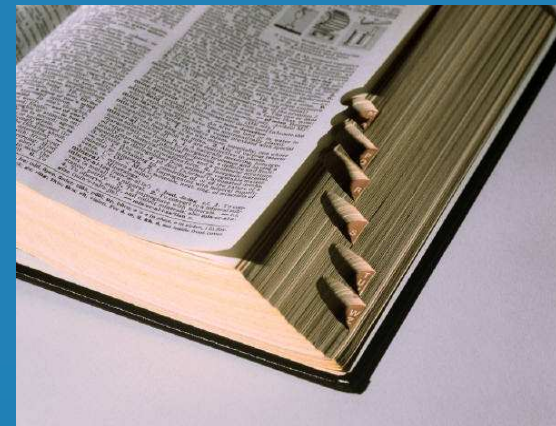


English (BA 503)

Week 2 Dictionary Use



Objectives



Students will be able to

1. look up words in an English-English dictionary successfully;
2. recognize and identify parts of speech of words in a sentence correctly;
3. locate the correct meaning of a word in a sentence or a paragraph by using an English-English dictionary.

How to find the meanings of new words

Analyzing word parts or word formation and using the context clues can help you find the meanings of new words.


in **comprehens** ible
S

incomprehensible 

- ❖ *His accent made his speech **incomprehensible** to me.*

insomnia

- ❖ *Before she went to see Dr. Wayne, she had suffered from **insomnia** for several years. Every night she found it hard to fall asleep.*



Another way is to
use a dictionary.

WHAT IS A DICTIONARY?

A dictionary is a **reference book**, usually arranged in **alphabetical order**, and it gives information about their **meaning**, pronunciation, etymology and uses.



Alphabetical Order

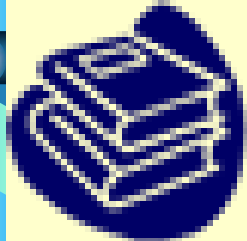
- All the words that start with the same letter are placed together, and they are arranged in alphabetical order.



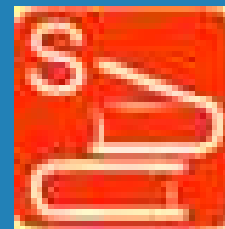
affection
aggregate
agribusiness
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affable
affectionate
allergen
abortion

abdicate
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Types of Dictionary



