

1 Relationships

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bond /bɒnd/ Noun

if there is a **bond** between people, they have developed an ability to work or live together based on trust and respect and friendship

a close/strong/deep bond | create/develop/form a bond | strengthen a bond

there's a deep bond between us | an emotional bond between the two survivors | the ability of mother and daughter to form a bond with each other | We spent long hours in the labs, but this only strengthened the bonds between fellow classmates

Verb: *bond*

bond with someone

the team has bonded together well | she found it easy to bond with her students | I met her when I went to college and we bonded immediately

brother-in-law /ˈbrʌðər ɪn lɔː/ Noun

your **brother-in-law** is the brother of your husband or wife. All the relatives of your husband or wife are your **in-laws**

my brother-in-law lives in California | I've got three sisters and one brother-in-law

faithful /ˈfeɪθf(ə)l/ Adjective

someone who is **faithful** is very loyal to someone else and always supports them

her most faithful companion was her dog | a talented and faithful servant to the emperor | he remained faithful to her for the next forty four years

Adverb: *faithfully* | Noun: *faithfulness*

he faithfully did everything that Pat asked of him | his faithfulness was recognised by the king

fiancée /fiˈɒnseɪ/ Noun

someone's **fiancée** is a woman who they are going to marry. Someone's **fiancé** is a man they are going to marry

he met his fiancée when they were at university | let me introduce you to my fiancée, Jennifer | we're looking forward to meeting your fiancé

flatmate /ˈflæt.meɪt/ Noun

your **flatmate** is someone who shares the flat that you live in

my flatmates usually go away at the weekend | she lived there for two years with the same three flatmates | I'm lucky, my flatmate is a brilliant cook | the flatmates took it in turns to do the cleaning

good mate /ɡʊd meɪt/ Noun

in informal English, a **mate** is a friend. If you say you are **good mates** with someone, you mean that you are close friends

we were good mates at school | Jonny and I have always been good mates | she's my best mate

mutual /ˈmjuːtʃuəl/ Adjective

mutual feelings are shared by two people. For example, if you do not like someone and they do not like you, you can say that the feeling is mutual mutual feelings | a mutual friend

the two shared a mutual respect | they met through a mutual friend (someone that they both knew) | without mutual understanding, there can be no friendship | the divorce was by mutual consent

Adverb: *mutually*

we developed a mutually useful relationship

odd /ɒd/ Adjective

odd shoes, socks, etc. are a pair of them consisting of two items that do not match, instead of two that are the same. An odd couple are two people who are married or in a relationship, but who seem very different from each other

make an odd couple

they made an odd couple – a sixty-year-old librarian and a thirty-year-old professional cyclist | they might look like an odd couple, but they've been together for over thirty years

passing acquaintance /ˈpɑːsɪŋ əˈkweɪntəns/ Noun

an **acquaintance** is someone you know. A **passing acquaintance** is someone you might have met once or twice, so you know them, but not very well

at the time she was just a passing acquaintance, but three years later we got married | I had only a passing acquaintance with Angus

stuff /stʌf/ Noun uncount

you can use **stuff** as a general word to refer to any kind of thing without saying exactly what it is

you can buy all sorts of stuff there | he put his stuff on the table | whose is this stuff? | they get stressed because of exams and stuff | we did football and boxing and stuff like that | I don't like poetry and that sort of stuff | we need to buy some stuff for the party tomorrow

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associate /əˈsəʊsi,eɪt/ Verb

if you **associate** one thing with another, you see that there is a link between them and they have something in common, often that one is the cause of the other

there are lots of risks associated with smoking | I always associate Wales with stormy weather | the financial costs associated with long-term illness

candy /kændi/ Noun uncount

candy is small pieces of food made from sugar or that taste like fruit, which children like to eat. Candy is American English. In British English, people say sweets

candy is bad for your teeth | I never eat candy | my uncle gave me some candy | he ran a small candy store in Brooklyn

considerate /kən'sɪd(ə)rət/ Adjective

someone who is **considerate** thinks carefully about how they behave towards other people and always tries to make sure their actions do not have a bad effect on other people's feelings or needs

he's great fun, and what's striking is how considerate he is | Louis was a kind and considerate young man | Anthea is polite, considerate and well-mannered | please be considerate of our neighbours and leave the restaurant quietly

Adverb: *considerately* || Opposite – Adjective: *inconsiderate*

cyclists are asked to use the path carefully and considerately | it was very inconsiderate of him to play his music so loudly | inconsiderate motorists | a problem with inconsiderate neighbours

definite /def(ə)nət/ Adjective

something that is **definite** is certain or sure to be true
no one can give a definite answer to this question | I don't have any definite plans for tonight | there's no definite right or wrong here – you have to use your judgement

