

Feelings, emotions, attitudes, and sensations

Feeling and behaviour generally

F1 verbs : relating to feeling

[ALSO ⇒ F260-2]

feel 1 [T1] to get knowledge of by touching: *Just feel the quality of the cloth.* 2 [Wv6;T1] to experience the touch or movement of: *I can feel a pin sticking into me.* 3 [L7] to experience (a condition); be consciously: *I felt really cold/ill last night. She feels tired and wants to rest.* 4 [T5a] (fig) to think or consider: *He says he feels that he has not been well treated. I feel (that) you don't understand the problem.*

sense [T1,5] to feel esp through the senses, often without clear reasons: *The dog sensed danger. He sensed that she didn't like him.*

experience [T1] often fml to feel, have, or know: *He experienced a lot of difficulties doing that work. In that place she experienced real fear for the first time in her life.*

enjoy [T1] to have or feel (something good): *He has always enjoyed good health.*

suffer from [v prep T1] to have or feel (something bad): *She has always suffered from ill health. She has suffered (a lot) from various illnesses.*

suffer [T1] often fml to experience (something bad): *He suffered the loss of a leg during the war.*

F2 nouns : relating to feeling

feeling 1 [U] the ability to feel: *After the accident he had no feeling in his legs.* 2 [C] gent something which a person feels inside him/herself; an emotion, or idea: *I have a feeling he doesn't like me. What are her feelings towards him? Try not to hurt his feelings again (= to, upset him, his pride, etc).* 3 [C usu sing] something which a person, animal, etc feels through the senses: *When that thing touched me it was a very strange feeling.*

sensation often fml 1 [U] the power of feeling in the body: *The doctor said that the patient had no sensation in his legs.* 2 [C] a bodily feeling: *She felt a sensation of heat against her face.*

emotion 1 [C] any one of the strong feelings that a person can have inside: *Love, hatred, and grief are emotions. His speech had an effect on*

our emotions rather than on our reason. 2 [U] strength of feeling; an excited state of the feelings: *He described the accident in a voice shaking with emotion.*

sentiment 1 [C] fml a feeling; emotion: *He is not interested in such sentiments as pity and love.*

2 [U] human sympathy: *They consider sentiment in business a waste of time.*

mood 1 [C] a state of the emotions at a particular time: *When she came home she found him in a bad mood. Her moods change quickly; one minute she's happy, the next minute she's sad.*

2 [C] a state of feeling in which a person is bad tempered, violently angry, or displeased, etc: *Don't ask him to help when he's in one of his moods. She's in a mood and won't speak to me.*

3 [(the) S] the right state of mind (for a particular activity, thing, etc): *I can't write any letters today; I'm not in the mood. She was tired and in no mood for dancing. Do you feel in the mood for some music?*

instinct 1 [U; C] the inborn force in animals and people which causes certain patterns of behaviour, such as nest building in birds, which are not based on learning or thinking: *Most animals have an instinct to protect their young.* 2 [C often pl] natural feeling(s) (in human beings); the ways of behaviour which one would follow before thinking: *Trust your instincts in this matter. Some instinct made him turn round at that moment.*

morale [U] an attitude in a person or group of people towards difficulties, work, etc: *The morale of the soldiers was high/low (= good/poor).*

F3 nouns : attitudes and similar feelings

attitude [C] 1 manner of feeling and behaving: *He has a happy attitude to life. I dislike her unfriendly attitude.* 2 judgment; opinion: *What is your attitude to this ideal in this matter?*

temper [C] a particular state or condition of the mind, with regard to anger: *She is in a bad temper because she missed the bus and had to walk to work. He's in a very good temper today; what happened? [also ⇒ F103]*

temperament [C] a person's character as shown by his attitudes, behaviour, feelings, interests, etc: *She has a happy, friendly temperament. He doesn't have the temperament for office work.*

disposition [C; U] one's feelings, general way of behaving, etc: *She has a friendly disposition. What one does when one isn't working is a matter of personal disposition.*

inclination [U; C often pl] what one likes; liking: *She always follows her own inclinations. I have no inclination to do that kind of work.*

impulse [C; U] a sudden wish to do something: *She almost gave way to a wild impulse to dance in the street. I telephoned her on impulse. He usually follows his impulses and does what he wants.*

urge [C] a strong desire: *I was angry and felt an urge to hit him. Sexual urges are perfectly natural.*

bias [C] a tendency of mind, feelings, etc: *Her scientific bias showed itself in early childhood; she was interested in everything scientific.*

F4 adjectives : relating to feeling [B]

emotional 1 (of people) having feelings which are strong or easily moved: *Women are often said to be more emotional than men.* 2 (of words, music, literature, etc) showing or able to cause strong feeling; emotive: *She sang an emotional song about love and death.* 3 [Wa5] relating to the emotions: *He continues to have emotional difficulties.* **un-** [neg] **-ly** [adv]

emotive which causes or may cause emotion: *'Home' is a much more emotive word than 'house'.* **-ly** [adv]

affecting causing deep feeling: *Meeting her again was a very affecting experience.*

moving causing deep feeling; affecting: *It was a deeply moving ceremony.*

sentimental having or showing a lot of, or too much, sentiment or emotion: *She's very sentimental about animals. They like singing warm, sentimental songs.* **-ly** [adv] **-ity** [U]

moody [Wal] 1 having moods that change often and quickly: *She's a moody child, sad one minute, happy the next.* 2 badly-tempered, angry, displeased, or unhappy, esp when such feelings or the reasons for them are not expressed: *He became rather moody while waiting for the results of the exam.* **-ily** [adv] **-iness** [U]

impulsive likely to act suddenly without thinking about the results, suitability, etc of one's acts: *Children can be very impulsive sometimes. Her impulsive behaviour worries me.* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

instinctive [Wa5] resulting (as if) from instinct: *The way in which he did the work was almost instinctive.* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

F5 verbs : wanting things

want [T3, 1] to have or feel a need, real or

imagined, to do or to get: *He wanted to eat. I want to talk to you. He wants very much to go there. I want that book, not the other one.*

wish 1 [T5a] to want (what is at present impossible): *I wish we had more money.* 2 [X7, 9] **emph** to want (something) to be: *We wished the long journey over, but it wasn't. They wished her anywhere but in their house.* 3 [D1] to hope that (someone) is or has (something), esp expressed as a greeting: *I wish you well/a merry Christmas.* 4 [I0 (for)] to want and try to cause a particular thing, esp when it can only come by magic: *Go to the well and wish for what you want most of all.* 5 [T3, V3] **polite & fml** to want: *Do you wish to eat alone, sir? Does he wish us to come back later?*

feel like [v prep T1, 4] **infrm** to want: *I feel like an apple. Do you feel like going for a walk?*

like [T1, 3] (used with **should, would**) **infrm** to want: *I would/I'd like another cake. Would you like a new bicycle? Would you like to go there?*

care for [v prep T1] (esp in polite questions) to want; like: *Would you care for another cake? I don't much care for people like him.*

fancy [T1] **infrm** to wish for; have a liking for: *Do you fancy that car?—It's nice, isn't it?*

will [T1, 5; V3] to use the powers of one's mind to make or intend: *He willed that she would succeed. He willed her to succeed. The priest said that she died because God willed it. He willed himself to keep working, although he was very tired.*