Books



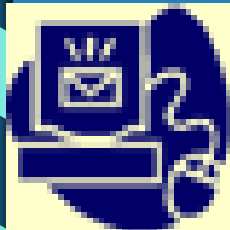
Specialised
Dictionary



CD-ROM



General
Dictionary

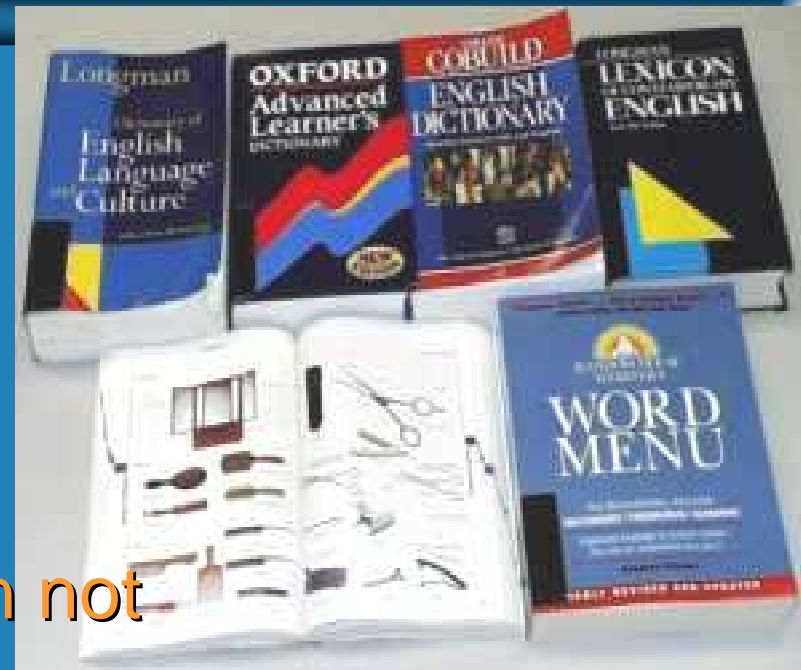


Internet

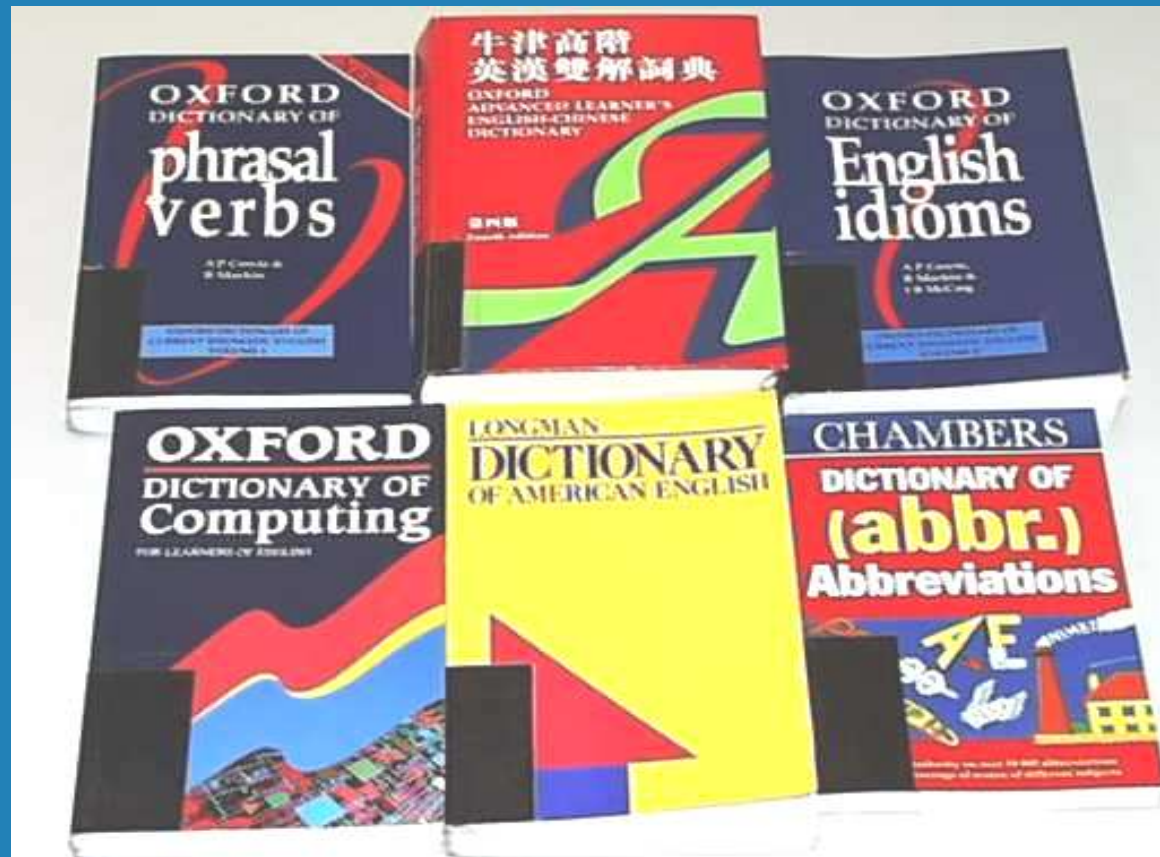
General Dictionary

Normal dictionaries give you information about the most common words in English.

→ New words are often not included in these dictionaries until they become very common.