Adverb: *definitely*

it's definitely going to rain | I'm definitely coming to the party | War and Peace is definitely my favourite book | that's definitely not a film I want to see

dependable /dɪ'pendəb(ə)l/ Adjective

if someone is **dependable**, you can trust them and know that they will do the right thing every time
Kate is a really dependable friend | George is entirely trustworthy and dependable | I need an assistant who will be completely reliable and dependable

Verb: *depend*

depend on someone or something

I have twenty employees who depend on me keeping the business going

energetic /enə(r)'dʒetɪk/ Adjective

something or someone that is **energetic** does things in a very lively and enthusiastic way

the band were loud and energetic on stage | the dogs were very active and energetic | he had been much more energetic when he was younger

Adverb: *energetically*

the children were playing energetically in the garden

get on well with /ɡet ɒn wəl wɪð/ Phrasal verb

if you **get on** with someone, you like them and have a friendly relationship with them

get on with someone

do you get on with the people you work with? | I

never got on with my boss | we don't get on with our neighbours | I get on well with the people in the office | I had a feeling they wouldn't get on | they get on together very well

go round to /ɡəʊ raʊnd tuː/ Phrasal verb

if you **go round** to someone's house or flat, you visit them there socially

I've been round to his house several times | she asked us to go round after work | four of us are going round to Terry's on Saturday | are you going round to Dan's later?

hang out with /hæŋ aʊt wɪð/ Phrasal verb

if you **hang out** with someone, you spend a lot of your free time with them

hang out with someone | hang out together | she started hanging out with Ellie and Jay | we used to hang out together all the time | they hang out behind the bus station

hound dog /haʊnd dɒɡ/ Noun

a **hound dog** is a dog, especially one that is used for or is good at hunting

it was a tough, intelligent hound dog | hound dogs have a very good sense of smell | a pack of hound dogs (a group of them all together)

hug /hʌɡ/ Verb

if you **hug** someone, you put your arms round them and hold them tightly because you want to show them love or friendship

she's always hugging me. I wish she wouldn't | he hugged us all, then waved as the train left the station | I love kissing and hugging my children | everyone screamed with delight and hugged each other

Noun: *hug*

give someone a hug

give me a hug before you go | we gave each other a long hug | can I have a hug?

keep up with /kiːp ʌp wɪð/ Phrasal verb

if you **keep up with** someone, you are in contact with them regularly and share information about your lives with each other

we keep up with each other on Facebook | I kept up with her for years after we left university | it's a shame you didn't keep up with Geoff

laid-back /leɪd bæk/ Adjective

if someone is **laid-back**, they are always very calm and relaxed and never seem to worry about anything

he's very laid-back and just seems to lie around all day | they have a rather laid-back approach to parenting | she was very laid-back about her exams | I enjoyed the laid-back atmosphere at my last school

outgoing /aʊt'ɡəʊɪŋ/ Adjective

someone who is **outgoing** is friendly and lively, and likes meeting new people

Sandra remembers him as a very outgoing person | he's very funny and outgoing | we're both quite chatty and outgoing | she has a very outgoing personality

sanctuary /ˈsæŋktʃuəri/ Noun

a **sanctuary** is a place where people or animals are cared for and looked after, and protected from danger

a bird sanctuary | a wildlife sanctuary (where animals are protected) | he sought sanctuary in a nearby church

sociable /ˈsəʊjəb(ə)/ Adjective

someone who is **sociable** likes meeting other people and being with other people in social situations

some people are just naturally sociable | I wish my flatmate was more sociable | they're very sociable and always have people staying with them | they didn't speak much English, but they were friendly and sociable

Adverb: *sociably* || Opposite – Adjective: *unsociable*
we sat together sociably until the restaurant closed | he's often quiet and unsociable, but he's nice when you get to know him | a rude and unsociable old man

stand by /stænd baɪ/ Phrasal verb

if you **stand by** someone, you help and support them when they have problems or difficulties

Kate has always stood by me when I've needed help | he was the only one to stand by the president during the trial | don't worry, I'll stand by you

striking /ˈstraɪkɪŋ/ Adjective

something that is **striking** catches your attention because it is very noticeable and makes you look at it or think about it a lot

the two books have striking similarities | the second example was even more striking | what's striking is how considerate he was | her Facebook page had a number of striking photos