F6 verbs : wanting things very much

desire 1 [T1, 3, 5] **fml** to wish or want very much: *She desires only your happiness. I desire to be happy. The Queen desires that you (should) come at once. She desires you to come at once. Give your guests whatever they desire.* 2 [T1] to want to have sex with: *Antony desired Cleopatra.* **desirable** [B] worth having, doing, or desiring: *These good ideas have had several desirable results. For this job it is desirable to know French.*

long [I0 (for), I3] to wish or want very much (something which one cannot have, esp at that time): *She longs to go back to her home town. He longs for her to come back to him.*

crave 1 [T1; I0 (for)] to desire (and keep desiring): *The unhappy children craved their parents' love. He gave up drinking, but you can see he still craves (for) a drink.* 2 [T1] **fml & pomp** to ask strongly but very politely for: *I crave your forgiveness, Sir.*

covet [T1] to desire very much (esp something that belongs to someone else): *He covets my land, but he won't get it! He really covets the prize for best swimmer.* **covetous** [B (of)] esp **lit** wanting something very much: *He looked at the money with covetous eyes. (esp fml & lit) He is covetous of her money.* **-ly** [adv]

lust after also **lust for** [v prep T1] to desire very strongly, esp in a sexual way; covet greatly: *He*

lusted after the girl, but could not have her. Those men lust (only) for gold.

miss [T1, 4] to feel sorry or unhappy at the absence or loss of (someone or something): *The old man told his children that they'd miss him when he was dead. He missed the sunshine when he returned to England after four years in a hot country. Now she's poor, and misses having servants to do all the work in the house.*

hope [I0 (for); T3, 5a, b] to wish or expect (that something will happen): *I hope (that) he'll come. She hopes to go. Will he do it?—I hope so. // hope not. He hoped for peace but caused a war.*

despair [I0 (of)] to lose hope: *Don't despair; something good will happen soon. She sometimes despaired of her son; he never seemed to do anything right. He gave a despairing cry and died.*

resign [V3] to prepare (esp oneself) without complaining: *He resigned himself to losing all the money.* **resignation** [U] the condition of having resigned oneself to something

give up [v adv I0] *not fml* to despair and resign oneself to something: *I give up; I can't do this job.*

F7 verbs : not having things [T1]

[⇒ D81]

lack 1 to be without; not have: *We lacked food. 2 to have less than enough of: She lacks the strength to do the work.*

need to want, esp for some necessary or useful purpose: *He says he needs the book now for his work. I need her and can't live without her.*

require *fml* to need: *We require more money; arrange it with the bank. Do you require any further assistance (= help), sir? He is required at once in the Manager's office.*

want 1 [also T4] to need, usu badly: *This house wants painting/a good coat of paint. This work wants doing now! 2 [T3] not fml ought: You know, you want to see a doctor about that cough. You're tired; you don't want to work so hard. This work wants to be done carefully. 3 often fml to lack; not have enough of: His reply wanted politeness. 4 often fml to suffer from the lack of: Many people still want food and shelter. 5 [often pass] to need (the presence of): The servants won't be wanted this afternoon. Don't go where you are not wanted. Your country wants you. 6 [Wv5] (esp of the police) to hunt or look for in order to catch: The police want him for questioning. He is wanted for murder; he's a wanted man. 7 now rare to lack (for completion): What time is it?—Oh, it wants 3 minutes to 12. 8 [I0] to lack enough food, clothing, shelter, etc: I'll see that she never wants again. **want in/out** ScotE & AmE to desire to come/go: The cat wants in and the dog wants out. I want out of this agreement.*

can/could use also **can/could do with** *in fml* would like to have; want; need: *Boy, I'm*

thirsty; I could use a cold beer right now! Can you use some extra money? You bet I can! That little girl could do with a bath; she's very dirty.

F8 nouns : not having things

lack [U (of)] the condition of not having (something necessary): *The plants died through/lack of water.*

want 1 [U (of)] *fml* lack or absence (often in the phrs **for/from want of**): *The plants died for/from want of water. I'll take this one for want of a better. She felt the want of a good friend. 2 [U] severe lack of the things necessary to life: Want can make your life hopeless. It's terrible to live in want. 'War on want' is a movement to lessen world hunger. in want of esp formerly in need of: Are you in want of money? This house is in want of repair.*

need 1 [U (of, for)] the condition of lacking or wanting (something necessary or useful): *He sensed her need for help. There's no need for a new law. They are in great need of help. 2 [U] the state of not having enough food or money: Illness and need brought about his early death. 3 [C usu pl] often fml something necessary to have: He always looks after the needs of others and forgets himself.*

wish 1 [C, C3] a feeling of wanting, esp what at present is impossible: *He has a wish to visit India. It's her wish to be left alone. 2 [C] an attempt esp by magic to make something happen: She made a wish. The old woman gave him three wishes. 3 [C] usu fml what is wished for: That is my wish; please do it.*

will 1 [C; U, U3] the power or intention to make things happen: *He has the will to live; he'll recover. She has a very strong will; she'll do what she wants, not what we want. 2 [U9] what is wished or intended (by the stated person): Her death is God's will. It is the will of the King. 3 [U; S] the power to control one's mind and body: He did it by force of will/by will power. 4 [U; C] the power in the mind to choose one's actions: Free will makes us able to choose our way of life. at will as one wishes of one's own free will according to one's own wishes and no one else's*

requirement [C] esp *fml* anything needed: *What are your requirements, sir?*

desire 1 [C, C3, 5c] often *fml* a strong wish: *He was filled with a desire to see her again. She has a great desire to succeed/success. He has many unsatisfied desires. It is my desire that you go. 2 [C9] something desired: What is your greatest desire? 3 [C (for)] a strong wish for sex: Antony's desire for Cleopatra caused his death.*

craving [C (for) usu sing] a very strong continuing desire: *He has a craving for sweets; he never stops wanting them.*

lust [U; C] a very strong desire, esp in sex: *He felt a great lust for the girl, but could not have her. These people have a terrible lust for gold.*

'Among all the lusts of the flesh (= the body), sex is strongest,' said the priest.