Specialized Dictionary





Here are some examples of Specialized Dictionary


1. Learner's Dictionaries ⇒ For people learning a Language
2. Bilingual Dictionaries ⇒ For translating between languages
3. Technical Dictionaries ⇒ For professionals; e.g. medical and computer dictionaries



4. **Thesaurus** is a dictionary that lists words with similar meanings together. Related and contrasting words are also included.

It is useful for writing.

Some word-processing programs have a thesaurus in the tool menu.



5. Concentrate on one part of language ⇒ such as dictionaries of idioms and collocations

6. Translate varieties of a single language ⇒ For example British-American Dictionaries



Language Style / register

The words, style, and grammar used by speakers and writers in a particular situation or in a particular type of writing

formal/informal register

letters written in a formal register

Examples: **Style / register**

1. It's a nippy day! ⇒ **It's a cold day!**

2. He's got into a terrible fix.

⇒ **He got into a difficult situation.**

3. This is a posh restaurant.

⇒ **This is an elegant and fashionable restaurant.**

4. He lives in an old house with dirty windows and tatty curtains.

⇒ **He lives in an old house with dirty windows and worn curtains.**

5. Mum went bananas when I said I was going to divorce

⇒ **Mum became angry when I said I was going to divorce.**

Dictionary and reading

If you stop and look up words in the dictionary while you are reading, your progress may be slowed down and you may forget the meanings of many of the look-up words.

This is usually because you are trying to do two things at one time: *reading and understanding* at the same time as *looking up and learning new vocabulary*.




To solve the problem, here is a suggested approach:

1. **Do not look up a word until you have read the whole context.** That means, you always read at least to the end of the sentence, perhaps to the end of the paragraph.
2. Try to **guess the meaning from the context**, before turning to the dictionary.
3. For each text (or book) that you read, **make a special vocabulary list of words** that are often used. (in order to improve your Vocabulary)



PARTS OF A DICTIONARY ENTRY

1. Guide word
2. Headword / Entry Word
3. Syllabication / Syllable Division
4. Pronunciation / Phonetic Symbols
5. Stress Marks
6. Part of speech
7. Special forms

- 
-
8. Definition
 9. Example Sentence
 10. Stylistic value
 11. Derivation
 12. Synonyms / Antonyms
 13. Idiomatic Expression
 14. Cross References

Guide word

challenged

situation. They rose to the challenge of entertaining 80 schoolchildren.

3 A **challenge** to something is a questioning of its truth or value. A **challenge** to someone is a questioning of their authority. *The demonstrators have now made a direct challenge to the authority of the government.* **4** If you **challenge** an idea, you question its truth or value. *The move was immediately challenged by two of the republics.* **5** If you **challenge** someone to do something, you ask them to defend their actions or to prove their authority. *Rose challenged him to come on stage and explain his opinions... I challenged him on the hypocrisy of his political attitudes.*

6 If you **challenge** someone, you invite them to fight or compete with you in some way. *Corineus, who was a famous wrestler, challenged him to a bout... He left a note at the scene of the crime, challenging detectives to catch him.* ▶ Also a noun. *A third presidential candidate emerged to mount a serious challenge.* ♦ **challenger, challengers** Mr Portillo is emerging as a right wing challenger to the leadership. **7** If someone is **challenged** by a guard, they are ordered to stop and say who they are or why they are there.

8 See also **challenged, challenging.**

chal-lenged /'tʃælɪndʒd/. If you say that someone is **challenged** in a particular way, you mean that they have a disability in that area. **Challenged** is often used for humorous effect. *She ran off with an intellectually challenged ski instructor.*

chal-leng-ing /'tʃælɪndʒɪŋ/. **1** A **challenging** task or job requires great effort and determination. **2** If you do something in a **challenging** way, you seem to be inviting people to argue with you or compete against you in some way. *Mona gave him a challenging look.*

cham-ber /'tʃeɪmbə/ **chambers.** **1** A **chamber** is a large room, especially one that is used for formal meetings. **2** You can refer to a country's parliament or to one section of it as a **chamber**. *More than 80 parties are contesting seats in the two-chamber parliament.* **3** A **chamber** is a room designed and equipped for a particular purpose. *For many, the*