Adverb: *strikingly* | Verb: *strike*

strike someone as something
her own conclusions were strikingly different | doesn't his behaviour strike you as odd? | the first thing that struck me was how few people were there

unreliable /ˌʌnrɪˈlaɪəb(ə)/ Adjective

if someone is **unreliable**, they often do not do what they need to do and you can never be sure that they will do what they say they will do. If something is **unreliable**, it does not always work properly or in the way that it is meant to

Tony's a lovely man but he's so unreliable | the buses here are a bit unreliable | the newspaper report was based on an unreliable source | the ferry was slow and unreliable

Opposite – Adjective: *reliable*

she's very reliable – if she says she'll do something, then she'll do it | a friendly and reliable taxi driver | a reliable worker | the trains aren't very reliable (they're often late) | an old and not very reliable car

PAGES 12–13**burden** /ˈbɜː(r)d(ə)n/ Noun

a **burden** is something difficult or unpleasant that you have to deal with, especially because you feel responsible for it

be a burden on someone | bear/carry a burden

we don't want to be a burden on her | I was tired of bearing the whole burden of childcare | it's an unfair burden to place on anyone

Adjective: *burdened* | Verb: *burden*

by the end of the year he was burdened with debt | not wanting to burden her parents, she took a job as a teaching assistant

dutiful /ˈdjuːtɪf(ə)/ Adjective

someone who is **dutiful** makes sure they do everything that they are asked to do or are expected to do in a loyal way

I'm sure she will be dutiful and look after us | a dutiful daughter | he was dutiful towards his parents | the children were taught to be dutiful and obedient

Adverb: *dutifully* | Noun: *duty*

I write dutifully to my parents every week | he dutifully did what she asked and drove her to the airport | it's your duty to make sure your brother doesn't fall into the river

ideology /ˌaɪdɪˈɒlədʒi/ Noun

an **ideology** is a particular set of opinions and beliefs about the world that influence the way people choose to live and organise themselves

different ideologies are fighting against each other | a dangerous mix of nationalist ideology and international politics | the army was used as an instrument for spreading ideology | his writing is a challenge to Western ideology

Adjective: *ideological*

there were ideological differences between the three brothers | a man of ideological principles

material benefit /məˈtɪəriəl ˈbenɪfɪt/ Noun

material benefits are things that help to make people's lives more comfortable, such as warm and dry housing with a clean water supply, availability of fresh food, good quality clothing, etc

the economic boom has brought enormous material benefits | life in the city offered material benefits compared to life in the country | we enjoy many more material benefits than our grandparents did

nursing home /ˈnɜːsɪŋ həʊm/ Noun

a **nursing home** is a place where people live and are looked after, especially older people who are no longer able to look after themselves

I want the best nursing home money can buy for my parents | her mother has been in a nursing home for the last three years | he died a week later in a nursing home

overtake /əʊvə(r)'teɪk/ Verb

if you have **overtaken** someone, you have developed and improved more quickly than them and are now more successful or at a more advanced stage in a process

she has now overtaken her parents in spoken English | the internet is fast overtaking TV as a popular form of entertainment | she overtook me in our last year at university and got much better exam results

rebellious /rɪ'beljəs/ Adjective

if someone is **rebellious**, they start to fight against or oppose the people who have authority over them
rebellious teenagers | his rebellious attitude caused him problems at school

Adverb: *rebelliously* | Noun: *rebel* /reb(ə)l/ | Verb: *rebel* /rɪ'bel/ | Noun: *rebellion*

rebel against something

teenagers behaving rebelliously | the town was attacked by rebels during the night | 26 soldiers and eight rebels were killed in the battle | when she was told she could not go to university, she openly rebelled | he eventually rebelled and left home without even saying goodbye | the rebellion was quickly crushed | an armed rebellion

slang /slæŋ/ Noun uncount

slang is language that is considered to be very informal or even wrong, used by particular groups of people such as young people or criminals

prison slang | she taught her mother the latest slang | a dictionary of slang | my dad hates it when I use slang

supportive /sə'pɔː(r)tɪv/ Adjective

if people are **supportive**, they understand your situation and help you

her parents want to be supportive | my colleagues are very supportive | luckily, I've got a supportive boss | thank you for being so supportive while I've been in hospital

Verb: *support* | Noun: *support*

offer someone support

we'll support you whatever you decide to do | his parents offered him financial support

PAGES 14–15**ancestral roots** /æn'sɛstrəl ruːts/ Noun plural

your **ancestral roots** are your family and the places they lived a long time ago in the past

landing in Jamaica felt like returning to my ancestral roots | his mother had ancestral roots in Massachusetts | the McNeil family had ancestral roots in both Ireland and Scotland

approval /ə'pruːv(ə)l/ Noun uncount

someone's **approval** of something is their saying that they think it is good or right and they think it should continue

give your approval

you need your parents' approval if you want to leave school before you're 17 | he couldn't get the prime

minister's approval so the project never got started | will you give your approval to the proposal? | the agreement is awaiting approval from the president