hope [U; C] the wish or feeling that something (good) could, will, or may happen: *Don't give up/lose hope. She has no hope of success/succeeding. There is now little hope that he is still alive. They have great hopes of winning. She had a look of hope in her eyes.* **hopeful** [B] having, giving, or feeling hope: *I'm hopeful about the examination results. She had a hopeful look on her face.* **-ly** [adv]: *He waited hopefully. Are you coming?—Hopefully (= I hope so).* **-ness** [U] **hopeless** [B] **1** having or giving no hope: *The news is hopeless; we are losing the war. She had a hopeless look on her face.* **2** bad at doing things: *He's hopeless; he can't do anything right.* **-ly** [adv]: *He got the papers hopelessly mixed up.* **-ness** [U]

despair [U] loss of hope: *Her face showed her complete despair.* **despairing** [A] showing or causing despair: *He gave a despairing cry as he read the bad news.*

desperation [U] the state of being without hope: *He kicked at the locked door in desperation.* **desperate** [B] **1** having lost all hope; willing to do anything to get what one wants: *He was desperate; his family had no food.* **2** violent and dangerous: *Desperate men often do desperate things.* **3** very difficult and dangerous: *This is a desperate job; I don't like doing it.*

optimism [U] the attitude of hoping for or expecting something good to happen: *She is full of optimism about her new job; she thinks it will be really good.* **optimistic** [B] showing or having optimism: *He is optimistic about getting a better job.* **-ally** [adv Wa4] **optimist** [C] an optimistic person

pessimism [U] the attitude of expecting only bad things to happen: *She is full of pessimism about her new job; she thinks it won't be any good.* **pessimistic** [B] showing or having pessimism: *He is pessimistic about passing the examination; he thinks he'll fail.* **-ally** [adv Wa4] **pessimist** [C] a pessimistic person

F9 verbs : bearing and enduring

bear [T1, 3, 4] to accept, experience, or suffer: *He bore the pain well. (fig) I can't bear that dull friend of yours. She can't bear sleeping in a cold bed. She can't bear to see him in pain/seeing him in pain.* **bearable** [B] that can be borne or suffered: *The pain was just bearable* **un-** [neg] **-bly** [adv]

stand [T1, 3, 4] (often neg) *infml* to bear: *He says he can't stand the pain any longer. I don't know how you can stand her; she is such a fool.*

stand for [v prep T1] *infml* to bear; accept: *Why do you stand for his bad behaviour?*

take [T1] *infml* to bear; accept: *You shouldn't take that bad behaviour from those children. She took his cruel treatment for years without complaining. I just can't take it any more; I'm leaving you!*

tolerate [T1] *esp fml* to bear or endure; accept: *I can't tolerate this noise any longer! She tolerated his bad behaviour patiently, hoping he would begin to behave better. [also ⇒ F175]*

endure [T1, 3, 4] (often neg) *emph & fml* to bear (pain, suffering, etc): *Be quiet! I can't endure that noise a moment longer. She could never endure being/to be treated unkindly.*

suffer [T1] *esp lit* to endure: *She has suffered him/his behaviour in silence for years.*

put up with [v adv prep T1] often *infml* to suffer (someone or something) without complaining: *I can't put up with your bad behaviour any longer; I'm leaving. That poor woman has a lot to put up with (= has many troubles to bear).*

stomach [T1] (often neg) **1** to eat without dislike or illness: *I cannot stomach heavy food.* **2** (fig) to accept or bear, without displeasure: *I can't stomach his jokes.*

F10 verbs : behaving

behave **1** [L9] to do things, live, etc, *usu* in a stated way: *She behaved with great courage when her husband died. He behaved badly to (wards) his mother.* **2** [T1; I0] to do things, go about, meet people, talk, etc in a socially acceptable or polite way: *You must learn how to behave in company. Behave (yourself)! They have very well-behaved children.* **misbehave** [I0] to behave badly: *The children were misbehaving again.*

act **1** [L9] to behave as stated: *He acted bravely when the house was on fire.* **2** [L1] to behave like: *Oh, stop acting the fool!* **3** [I0] *deprec* to behave as if performing on the stage: *I can't take her seriously; she always seems to be acting.*

go on [v adv I0] *esp BrE infml* to behave: *He was going on in a very strange way at the party.*

conform [I0 (to, with)] to behave in the same way (as others): *You must conform to the rules of the group. His ideas don't conform with ours. She refuses to conform.* **conformity** [U] *fml* the condition of conforming: *Conformity to society's customs is not always acceptable to young people.*

treat [X9] **1** to behave towards or use (someone or something) in a particular, *usu* stated, way: *She treated him badly. Please treat the matter seriously. How did he treat you; did he treat you well?* **2** to deal with, discuss, etc: *He treats the subject very interestingly in his new book. The book treats that subject very interestingly.*

patronize, -ise [Wv4; T1] **1** to treat (someone) in a friendly way while showing that one thinks oneself more important, clever, etc: *Stop patronizing me! She's a very patronizing kind of person.*

F11 nouns : behaving

behaviour *BrE*, **behavior** *AmE* [U] way of

behaving: *The boy's behaviour was disgraceful. He was on his best behaviour at the party.*
misbehaviour [U] bad behaviour
action [C] a way of doing something: *I can tell by his actions that he is unhappy.*
doings [P] *infnl* things which have been or are being done: *Tell me about all his doings in Wales.*
conduct [U] **1** a person's way of behaving: *The children's conduct at the meeting was very good/bad.* **2** the way of directing or organizing something: *The Government's conduct of the war led to heavy losses.*
manners [P] ways of behaving towards or with others: *That child has no manners. What good manners he has.*
treatment **1** [U of] behaviour towards someone or something: *His treatment of the girl was very bad.* **2** [U; C: of] a way of dealing with something: *His treatment of the subject in his book is very interesting.*
carriage [U] a person's way of walking, of holding himself or herself while moving: *Her carriage is excellent.*
deportment [U] a person's way of behaving, esp on formal occasions: *The girl was given lessons in deportment.*
poise [U] the way of holding esp the head; an esp calm way of behaving: *She showed great poise during that difficult time.*
bearing [U; S] a way of acting, walking, or behaving: *He has a military bearing; he must have been a soldier once.*