174

N-VAR

VERB: V n

VERB
V n to-inf
V n on/about n
Also V with quote

VERB
V n to n
V n to-inf
Also V n

N-COUNT

N-COUNT

VERB:
be V-ed

◆◆◆◆◆
ADJ:
adv ADJ

◆◆◆◆◆
ADJ-GRADED
ADJ-GRADED

◆◆◆◆◆
N-COUNT

N-COUNT

N-COUNT:
with supp

chancer

cham-pagne /,ʃæm'peɪn/ **champagnes.** **Champagne** is an expensive French sparkling white wine. It is often drunk to celebrate something.

champ-ers /'ʃæmpəz/. **Champers** is champagne. *We were slurping champers by the glassful.*

cham-pi-on /'tʃæmpiən/ **champions, championing, championed.** **1** A **champion** is someone who has won the first prize in a competition, contest, or fight. *...a former Olympic champion. ...champion boxer Lennox Lewis.* **2** If you are a **champion** of a person, a cause, or a principle, you support or defend them. *He was once known as a champion of social reform.* **3** If you **champion** a person, a cause, or a principle, you support or defend them. *He passionately championed the poor.*

cham-pi-on-ship /'tʃæmpiənʃɪp/ **championships.** **1** A **championship** is a competition to find the best player or team in a particular sport. *...the world chess championship.* **2** The **championship** refers to the title or status of being a sports champion. *He went on to take the championship.*

chance /tʃɑːns, tʃæns/ **chances, chancing, chanced.** **1** If there is a **chance** of something happening, it is possible that it will happen. *Tim's chances of survival were still slim... There was really very little chance that Ben would ever have led a normal life.* **2** If you have a **chance** to do something, you have the opportunity to do it. *All eligible people would get a chance to vote... I felt I had to give him a chance.* **3** If you say that someone **stands a chance** of achieving something, you mean that they are likely to achieve it. If you say that they do not **stand a chance**, you mean that they cannot possibly achieve it.

4 A **chance** meeting or event is one that is not planned or expected. ▶ Also a noun. *...a victim of chance and circumstance.* **5** If you **chance** to do something or **chance** on something, you do it or find it although you had not planned or tried to. *It was just then that I chanced to look round. ...Christopher Columbus, who chanced upon the Dominican Republic nearly 500 years ago.* **6** Something that happens **by chance** has not been planned by anyone. *He had met Mr Heseltine*

◆◆◆◆◆
N-VAR

N-UNCOUNT
INFORMAL,
BRITISH
◆◆◆◆◆
N-COUNT

N-COUNT:
with supp

VERB
V n

◆◆◆◆◆
N-COUNT

N-SING:
the N

◆◆◆◆◆
N-VAR

N-SING

PHRASE

ADJ: ADJ n

N-UNCOUNT

VERB
V to-inf
V upon/on/
across n
FORMAL

PHRASE

or to one section of it as a **chamber**. More than 80 parties are contesting seats in the two-chamber parliament. **3** A **chamber** is a room designed and equipped for a particular purpose. **4** A **chamber** dentist's surgery refers to a room where dentists also gas chamber. **5** **Chambers** barristers are referred to as chambers.

N-COUNT:
with supp

Example Sentence

chamberlain /'tʃeɪmbəleɪn/ **chamberlain** is the person in charge of the household affairs of a monarch or high-ranking person.

chambermaid /'tʃeɪmbəmeɪd/ **chambermaids**. A **chambermaid** is a woman who cleans and tidies the bedrooms in a hotel.

N-COUNT

'chamber music. **Chamber music** is classical music written for a small number of instruments.

N-UNCOUNT

'chamber of commerce, chambers of commerce. A **chamber of commerce** is a business organization that promotes local commercial interests.

◆◆◆◆◆
N-COUNT

'chamber orchestra, chamber orchestras. A **chamber orchestra** is a small orchestra which plays classical music.

