a soft voice. **softly** adverb in a gentle way; quietly • She closed the door softly behind her.*

softness *noun*

soft drink *noun*

a drink that does not contain alcohol

soften *verb*

1 to soften something is to make it softer **2** to soften is to become softer

software *noun*

(in computing) software is programs and data, which are not part of the machinery (the hardware) of a computer

soggy *adjective* (**soggier, soggiest**)

very wet and soft

soil¹ *noun*

soil is the loose earth that plants grow in

soil² *verb*

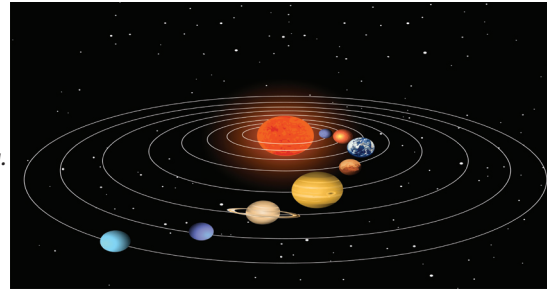
to soil something is to make it dirty

solar *adjective*

to do with the sun or powered by the sun's energy

solar system *noun*

the solar system is the sun and the planets that revolve round it



solder *noun*

solar system

solder is a soft alloy that is melted to join pieces of metal together

solder *verb*

to solder two pieces of metal is to join them together with solder

soldier *noun*

a member of an army

sole¹ *noun*

1 the bottom part of a shoe or foot **2** a flat sea fish used for food

sole² *adjective*

single or only • *She was the sole survivor. **solely** adverb*

solemn *adjective*

serious and dignified
solemnity *noun* solemnity is being solemn **solemnly** *adverb* in a serious and dignified way

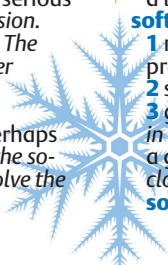
solicitor *noun*

a lawyer who advises clients and prepares legal documents

solid *adjective*

1 keeping its shape; not a liquid or gas **2** not hollow; with no

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veil *noun*

a piece of thin material to cover a woman's face or head **veiled** *adjective* covered with a veil; partially hidden

vein *noun*

1 your veins are the tubes in your body that carry blood towards your heart **2** a line or streak on a leaf or rock or insect's wing **3** a long deposit of a mineral in the middle of rock

velocity *noun* (**velocities**)

(say vil-**os**-i-tee) velocity is speed in a particular direction

velvet *noun*

velvet is a soft material with short furry fibres on one side **velvety** *adjective* soft, like velvet

vendetta *noun*

a long-lasting quarrel or feud

WORD ORIGINS

Vendetta is an Italian word, which comes from a Latin word *vindicta* meaning 'vengeance'.

vending machine

noun
a machine that you can buy food, drinks, or other things from, which you operate by putting in coins

veneerable

adjective
worthy of respect or honour because of being so old

venetian blind

noun
a blind for a window, made of thin horizontal slats which you can move to control the amount of light that comes through



vending machine

vengeance *noun*

vengeance is harming or punishing someone because they have done harm to you **vengeful** *adjective* a vengeful person wants to punish someone who has harmed them

venison *noun*

venison is the meat from a deer

Venn diagram *noun*

(in mathematics) a diagram using circles to show how sets of things relate to one another

venom *noun*

1 venom is the poison of snakes **2** venom is also a feeling of

bitter hatred for someone

venomous *adjective* poisonous

vent *noun*

an opening in something, especially to let out smoke or gas

ventilate *verb*

to ventilate a place is to let fresh air come into it and move around it **ventilation** *noun* letting fresh air move freely around a place **ventilator** *noun* a machine that breathes for someone in hospital

ventriloquist *noun*

(say ven-**tril**-o-kwist) an entertainer who speaks without moving their lips, so that it looks as though a dummy is speaking **ventriloquism** *noun* what a ventriloquist does

venture *noun*

something new that you decide to do that is risky or daring

venture *verb*

to venture somewhere is to go there even though you know it might be difficult or dangerous • *Shall we venture out into the snow?*

veranda *noun* (say ver-**an**-da)

an open terrace with a roof along the outside of a house

verb *noun*

a word that shows what someone or something is doing, such as *be, go, sing, take*

verbal *adjective*

spoken rather than written • *We had a verbal agreement.*

verbally *adverb* in spoken words, not in writing

verdict *noun*

the decision reached by a judge or jury about whether someone is guilty of a crime

verge *noun*

a strip of grass beside a road or path **on the verge of** about to do something • *She was on the verge of leaving.*

verge *verb*

to verge on something is to be nearly something • *His remark verged on the absurd.*

verify *verb* (**verifies, verifying, verified**)

to verify something is to find or show whether it is true or correct **verification** *noun* verification is verifying something

vermin *noun*

vermin are animals or insects that damage crops or food or carry disease, such as rats and fleas

verruca *noun* (**verrucas**)

(say ver-**oo**-ka) a kind of wart on the sole of your foot

versatile *adjective*

(say ver-**sa**-tyl) able to do or be used for many different things **versatility** *noun* versatility is being able to do or be used for many different things

verse *noun*

1 verse is writing in the form of poetry **2** a verse is a group of lines in a poem or song **3** a verse is also each of the short numbered sections of a chapter in the Bible

version *noun*

1 someone's account of something that has happened • *His version of the accident is different from mine.* **2** a different form of a thing • *I don't like their version of the song.*

versus *preposition*

against or competing with, especially in sport • *The final will be Brazil versus Germany.*

vertebra *noun* (**vertebrae**)