F12 nouns : prejudice and favouritism

prejudice **1** [U] unfair (and often unfavourable) feeling or opinion not based on reason or enough knowledge, and sometimes resulting from fear or distrust of ideas different from one's own: *A judge must be free from prejudice. They have a law against racial prejudice (= prejudice against members of other races).* **2** [C] an example of this: *They have a prejudice against lending money, because they are afraid they won't get it back. He has a prejudice in favour of anything modern. She has always lived in a small village and her mind is full of prejudices against strangers.* **prejudiced** [B] feeling or showing prejudice; unfair: *This newspaper supports one political party and gives rather prejudiced reports on government action.* **un-** [neg] **prejudicial** [B] *fml* harmful: *Smoking is prejudicial to health.* **-ly** [adv]
bias [C; U] a tendency to be in favour of or against something or someone without knowing enough to be able to judge fairly; a prejudice: *He has a bias towards/against Scottish products.*
aversion [U; S: (to)] (a) hate or dislike of a person, group of people, thing, or things, etc often without clear reason: *She has an aversion to cats.*
favouritism [U] unfair preference for one per-

son or group over another: *'I can tell you there is no favouritism in this school,' the teacher said.*

F13 verbs : prejudice [T1]

prejudice **1** to cause (someone or someone's mind) to have a prejudice; influence: *His pleasant voice prejudiced me in his favour.* **2** to weaken or harm (someone's case, expectations, etc): *Ill health has prejudiced his chances of success.*
bias to cause to form settled favourable or unfavourable opinions, usu without enough information to judge fully; to cause to prefer; to prejudice: *Her background biased/biassed him in her favour.* **biased/biassed** [B] having a bias **un-** [neg]

F14 adjectives : objective and impartial [B]

objective not affected by one's own feelings, prejudices, hopes, ideas, etc: *He wrote an objective account of what happened. He tried to be objective about it, but his own interests were too strong.* **-ly** [adv] **objectivity** [U] the state of being objective
impartial fair to both sides in an argument, law case, etc, because objective; unbiased: *A judge should be impartial and should study every matter objectively.* **-ly** [adv] **impartiality** [U] the state of being impartial
disinterested willing to judge or act fairly because not influenced by personal advantage: *He was not a disinterested advisor; he hoped to make money from the deal.*

Liking and not liking

F20 verbs : liking and loving

like **1** [T1, 4] to be interested in, enjoy the presence of, want to know and do things with, etc; enjoy: *He likes her. She seems to like him. I like being with him.* **2** [T1, 3, 4] to be happy to have or do: *I like ice cream. Do you like swimming? I like it (= life) here. I'd like to go there with you.* [also ⇒ F140]
fancy [T1, 4] *usu infnl* to like and (usu) to want: *'That girl's pretty,' he said. 'I quite fancy her.'* *She said she fancied a swim. I quite fancy going there.*
love [T1, 3, 4] to like very much: *He loves her. I love this kind of food. She loves being with him. He used to love her, but now he seems to hate her. They love swimming. I'd love to go there with you.* **lover** [C] often in comb a person who loves: *He is a lover of music/a music-lover.*
adore **1** [T1] to love deeply (and respect highly): *She adores her father. I adore you!* **2** [T1, 4]

infml to like very much: *She adores the cinema/going to the cinema.*

care for [v prep T1] to like or love: *He told her he cared for her greatly.*

cherish [T1] to like, love, enjoy, and value, etc. over a long time: *She cherished his memory for years, although she never saw him again. I shall always cherish your friendship.*

F21 verbs : liking and loving informal

be fond of [T1, 4] to like: *He's very fond of her. I'm fond of Chinese food/going there.*

be attached to [T1] to be fond of, esp over a long time: *She's very attached to her parents.*

be keen on [T1, 4] to like a lot: *He's really keen on her. Are you keen on swimming?*

take to [v prep T1] to begin to like: *She took to the children immediately, and they took to her.*

F22 nouns : liking and loving

liking [S] what one likes; a feeling of liking: *This house is (very much) to my liking. He has a liking for hot food. The children seem to have taken a liking to him. likes and dislikes [P] things that one likes and does not like: *What are his likes and dislikes in food?**

fancy [S] a liking formed without the help of reason (*often in the phr take a fancy to*): *I have taken (quite) a fancy to that hat. This idea has really caught his fancy.*

love 1 [U (of, for)] great liking; strong emotional [⇒ F4] interest: *His love (for her) was obvious to everyone. Is she in love with him? I have a great love off for Indian food. A mother's love for her child is very strong. 2 [C] an example of this: She is a person of sudden loves and hates. 3 [C] the object of one's love: Music was one of the great loves of his life. She's one of his old loves. 4 [N] (a friendly term of address): Hello, love!*

fondness 1 [U (for)] the condition of being fond of someone or something: *Her fondness for children was well known. 2 [S] esp pomp a liking: She has an unfortunate fondness for chocolates and puts on weight accordingly.*

attachment [C usu sing] often *fml* & *euph* a feeling of liking, fondness, etc, esp over a longer time: *She formed an attachment for him over the years. I feel a certain attachment for her; I've known her a long time.*

affection [U] gentle, lasting love, as of a parent for a child; fondness: *Her affection for them was clear in the way she spoke.*

care [U] interested or concerned affection: *Her care for his well-being showed in her worried expression.*

devotion [U (to)] great fondness (for): *His devotion to his friends is well-known.*

adoration [U (for)] deep love and respect: *They feel a great adoration for him.*

desire 1 [U] strong love and need, esp sexual:

His desire for her was great. 2 [C] a strong love or need: She kept her sexual desires under control.

passion [U; C] great emotion [⇒ F2] and love, often sexual: *She had a passion for chocolates. His passion for her made him unhappy, because she did not love him in return.*

F23 adjectives : liking and loving

loving [B] showing, expressing, or having love (for someone): *She is very loving towards the children. -ly [adv]*

affectionate [B] showing gentle love: *He received an affectionate letter from his sister. -ly [adv]*

fond [Wai] 1 [F of] feeling a liking or love for: *He's very fond of his sister/of chocolates. He's fonder of his sister than his brother. 2 [A] deprec over-loving: Her anxiety is typical of the fond mother who is afraid to lose her son. -ly [adv]*

devoted 1 [B (to)] loving and loyal; caring a great deal: *She's a devoted wife and mother. He is very devoted to his family and his work. 2 [F to] spending a great deal of time and/or effort (on); fond (of): He's devoted to music/to helping others. -ly [adv]*

adoring [A] showing or having great love: *She looked at him with adoring eyes. -ly [adv]*

passionate [B] having or showing passion; showing great love, desire, strong feelings, etc: *Casanova is said to have been a passionate lover. His letters to her were very passionate. -ly [adv]*

partial 1 [F to] esp *infml* having a liking for: *I think she's quite partial to him. I'm partial to a bit of cheese; can I have some more, please? 2 [B] often deprec liking one (person, group, etc) better than another: Stop being so partial; we know you like them better than us. -ly [adv]
partiality [U] the state of being partial; unfairness **im-** [neg]*