Verb: *approve* | Opposite – Noun: *disapproval* | Verb: *disapprove*

approve of someone or something

my dad didn't approve of our marriage | I can't stop you leaving university, but I don't approve | he doesn't approve of my friends | she expressed her disapproval (said that she disapproved) | they both disapproved of his girlfriend

characteristic /ˌkærɪktə'rɪstɪk/ Noun

a **characteristic** is a particular quality or feature that is typical of someone or of a group of people

the men in the village shared a number of physical characteristics | our personality characteristics influence the decisions we make | it's a family characteristic

common sense /'kɒmən sɛns/ Noun uncount

common sense is an ability to make good judgements about things and make sensible decisions

it's common sense to want a secure job | a common sense suggestion | just use your common sense and you'll be fine

free spirit /friː 'spɪrɪt/ Noun

a **free spirit** is someone who does exactly what they want to do in life, and does not care if they do not do what is expected of them

we were young, in love, and free spirits | Beverly was a free spirit and always said exactly what she thought | Nick has always been a free spirit by nature

inherit /ɪn'herɪt/ Verb

if you **inherit** characteristics from your parents, you have those characteristics because of the genes you share with them

she has dark brown hair, probably inherited from her Mexican grandmother | she suffers from a condition inherited from both her parents | he had inherited his father's nose

make sense /meɪk sɛns/ Phrase

if something **makes sense**, it seems sensible and right to you

make sense to someone | make sense to do something

we all agreed that it made sense to wait till it had stopped raining | it doesn't make any sense to emigrate if you're happy here | her suggestion made perfect sense to me

melting pot /'mɛltɪŋ pɒt/ Noun

a **melting pot** is a place where there are lots of different sorts of people or things all existing together

New York has always been a big melting pot | London is a melting pot of different cultures | Boston is just as big a melting pot as New York City

sense of belonging /sɛns ɒv brɪ'lɒŋɪŋ/ Noun singular
if you have a **sense of belonging**, you feel comfortable somewhere and think that it is the right place for you to live
we all have a strong sense of belonging here | I never had any sense of belonging when I was living in Berlin | children really need a sense of belonging

sense of direction /sɛns ɒv dɪ'rekʃən/ Noun uncount
your **sense of direction** is your instinctive ability to know where you are relative to other places and to be able to find your way somewhere without needing to look at a map
lose your sense of direction | a good sense of direction
once it got dark I lost all sense of direction | she had a terrible sense of direction and got lost within minutes | Jo had a good sense of direction and got us back to the hotel in time for dinner

sense of duty /sɛns ɒv 'dʒʊti/ Noun singular
your **sense of duty** is the feeling you have that makes you do everything that you are responsible for
my grandfather had a strong sense of duty | the king said he felt a sense of duty to the country | as a doctor, he felt a sense of duty to the weak and sick | I visited him out of a sense of duty

stepmother /'step,mʌðə(r)/ Noun
someone's **stepmother** is the woman who has married their father after their biological mother has died or divorced
Tomas didn't like his new stepmother | her stepmother was very good to her | it's not easy being a stepmother

trace /treɪs/ Verb
if you **trace** the beginning and development of something, you find out how it started and what happened as it developed through time
the project aims to trace the route taken by our ancestors from Africa | I've traced my family tree back to the start of the fifteenth century | the article traces the history of cricket from its origins to the present day

turn to /tɜ:n tu:/ Phrasal verb
if you **turn to** someone when you have problems, you go to them for help, advice and support
I had no one else to turn to | you know you can turn to me if you have any problems | she's the first person I would turn to

PAGES 16–17

ask after /ɑ:sk 'ɑ:ftə/ Phrasal verb
if you **ask after** someone, you ask someone else about them because the other person has seen them more recently and can tell you if they are well and what they are doing now
he was asking after you, actually | she always asks after him when I see her | did he ask after me? | Mr Barrell asked after my wife

tanned /tænd/ Adjective
someone who is **tanned** has healthy skin that is darker than normal because they have been out in the sun
you're looking very tanned and relaxed | his arms were nicely tanned | she had fair hair and perfectly tanned skin

fingers crossed /'fɪŋgəz krɒst/ Phrase
if you say "**fingers crossed**", you are saying that you hope something will be successful
I've sent off my job application – fingers crossed | fingers crossed for good weather tomorrow