N-COUNT

'chamber pot, chamber pots. A **chamber pot** is a round container shaped like a very large cup. Chamber pots used to be kept in bedrooms for people to urinate in.

N-COUNT

cha-me-le-on /'tʃæməleɪn/. A **chameleon** is a lizard whose colour can change to match the colour of its surroundings.

N-COUNT

cham-ois. **Chamois** is a soft leather made from the skin of a chamois goat and the plural form; it is also used for a type of goat or meaning 1 in British English, and /'tʃæməleɪn/ for both meanings in American English, and for meaning 2 in British English.

N-COUNT

1 **Chamois** are small goat-like antelope that live in the mountains of Europe and South West Asia. **2** A **chamois** or a **chamois leather** is a soft leather cloth used for cleaning and polishing.

N-COUNT

N-COUNT

chamo-mile /'kæməmaɪl/. See **camomile**.

champ /tʃæmp/ **champs**. A **champ** is the same as a champion. ...*boxing champ Mike Tyson*.

◆◆◆◆◆
N-COUNT
INFORMAL

chanced to look round. ...Christopher Columbus, who chanced upon the Dominican Republic nearly 500 years ago. **6** Something that happens **by chance** has not been planned by anyone. *He had met Mr Jeseltine by chance.*

FORMAL

PHRASE

7 If you **chance** something, you do it even though there is a risk that you may not succeed or that something bad may happen. *No assassin would chance a shot from amongst that crowd.* **8** When you **take a chance**, you try to do something although there is a large risk of danger or failure. *You take a chance on the weather if you holiday in the UK.*

VERB
V n

PHRASE

9 You can use **by any chance** when you are asking questions in order to find out whether something that you think might be true is actually true. *Are they by any chance related?* **10** See also **off-chance**.

PHRASE

PRAGMATICS

chan-cel /'tʃɑːnsəl, 'tʃænsəl/ **chancels**. The **chan-cel** is the part of a church containing the altar, where the clergy and the choir usually sit.

N-COUNT

chan-cel-ler-y /'tʃɑːnsələri, 'tʃæns-/ **chancel-leries**. **1** A **chancellery** is the building where a chancellor has his offices. **2** The **chancellery** refers to the officials who work in a chancellor's office.

N-COUNT

N-SING

Chan-cel-lor /'tʃɑːnslə, 'tʃæns-/ **Chancellors**. **1** **Chancellor** is the title of the head of government in Germany and Austria. **2** In Britain, the **Chancellor** is the Chancellor of the Exchequer. **3** The **Chancellor** of a British university is the official, honorary head of the university. **4** The head of some American universities is called the **Chancellor**. **5** See also **vice-chancellor**.

◆◆◆◆◆
N-TITLE

N-COUNT

N-COUNT

N-COUNT

'Chancellor of the Ex-chequer, Chancellors of the Exchequer. The **Chancellor of the Exchequer** is the minister in the British government who makes decisions about finance and taxes.

◆◆◆◆◆
N-COUNT

chan-cel-lor-ship /'tʃɑːnsləʃɪp, 'tʃæns-/ **Chancellorship**. The **chancellorship** is the position of chancellor. Someone's **chancellorship** is the period of time when they are chancellor.

N-SING

chanc-er /'tʃɑːnsə, 'tʃænsə/ **chancers**. If you refer to someone as a **chancer**, you mean that they

N-COUNT

PRAGMATICS

INFORMAL,

Stylistic Values

ne·far·i·ous /nɪ'feəriəs \$-'fer-/ *adj* formal evil or criminal: *nefarious activities such as drug trafficking and fraud*

neg. also **neg** BrE the written abbreviation of *negative*

ne·gate /nɪ'geɪt/ *v* [T] formal **1** to prevent something from having any effect: *Efforts to expand the tourist industry could be negated by reports that the sea is highly polluted.* **2** to state that sth does not exist or is untrue; **deny**

ne·ga·tion /nɪ'geɪʃən/ *n* **1** the act of negating sth; a thing is made to have no effect or be the opposite of what it should be: *Much of what passes for Christianity is a negation of Christ's teachings.* **2** [U] when someone says no or disagrees: *He shook his head in silent negation.*

neg·a·tive¹ /'negətɪv/ *adj*

1 **BAD** harmful, unpleasant, or not wanted; **positive**: *My drinking was starting to have a negative effect on my work.* | *the negative aspects of ageing* | *On the negative side, it will cost a lot.*