F24 adjectives & nouns : able to be liked, loved, etc

lik(e)able [B] easy to like; deserving, causing, or worthy of love; attractive and pleasant: *He is a very likeable person. -bly [adv]*

lov(e)able [B] easy to love: *That dog is very lovable. What a lovable person she is! un- [neg] **-bly** [adv]*

desirable [B] 1 causing desire, esp sexual desire: *She's a very beautiful and desirable woman. 2 often *fml* wanted as the best thing: It isn't really desirable to have him working here. un- [neg] **-bly** [adv]*

adorable [B] 1 worthy of being loved deeply: *She's an adorable girl. 2 *infml* lovely or attractive: Her face is perfectly adorable. -bly [adv]*

much-loved [Wai; B] greatly loved: *We were sorry to hear of your father's death; he was a much-loved man.*

dear 1 [B (to)] loved very much: *His daughter is very dear to him. His money is dearer to him than his wife.* 2 [C; N] a loved person, esp when spoken to: *Come, my dear. She's a dear; I like her a lot.* 3 [C] a helpful person: *Be a dear and make a cup of tea. Make a cup of tea, there's a dear!* 4 [A] (used in writing letters): *Dear Sir...; Dear Mr Smith...* 5 [interj] (used in expressing surprise, worry, etc): *Oh dear, what shall I do? Dear, dear, that's bad!*

darling esp emot & emph 1 [B] loved very much; easy to love: *She's a darling girl! What a darling little dog!* 2 [C; N] a loved person: *Come on, darling; let's go. The children were good today, the darlings!* 3 [C] a very helpful person: *Be a darling and make a cup of tea!*

beloved 1 [A; (F)] esp lit & old use greatly loved: *Her beloved father died yesterday.* 2 [A; (F)] deprec ironical loved too much: *Can't you put your beloved books in another place?* 3 [Wn3; C; N] old use, lit, pomp & humor a loved one: *Come, beloved! He has been talking on the phone to his beloved for hours!*

popular [B] 1 favoured by many people: *She sang a popular song. Beards were popular among young men at that time.* 2 generally admired by great numbers of people: *He's a good politician but he isn't popular.* 3 well liked, esp by people one meets in daily life: *He is popular with girls; he's so amusing.* 4 general; common; widespread: *That is quite a popular belief. 'Mary' is a very popular name for a girl.* **popularity** [U] the quality of being well liked, favoured, or admired: *This game once had great popularity. The politician was eager for popularity.*

F25 verbs, etc : attracting and interesting [T1]

[ALSO ⇒ F224, K10]

attract 1 to cause to like, admire, or notice: *He was attracted by her beauty.* 2 to draw towards one: *He attracted large numbers of followers.* 3 to draw by unseen forces: *The moon attracts the earth's seas towards it/her.*

draw to attract: *The play is drawing big crowds. You know, I feel very drawn to that girl.*

appeal to [v prep] to be attractive to: *She appeals to him very much. This new job really appeals to me.*

interest to cause (someone) to give attention; attract: *Music interests her more than painting. I think he interests her.*

concern 1 [Wv6] to be important, interesting, etc to: *This matter concerns you all; listen carefully. How does her business concern you?*

2 [U] the condition of being important, interesting, etc: *This matter is no concern of mine. This is a matter of some concern to us all.*

suit 1 to please or be satisfactory to (someone): *Will it suit you if we eat now? The change of plan did not suit him at all.* 2 (of clothes, col-

ours, etc) to look pleasing, attractive, etc on (someone): *Blue suits her* (= She looks good in clothes with the colour blue). *That new dress suits you very well.*

become [Wv6] often fml (of clothes, colours, etc) to suit (someone): *That blue dress really becomes you. (fml) It does not become you to use insulting words like that!*

F26 verbs : attracting and interesting very much [Wv4; T1]

fascinate to interest very much, so that one must continue to look, visit, do, etc: *This story fascinates me; I must go on reading it. I'm fascinated by old houses; I must look round this one. The way she dressed fascinated him.*

enthrall to fascinate completely: *He's enthralled by that book. What an enthralling story!*

enchant to fascinate and (usu) delight, esp in a way or situation which is like magic: *She was enchanted by the beautiful old house and its lovely gardens. What an enchanting dress you are wearing!*

charm to please and fascinate: *She charmed all the young men; they wouldn't leave her alone.*

captivate to charm, excite, and attract (esp someone): *Venice's beauty completely captivated the old man and he went to live there.*

F27 verbs : tempting and enticing

[⇒ G87 PERSUADE]

tempt 1 [T1] to (try to) make (someone) do something wrong or improper: *Have some more to eat—No, please; don't tempt me! He tempted his friends into stealing the money.*

2 [V3] to cause (someone) to want to do or wish for something: *I was greatly tempted to telephone her, but I didn't. Can I tempt you to have another drink?*

entice [X9] to tempt greatly; to persuade (someone) with great success, esp to do something wrong or improper: *He enticed her to his room. They enticed him into doing what they wanted, although he knew he shouldn't. Can I entice you into having another drink?*

F28 nouns : attracting, fascinating, and enticing

attraction 1 [U] the act of attracting: *The attraction of the city's bright lights was difficult to resist. Work has little attraction for him.* 2 [C] something which attracts: *Her greatest attraction for him is her voice. The city's bright lights and theatres are great attractions.*

appeal [S; U] a tendency to attract: *His ideas have a certain appeal, I must admit.*

interest [U] a quality which attracts attention: *This is a matter of great interest to us.*

fascination 1 [U] the ability to fascinate or the condition of being fascinated: *He has a great fascination for women; they find him very attractive. He sat there in a state of fascination, listening to everything the great man said.* 2 [C] something which fascinates: *She has many fascinations for him* (=She fascinates him in many ways).

charm 1 [U] the quality of attraction, fascination, and pleasure: *These girls have great charm. He felt the charm of the house and garden.* 2 [C] something which charms: *Her many charms are well known; she is a beautiful girl.*

enchantment [U; C] a delightful influence or feeling of fascination: *The beauty of the scene filled him with enchantment.*

temptation 1 [U] the act of tempting or being tempted: *'Temptation is always with us; we always want to do things that we shouldn't do,' said the priest.* 2 [C] something which tempts: *All that money on the table is a temptation to someone to steal it. There are many temptations in life.*

enticement 1 [U] the quality of being enticing: *The idea of living on a sunny island has great enticement for him.* 2 [C] something which entices: *They offered him various enticements to change his job.* 3 [U] tech the act of enticing, esp of enticing a young person away for sexual reasons: *He was sent to prison for enticement.*