(say ver-**ti**-bra) each of the bones that form your backbone

vertebrate *noun* (say ver-**ti**-brit)

an animal with a backbone **vertical** *adjective* going directly upwards, at right angles to something level or horizontal **vertically** *adverb* in a vertical direction

vertigo *noun*

vertigo is feeling dizzy because you are high up

very *adverb*

to a great amount; extremely • *It is very cold.*

very *adjective*

1 exact or actual • *That's the very thing we need!* **2** extreme • *We've reached the very end.*

Vesak *noun* (say ves-ak)

Vesak is an important festival of Buddhism, held in April to May



Vesak

vessel *noun*

1 a boat or ship **2** a container for liquids **3** a tube inside an animal or plant, carrying blood or some other liquid

vest *noun*

a piece of underwear you wear on the top half of your body

vestment *noun*

a piece of outer clothing worn by the clergy or choir at a church service

vet *noun*

a person trained to treat sick animals

veteran *noun*

1 a person with long experience of something **2** a soldier who has returned from a war

veterinary *adjective*

(say **vet**-rin-ree) to do with the medical treatment of animals

veto *noun* (say **vee**-toh)

1 a refusal to let something happen **2** the right to stop something from happening

veto *verb* (**veto**es, **veto**ing, **veto**ed)

to veto something is to refuse to let it happen

vex *verb*

to vex someone is to annoy or worry them **vexation** *noun* vexation is vexing someone

via *preposition* (say **vy**-a)

going through; stopping at • *This train goes from Edinburgh to London via York.*

viaduct *noun* (say **vy**-a-dukt)

a long bridge with many arches, carrying a road or railway over low ground

vibrate *verb*

to vibrate is to move quickly from side to side and with small movements • *Every time a train went past the walls vibrated.* **vibration** *noun* when something moves quickly from side to side and with small movements

vicar *noun*

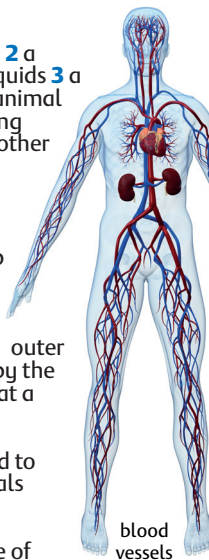
a minister of the Church of England who is in charge of a parish

vicarage *noun*

the house of a vicar

vice¹ *noun*

1 a vice is a bad or evil habit **2** vice is evil or wickedness

**vice**² *noun*

a device with jaws for holding something tightly in place while you work on it

vice-president *noun*

a deputy to a president

vice versa *adverb*

(say **vys**-**ver**-sa) the other way round • *'We need them and vice versa' means 'We need them and they need us'.*

vicinity *noun* (**vicinities**)

the area near or surrounding a particular place • *Are there any parks in the vicinity?*

vicious *adjective* (say **vish**-us)

1 cruel and aggressive **2** severe or violent **viciously** *adverb*

viciousness *noun***victim** *noun*

1 a person who suffers from something • *He is a polio victim.* **2** someone who is killed, injured, or robbed • *The murderer lay in wait for his victim.*

victimize *verb*

to victimize someone is to treat them unfairly

victor *noun*

the winner of a battle or contest

victory *noun* (**victories**)

winning a battle or contest or game **victorious** *adjective* someone is victorious when they win a battle or contest or game

video *noun* (say **vid**-i-oh)

1 video is the recording on tape of pictures and sound **2** a video is a video recorder **3** a video is also a television programme or a film recorded on a video cassette

WORD ORIGINS

The word **video** comes from a Latin word *videre* meaning 'to see'. The -o ending is based on audio in audiovisual.

video *verb*

to video something is to record it on videotape

video recorder or **video**

cassette recorder *noun* a machine for recording television programmes and playing them back

videotape *noun*

videotape is magnetic tape used for video recording

view *noun*

1 what you can see from one place • *There's a fine view from the top of the hill.* **2** someone's opinion • *She has strong views*

about smoking. **on view**

shown for people to see

view *verb*

1 to view something is to look at it carefully **2** to view something or someone in a certain way is to think about them in that way • *They seemed to view us with suspicion.*

viewer *noun*

someone who watches something, especially a television programme

vigilant *adjective* (say **vij**-i-lant)

someone is vigilant when they are watching carefully for something **vigilantly** *adverb*

vigilance *noun* vigilance

is watching carefully for something

vigorous *adjective*

full of strength and energy

vigorously *adverb***vigour** *noun*

vigour is strength and energy

Viking *noun*

a Scandinavian pirate or trader in the 8th to 10th centuries

vile *adjective*

disgusting or bad • *What a vile smell.*

villa *noun*

a house, especially a large one in its own grounds, or one used for holidays abroad

village *noun*

a group of houses and other buildings in the country, smaller than a town **villager** *noun* someone who lives in a village

villain *noun*

a wicked person or criminal

villainous *adjective* wicked**villainy** *noun* wicked behaviour**vine** *noun*

a plant on which grapes grow

vinegar *noun*

vinegar is a sour liquid used to flavour food

vineyard *noun* (say **vin**-yard)

an area of land where vines are grown to produce grapes for making wine

vintage *noun*

1 all the grapes that are harvested in one season, or the wine made from them **2** the period from which something comes • *The furniture is of 1920s vintage.*

vinyl *noun* (say **vy**-nil)

vinyl is a kind of plastic

viola *noun* (say **vee**-oh-la)

a stringed instrument rather like a violin but slightly larger and with a lower pitch

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