2 **NOT LIKING SB/STH** considering only the bad qualities of a situation, person etc and not the good ones; **positive**: *students with a negative attitude to school* | *They have a uniformly negative image of the police.* | *Jean rarely sounded so negative about her mother.*

3 **NO/NOT a)** saying or meaning 'no': **negative answer/reply/response** *He gave a negative answer without any explanation.* **b)** containing one of the words 'no', 'not', 'nothing', 'never' etc; **affirmative**

4 **SCIENTIFIC TEST** not showing any sign of the chemical or medical condition that was being looked for; **positive**: *The pregnancy test was negative.* | *A person can be recently infected by HIV and have a negative result.*

5 **ELECTRICITY** technical a negative CHARGE is carried by ELECTRONS; **positive**

6 **NUMBER/QUANTITY** less than zero; **minus**; **positive**: *negative numbers* | *a negative return on*

[+of] *Tenants are complaining about the landlord's neglect of the property.* | **years/decades/centuries etc of neglect** *After years of neglect, the roads were full of potholes.* | *The whole district had an air of abandonment and neglect.* **2** failure to pay proper attention to something: [+of] *Five officers were court-martialled for cowardice or neglect of duty.*

neg·lect·ful /nɪ'glektfəl/ *adj* formal not looking after something properly, or not giving it enough attention: *She became more and more neglectful of her responsibilities.* — **neglectfully** *adv*

neg·lee /'neglɪʒeɪ \$,neglɪ'ʒeɪ/ *n* [C] a very thin, pretty coat, worn over a NIGHTDRESS

neg·li·gence /'neglɪdʒəns/ *n* [U] failure to take enough care over something that you are responsible for: *negligence in carrying out safety procedures* | *The bridge's architect was sued for criminal negligence.*

neg·li·gent /'neglɪdʒənt/ *adj* **1** not taking enough care over something that you are responsible for, with the result that serious mistakes are made; **irresponsible**; **responsible**: **negligent in (doing) sth** *The report stated that Dr Brady had been negligent in not giving the patient a full examination.* | *Mr Brown was found guilty of negligent driving.* **2** literary a negligent manner or way of dressing is careless, but in a pleasantly relaxed way: *He gave a negligent shrug.* — **negligently** *adv*

neg·li·gi·ble /'neglɪdʒɪbəl/ *adj* too slight or unimportant to have any effect; **insignificant**: *The damage done to his property was negligible.*

ne·go·ti·a·ble /nɪ'gəʊʃɪəbəl, -ʃə- \$-'gou-/ *adj* **1** an offer, price, contract etc that is negotiable can be discussed and changed before being agreed on; **non-negotiable**: *Part-time barman required. Hours and salary negotiable.* | *The price is not negotiable.* **2** a road, path etc that is negotiable can be travelled along: *The road is only negotiable in the dry season.* **3** technical a cheque that is negotiable can be exchanged for money

Headword

positive: *negative numbers* | *a negative return on our investment* (=a loss)

7 BLOOD *technical* used in the names of blood types, meaning not having RHEBUS FACTOR; **positive** —**negatively** *adv*

negative² *n* [C] **1** an image on a photographic film that shows dark areas as light and light areas as dark, from which the final picture is printed: *black and white photographic negative* | **2** an expression that means 'no' or 'not': *He always replies in the negative formal* | **3** something said or done that is the opposite of what is expected: *The negatives outweigh the positives on this issue.* **4** a negative result from a chemical or scientific test: *The test will give a proportion of false negatives.*

negative³ *v* [T] *formal* **1** to refuse a proposal or request **2** to prove something is not true