F29 adjectives : attracting and interesting [B]

attractive having the power to attract: *She is an attractive woman; most men think so. I find his ideas very attractive; I like them.* **un-** [neg] **-ly** [adv]

appealing 1 able to move the feelings: *She looked at him with appealing eyes.* 2 attractive or interesting: *There is something very appealing about happy children.* **un-** [neg] **-ly** [adv]

becoming (esp of clothes, colours, etc) pretty, attractive, and suitable: *That hat looks very/most becoming (on you).* **un-** [neg]

interesting which takes (and keeps) someone's attention or attracts a person: *That's an interesting idea; I must think about it.* **un-** [neg] **-ly** [adv]

fascinating which interests very much: *He told us a fascinating story about Africa; he's a fascinating speaker.* **-ly** [adv]

enchanting fascinating and delightful: *What an enchanting evening/dress/child!* **-ly** [adv]

tempting causing someone to be tempted; that will tempt people: *The food looked very tempting.* **-ly** [adv]

enticing causing someone to be enticed; very attractive: *That is an enticing idea, but we must consider it carefully first. She looked enticing in her new dress.* **-ly** [adv]

F30 verbs : preferring [T1]

like better/more *infml* to like (one thing) more than another: *I like Mary's dress, but I like Jane's dress better/more.*

prefer [also T3, 4, 5c; V3] *fml* to choose (one thing or action) rather than another; to like better: *I like Mary's dress, but I prefer Jane's. Would you like meat or fish?—I'd prefer meat, please. She prefers dogs to cats. May I wash the dishes?—I'd prefer you to dry them/prefer it if you dried them. He prefers swimming to riding as a sport. May I come with you?—I should prefer to go alone.*

favour *BrE*, **favor** *AmE* [T1] to choose or support for some special reason: *He favours the team in blue, but I favour the greens. She seems to favour his ideas over all the others.*

F31 nouns : preferring

preference [C; U] 1 a liking (for one thing rather than another): *He has a preference for fruit over vegetables. Would you like tea or coffee?—I have no special preference(s). I'd choose the small car in preference to (=rather than) the big one, if I were you.* 2 choice; that which is liked better or best: *Tea or coffee—which is your preference? In planning the meals she always considers her husband's preferences.*

favour *BrE*, **favor** *AmE* [U] special love, position, or support: *He is in favour with his mother at the moment, and his brother is out of favour. (old use) The nobles hoped to gain the King's favour for their plan.* **disfavour** *BrE*, **disfavor** *AmE* [U] *fml* 1 dislike; disapproval: *Mary looks on/regards/views him with great disfavour.* 2 the state of being disliked: *John seems to belhave fallen into disfavour (with Mary). How have I incurred (=caused) your disfavour?*

favourite *BrE*, **favorite** *AmE* [C] something or someone liked most: *Her second son is her favourite. This sweet is my favourite; what's yours?*

priority 1 [U] the special right or need to be done, seen, heard, etc before others: *This matter is top priority (=very important). This is a priority matter; we must give it priority over all other business.* 2 [C] an example of this; something to which priority is given: *What are your priorities in this matter?*

F32 verbs : disliking and hating [T1, 4]

dislike not to like; think to be unpleasant: *She dislikes big cities/wearing stockings/being spoken to like that. I don't actually dislike her but we're not really friends. He got himself much disliked because of his bad manners.*

hate [also T3; V3; I0] to dislike very much: *I hate such cruelty. He hates his little sister*

because she breaks all his toys. I hate everything to be changed when I'm away. He has learnt to hate.

detest to hate with very strong feeling: *I detest people who tell lies.*

loathe (esp of living things) to detest, with a feeling of disgust [⇒ F36] *She loathes insects. 'I loathe you!' she shouted angrily.*

abhor (esp of ideas and actions) to detest and want to keep away from: *He abhors cruelty in any form.*

cannot stand to hate; be unable to bear [⇒ F9]: *'I cannot stand spoilt children!' she said.*

F33 nouns : disliking and hating

dislike [C; U] (a) feeling of not liking (something or someone): *I have a dislike of cats. She took a sudden dislike to him. She spoke to him with great dislike.*

hate [U; C] a strong feeling of dislike: *The man's hate showed on his face.*

hatred [U; C] a state or feeling of hating; hate: *She is full of hatred for the driver who killed her child. Old hatreds keep these families apart.*

animosity 1 [U (against, towards, between)] powerful and often active hatred: *I have feel no animosity towards her. There is a lot of animosity between them.* 2 [C usu pl] an example of this: *I have no time for animosities.*

odium [U] fml widespread hatred: *He earned the odium of all his friends because of what he did.*

detestation [U] the condition of detesting; great hatred: *He feels detestation for things like that.*

abhorrence also **loathing** [U] great hatred and disgust [⇒ F36]: *He holds cruelty to children in abhorrence. She feels only loathing for the man who left her and her children.*

F34 adjectives : hating [B]

hateful very unpleasant in manner or to experience: *You're always hateful to me and nice to everybody else. It's hateful to be left at home alone.* -ly [adv] -ness [U]

odious esp fml & pomp hateful: *What an odious fellow he is!*

detestable fit to be detested: *This is a detestable job; I hate it.* -bly [adv]

loathsome hateful and disgusting: [⇒ F37] *'What loathsome creatures these insects are!' she said.* -ness [U]

abhorrent hateful and disgusting; completely against what one likes or wants (to do): *Cruelty is abhorrent to her.*

F35 verbs : disgusting and repelling [T1]

disgust to cause a feeling of sick dislike in: *His ideas disgust me; they are terrible.*

put off [v adv] to cause dislike in; discourage: *If you do things like that, you'll put everybody off.*

repel to cause to turn or go away in strong dislike: *His manner and way of life repel me.*

alienate [(from)] to turn away the friendship of (someone); cause to feel or become an enemy or unfriendly; cause to feel that one does not belong: *His cold manner alienated her. She became alienated from him. He feels alienated; he isn't happy in his work.*

F36 nouns : disgusting and repelling [U]

disgust the strong feeling of often sick dislike caused by an unpleasant sight, sound, or smell, or bad behaviour: *The food at the hotel filled him with disgust. He left in disgust at their cruelty to their animals.*

repulsion the state of being or feeling repelled by something or someone

revulsion a very strong feeling of repulsion

alienation [U] 1 the separation from or loss of friendship of another person 2 a sense of not belonging to or being part of one's surroundings

F37 adjectives : disgusting and repelling [B]

disgusting causing disgust: *What a disgusting smell!—Is it coming from the drains? I find his ideas on sex quite disgusting.* -ly [adv]

revolting causing great disgust: *What revolting colours they have used to paint the room! This is a revolting book; it is full of obscene pictures.* -ly [adv]

repellent causing a person or thing to turn or go away: *I find his manner generally repellent.*

repulsive very repellent and nasty: *What a repulsive person he is; I don't want to meet him again.* -ly [adv] -ness [U]

off-putting infml unfriendly; not warm or welcoming: *I found his manner a bit off-putting; he didn't try to make us feel at home.*