freelance /'fri:lɑ:ns/ Adjective
a **freelance** journalist, photographer, etc. is someone who works for different organisations, but not as an employee
he's working as a freelance photographer | a freelance translator | Marvin quit his job to become a freelance editor
Adverb: *freelance* | Noun: *freelance* or *freelancer*
I prefer working freelance | a group of freelancers who meet for lunch once a month

get on /ɡet ɒn/ Phrasal verb
if someone is **getting on** well, they are successful in what they are doing and making progress
how is George getting on? | she's getting on very well since she started her new job | how do you think he'll get on in his exams? | parents need to know how their children are getting on at school

plantation /plɑ:n'teɪʃ(ə)n/ Noun
a **plantation** is a large area of land where crops such as tea, rubber, sugar etc. are grown
before 1865, large southern plantations used slaves | his grandfather established a tea plantation here | they worked on a banana plantation

rush /rʌʃ/ Verb
if you **rush**, or **rush** somewhere, you try and go there as soon as you can and as quickly as possible
rush to do something
no need to rush, the train's not due for another ten minutes | he rushed to the hospital as soon as he heard the news | people rushed to lift the car off him | he rushed in ten minutes late for the lesson | we all rushed out when the fire alarm went off
Noun: *rush*
(be) in a rush | a great rush | a mad/frantic rush | a sudden rush | a rush to do something
we were in a rush to get to the station | a sudden rush for the exit (people suddenly trying to get out of a building quickly) | I can't stop to talk, I'm in an awful rush! | a mad rush to buy the latest iPhone

PAGES 18–19

devastation /dɪvəsteɪʃən/ Noun uncount
devastation is a lot of destruction and damage over a wide area
it's difficult for us to understand the sheer scale

of the devastation | the storm caused widespread devastation across the region | a scene of utter devastation

Verb: devastate | Adjective: devastating | Adverb: devastatingly | Adjective: devastated

if there's an accident it could devastate the whole area | a bomb devastated the city centre | the country has been devastated by war | we saw the devastating effects of the bombing | the devastating consequences of flooding | the utterly devastating power of modern weapons | a devastatingly powerful bomb | the attack was devastatingly successful | aid was sent in to the devastated region | the rebuilding of devastated cities after the war

dubious distinction /dubiəs dɪstɪŋkʃən/ Noun

a **dubious distinction** is an achievement that you are not proud of

they had the dubious distinction of losing the first five matches of the season | our school holds the dubious distinction of never sending anyone to university | the city has the dubious distinction of having more pubs than shops

faith /feɪθ/ Noun uncount

if you have **faith** in someone or something, you believe in them and trust them very strongly

have faith (in someone or something) | lose faith (in someone or something) | restore faith (in someone or something)

I have faith in people to do the right thing | he has lost faith in the present government | we need to restore people's faith in the national football team

gutsy /gətsi/ Adjective

someone who is **gutsy** shows a lot of courage and determination

my grandmother was a gutsy and adventurous woman | the team put in a gutsy performance against a strong Barcelona side | it was a very gutsy attempt to beat the record

infrastructure /ˈɪnfəˌstrʌktʃə(r)/ Noun uncount

infrastructure is all the basic facilities and services that are required for a city or town to operate successfully, such as roads, water supply, electricity supply, etc.

they built 200 new houses but there's no infrastructure in place yet | the transport infrastructure has been improved over the last five years | over the past 30 years, China has concentrated on building physical infrastructure such as roads and ports

process /ˈprəʊses/ Verb

to **process** a claim, application, business transaction etc. means to check that everything is acceptable and to approve it

it takes three weeks to process a passport application | the machine wouldn't process the transaction | all the applications are now processed electronically (using computers) | we'll process the claim and the money should reach your bank account early next week

Noun: process

the approval process normally takes two weeks

moving /ˈmuːvɪŋ/ Adjective

something that is **moving** makes you feel a strong emotion such as happiness, sadness, or sympathy

I found his poetry very moving | a really moving story | the scene at the end was very moving | I find the music really moving | seeing them together again was a very moving sight

Verb: move

his speech really moved me | the song moved her to tears

renovation /ˌrenəʊˈveɪʃən/ Noun uncount

renovation is the activity of repairing and improving a building

the building needs some renovation, but it's basically in good condition | renovation of the station cost over £2m | the renovation took over three years to complete | the last major renovation was in 1984

Verb: renovate

the church was renovated two years ago

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support network /səˈpɔːt ˈnetwɜːk/ Noun

a **support network** is a group of people who can provide help, advice, and support to people who have problems or difficulties on their life

we've lost a valuable support network now that we're all in nuclear families | having a good support network is essential | an online support network | you should consider joining a support network