negative equity *n* [U] *BrE* a situation in which someone owes more money on a MORTGAGE (=arrangement to borrow money to pay for a house) than they would receive if they sold their house

neg-a-tiv-i-ty /,negə'tɪvɪ'ti/ *n* [U] an attitude in which someone considers only the bad qualities of a situation, person etc, not the good ones

neg-lect¹ /nɪ'glekt/ *v* [T] **1** to fail to look after someone or something properly: *She smoked and drank, neglected the children, and left the clothes unmended.* | *a neglected garden* | *The building has been badly neglected.* **2** to pay too little attention to something: *Many of these ideas have been neglected by modern historians.* | *The police officer was accused of neglecting his duty* (=not doing everything he should). **3** **neglect to do sth** *formal* to not do something: *You neglected to mention that they had a second album released during 1991.*

neglect² *n* [U] **1** failure to look after something or someone, or the condition of not being looked after:

ne-go-ti-ate [S3] [W3] /nɪ'gəʊʃiət \$-'gou-/ *v*

1 [I,T] to discuss something in order to reach an agreement, especially in business or politics: [+with] *The government refuses to negotiate with terrorists.* | **negotiate an agreement/contract etc** *Union leaders have negotiated an agreement for a shorter working week.* | *His first aim is to get the warring parties back to the negotiating table* (=discussing something).

2 [T] to succeed in getting past or over a difficult place on a path, road etc: *Guido swung the steering-wheel round to negotiate a corner.*

ne-go-ti-a-tion [S2] [W2] /nɪ,gəʊʃi'eɪʃən \$-,gou-/ *n* [C] usually plural, [U] official discussions between the representatives of opposing groups who are trying to reach an agreement, especially in business or politics: [+with] *The negotiations with the company had reached an advanced stage.* | [+between] *This follows private negotiations between the landowner and the leisure centre.* | [+on/over] *He is trying to involve community leaders in negotiations on reform.* | **open/enter into negotiations (with sb)** (=start official discussions) *The government opened negotiations with the IMF for another loan.* | *the next round of arms negotiations* | *The price is generally open to negotiation* (=is not fixed and can be discussed).

ne-go-ti-a-tor /nɪ'gəʊʃiətə \$-'gouʃiətər/ *n* [C] someone who takes part in official discussions, especially in business or politics, in order to try and reach an agreement: *the chief union negotiator*

Ne-gress /'ni:grɪs/ *n* [C] *old-fashioned* a word for a black woman, usually considered offensive

Ne-gro /'ni:grəʊ \$-grəʊ/ *n* plural **Negroes** [C] *old-fashioned* a word for a black person, usually considered offensive —**negro** *adj*

Negro **spiritual** *n* [C] a SPIRITUAL²

neigh /neɪ/ *v* [I] if a horse neighs, it makes a long loud noise —**neigh** *n* [C]

Syllabication

Pronunciation



How to find word meanings.



How to find word meanings

1. Analyzing word parts or word formation
2. Using a dictionary



BUT

**Words may have
more than one meaning.**



You must be sure
to choose the right meaning.

How can we locate the correct meaning ?

- ❁ **What parts of speech is the word in the sentence ?**
- ❁ **Use a dictionary**
- ❁ **Use the context to help**

Exercise 1

1. The plural of the word “curriculum” is *curricula, or curriculumms*
2. The stylistic value of “cool” (adj.) is *informal style and slang*
(= *excellent; impressive*)
3. The adverb of “domestic” is *domestically.*



4. The alternative spelling for “maneuver” is *manoeuvre*

5. The English expression “a dog’s dinner” means *something that is meant to be impressive or fashionable but that other people think is not:*

She was dressed up like a dog's dinner.

6. The past participle of “stride” is *stridden*.

7. NASA. is abbreviated from

National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

8. The phonetic symbol for the initial sound of the word “challenging” is /^ltʃæliŋdʒɪŋ/

9. The punctuation used to form a compound noun is *hyphen*.

10. Is “Eugene” a common Christian name for male or female? *For males*