F38 adjectives : not good to look at [B]

ugly [Wa1] not attractive to look at: *What an ugly dog! He had an ugly, dangerous look on his face. That house isn't beautiful; it's ugly; it's the ugliest house I've ever seen!*

hideous having a terrible effect on the senses, esp shocking to the eyes: *The man had a hideous face. What is that hideous noise? He suffered a hideous fate when taken by the enemy.* -ly [adv] -ness [U]

ghastly [Wa2] 1 (of a person) very pale and ill-looking: *He looked ghastly.* 2 very frightening or ugly: *What a ghastly place that house is!* -iness [U]

plain [W₁] *euph* (esp of women) not pretty or good-looking; ugly: *I'm afraid she's rather a plain girl.* -ness [U]

homely [W₁] *AmE* (of people) not good-looking: *She's a homely girl but she's kind-hearted.* -liness [U]

unsightly *often euph* ugly; not pleasant to look at: *He had an unsightly mark on his face.* -liness [U]

F39 adjectives : good to look at [B]

good-looking (of people) pleasant to look at: *He's a good-looking man, isn't he? She's a good-looking girl too. They make a good-looking pair/couple* [⇒ C77].

beautiful **1** (usu of women, places, and things) very good-looking or worth looking at: *What a beautiful girl she is, with such beautiful long hair. This is one of the most beautiful houses in the town.* **2** *infnl* very good: *That was a beautiful game of tennis.*

lovely [W₁] **1** pleasingly beautiful: *That's a lovely dress, isn't it? What a lovely smile she has. It's a really lovely day for a picnic.* **2** *infnl* very good: *It's lovely to see you again! A present for me; how lovely!* -liness [U]

pretty [W₁] **1** (esp of a woman, a child, or a small thing) pleasing or nice to look at, listen to, etc; charming but not beautiful or grand: *She looks much prettier with long hair than with short hair. She has quite a pretty singing voice. What a pretty little garden.* **2** *deprec* (of a boy) charming and graceful in a girlish way **3** *apprec* causing admiration for neatness, cleverness, or skill: *That was a pretty shot—well played! He writes with a pretty turn of phrase* (= expresses himself well). **4** *derog* ironical not nice; displeasing: *It's a pretty state of affairs when I come home from work and she hasn't even cooked my dinner.*

attractive (usu of females, now increasingly of males) having good looks; pretty: *She's an attractive girl and he's an attractive man.* un- [neg] -ness [U] -ly [adv]

comely [W₁] *old use & lit* beautiful: *She was a most comely young woman.*

handsome [W₂] **1** (esp of men) good-looking; of attractive appearance: *He's a handsome lad, the handsomest/most handsome in town.* **2** (esp of women) attractive but looking grand rather than delicate or pretty: *What a handsome girl she is and what a fine character she has.*

striking (of persons) interesting to look at (but not necessarily beautiful): *What a striking face she has.* -ly [adv] *He is strikingly handsome.*

presentable fit to be shown, heard, etc in public; fit to be seen (and judged): *She's a very presentable young woman. I have nothing presentable to wear. Make yourself presentable; our guests will be here soon.* -bly [adv]

shapely [W₁] (esp of women) having a pleasing or beautiful shape: *She's a shapely young woman and suits that low-cut dress.* -liness [U]

fair [W₁] *often lit* (of women) beautiful to look at: *She was young and fair and he loved her.* **elegant** beautiful in appearance, in moving, etc; well-made; fashionable: *She wore an elegant dress and walked in a very elegant way.* in- [neg] -ly [adv]

picturesque **1** beautiful, charming, or interesting enough to be made into a picture: *the picturesque ruins of the old castle* **2** (of people, their manner, dress, etc) rather strange and unusual: *He was a picturesque figure with his long beard and strange clothes.* **3** (of language) unusually clear, strong, and descriptive

F40 nouns : good or not good to look at

beauty **1** [U] the condition of being beautiful: *This is a city of great beauty. Her beauty filled him with desire.* **2** [C] a beautiful woman: *That girl will be a beauty when she grows up. What beauties these girls are!* **3** [C] a beautiful thing, animal, etc: *This diamond is a real beauty. Where did you get those horses?—They are beauties!*

elegance [U] the condition of being elegant: *She is well known for her elegance.*

grace [U] **1** beauty of movement: *She moves with great grace.* **2** pleasant manners: *He thanked them with grace.* **graceful** [B] showing grace: *She's a very graceful girl.* -ly [adv]

ugliness [U] the state of being ugly: *The ugliness of the old house depressed her.*

Good and evil

F50 adjectives & adverbs : relating to the right qualities

good **1** [B] having the right qualities: *This is a good book but that one is better. These arguments are all good, and that one is the best of all. She's a good friend of mine.* **2** [B] suitable; favourable: *It's a good day for a drive. The weather's good. He has a good chance of getting the job.* **3** [B] enjoyable: *That was a good story. They had a good time at the party.* **4** [B] morally right; in accordance with religious standards: *He led a good life.* **5** [B] (esp of children) well-behaved: *Please be good when your uncle comes.* **6** [B] suitable for its purpose: *He gave some good advice. That's a good idea.* **7** [A] (in exclamations): *Good heavens! Good God!* **8** [A] (in greetings): *Good morning, John.* **well** [adv] **1** in the right manner; satisfactorily: *They spent their money well and were pleased with what they had bought.* **2** with kindness or favour: *They speak well of him in the school.* **3** [W₅] justly or suitably: *I couldn't very well refuse when she asked me to go.* **4** to a high

standard: *She paints well.* **5** closely as a person: *I know her well.*

nice [Wa1;B] **1** good; kind; well done or well made: *It's nice to see you. It's hard to be nice to someone you don't like. That was a nice shot you played. She did a nice piece of work for our company.* **2** pleasant, pleasing: *It's a nice day today, isn't it? (=with good weather)? This soup tastes very nice. How nice to see you again!* **3** becoming rare & sometimes deprec having or showing (too) high standards morally or socially: *Nice girls don't do things like that. This couldn't happen in nice society.* **4** derog ironical & infml bad, wrong: *You're a nice friend; you won't even lend me £5! Lend you £5?—That's a nice state of affairs!* **-ly** [adv]

fair [Wa1;B] esp lit (esp of weather conditions) good: *They had fair weather for their voyage.*

pleasant [Wa2;B] **1** pleasing to the senses, feelings, or mind; enjoyable: *We had a very pleasant time at their house last night. What a pleasant taste the food has. It was a pleasant surprise to see her again.* **2** (esp of people) likeable, friendly: *She seems a pleasant (sort of) person. Make an effort to be pleasant at the party, please. She had a very pleasant smile.* **3** (of weather) fine; favourable: *It's quite pleasant today although there is a cold wind.* **un-** [neg] **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

fine [Wa1;B] **1** good in quality, contents, ideas, etc: *This is a fine book; you'll enjoy it.* **2** (of weather) not raining, etc; sunny, etc; very good: *It's a fine day. What fine weather!* **3** good morally, by nature, etc: *He's a fine man; he'll help us.* **4** (of things) well-made: *What a fine piece of work that painting is!* **5** [adv] AmE & ScotE very well: *I like him fine.*

congenial [B] pleasant and suitable: *She is a congenial person to work with. This is a congenial place to live in.* **un-** [neg] **-ly** [adv]

F51 adjectives : relating to the right qualities [Wa5;B] infml

great very enjoyable, good, etc: *What a great idea! It's great to see you again.*

grand very pleasant, delightful: *That was a grand party, wasn't it?*

swell esp AmE great; grand: *What a swell idea! It was swell to see you all again.*

super esp BrE great; grand: *What a super party! It was super of you to help.*

smashing esp BrE great; grand: *It would be smashing to see her again. What a smashing dress!*

F52 adjectives : relating to the right qualities [B]

excellent very good; of high quality: *She enjoys excellent health. What excellent work he has done! She will make him an excellent wife.* **-ly** [adv] **-ence** [U]

splendid very good; worth admiring: *What a splendid idea! It was splendid of him to help you. They live in a splendid house in the country.* **-ly** [adv]

superb really grand; very splendid; of the finest quality: *What a superb cook she is! His work is quite superb.* **-ly** [adv]

superior good or better in quality than other persons or things of the same kind: *This is a superior car, sir; drive it and you will see why. She is a very superior kind of girl.*

capital esp formerly very good: *That's a capital plan; let's do it! What a capital idea!*

superlative [Wa5] better than all others: *work of superlative quality*

supreme [Wa5] highest in quality, position, power, etc: *It was the supreme moment in his life. Rome was supreme/the supreme power in the Mediterranean world for many years.*

-ly [adv]: *He did the work supremely well*
supremacy [U] the state of being supreme, esp in power over others: *The supremacy of Rome lasted many years.*

de luxe Fr especially good and intended for the wealthy: *The de luxe model costs a lot more than the standard one.*

prime [Wa5] **1** apprec (usu of meat, esp beef) of the very best quality or kind: *This meat is very dear.—Yes, but it's a prime joint; it's in prime condition.* **2** first in time, rank, or importance: *This is a matter of prime importance. He is the Prime Minister of the country.*

choice [Wa1] (esp of food) worthy of being chosen; of high quality: *The shop was selling very choice apples. Give me a pound of the choicest meat, please. Those look very choice apples. (fig ironical) She swore at him but he used even choicer phrases (= even stronger and more offensive) in reply.*

select chosen very carefully and therefore (thought to be) the best or very good; accepting only (those who are thought to be) the best or very good: *These are select apples. He belongs to a very select club.*

classic [Wa5] **1** [A] very good, esp because of a kind that has for a long time been considered good, special, etc: *This is a really classic French wine.* **2** very true or suitable: *This is a classic example of how Roman houses were built/of how not to teach a language.* **3** also **classical** very good because simple: *She wore a dress with classic lines/of classical simplicity.*

F53 adjectives : relating to the right qualities emot

wonderful unusually good: *What wonderful news! It's wonderful to see you again.* **-ly** [adv]

marvellous wonderful, esp because surprising: *It's absolutely marvellous to be here again! What marvellous weather for the time of year!* **-ly** [adv]

magnificent great, grand, generous, etc: *The queen was wearing a magnificent dress. He gave*

them a magnificent gift worth hundreds of pounds. **-ly** [adv] **-ence** [U]

glorious **1** very beautiful; splendid: *The trees are all glorious colours in autumn.* **2** *infml* very enjoyable: *This is a glorious joke!* **3** *now less common* having or worthy of great honour and fame: *He performed glorious deeds in battle.* **-ly** [adv]

stupendous very good, and causing great satisfaction or surprise: *What a stupendous thing to do!* **-ly** [adv]

fabulous **1** nearly unbelievable: *She inherited a fabulous sum of money.* **2** *infml* very good or pleasant; excellent: *We had a fabulous holiday in Spain.* **-ly** [adv]

sensational very good, and causing strong feeling, excitement, etc: *The news was really sensational; it has set everyone talking. What a sensational dress she was wearing!* **-ly** [adv]

F54 adjectives : more or less good [B]

decent *infml* rather good: *You can get quite a decent meal in that restaurant without spending too much money.* **-ly** [adv]

fair [Wa1] quite good, large, fine, etc: *The profit was fair but not as big as they had hoped. His exam results were not wonderful, but they were fair. How did he do in the exam?—Fair.*

satisfactory good enough for the purpose but not really good, or what one wanted: *Your son's work is satisfactory, but he could do better.* **un-** [neg] **-ily** [adv]

average [Wa5] of the usual or ordinary kind or quality: *There was nothing special about the meal; it was average. His exam results were just average.* **-ly** [adv]

adequate **1** enough for the purpose: *We took adequate food for a short camping holiday.* **2** having the necessary ability or qualities: *I hope he will prove adequate to the job.* **3** only just good enough: *The performance was adequate but hardly exciting.* **in-** [neg] **-ly** [adv] **-ness, -quacy** [U]

passable [Wa5] just good enough to pass (a test, standard): *The food in that restaurant is passable, nothing more.* **-bly** [adv]

mediocre of not very good or bad quality or ability, but usu not good enough: *The hotel was comfortable but the food was mediocre. He is a rather mediocre poet.* **-crity** [U] **-ly** [adv]

middling [Wa5] *infml* average: *Was the food good?—Middling; it was nothing special (= not particularly good).* [also ⇒ N88]

F55 nouns : relating to the right qualities

good **1** [U] that which is right and useful in accordance with religious beliefs or moral standards: *By behaving well you can be an influence for good. He does a lot of good for the town by giving money to build new schools.*

There's good in her, in spite of her bad behaviour. **2** [U] that which causes gain or improvement: *He works for the good of his family. You must live in a dry country for the good of your health. You must take this medicine for your own good. I'd lend him the money if I thought it would do (him) any good.* **3** [the P] good people generally; the people who do what is right: *Christians believe that the good go to heaven when they die.*

virtue **1** [U] *esp* formerly goodness, nobleness, and worth of character as shown in right behaviour: *You can trust him; he's a man of great virtue.* **2** [C] any good quality of character or behaviour: *Among his virtues are courage and truthfulness.* **3** [U] good advantage: *There's no virtue in waiting here for him any longer; he clearly isn't coming. There is some virtue in doing this, but not much.*

honour BrE, **honor** AmE [U] *esp* formerly personal virtue: *The knight said he would fight to save his honour.*

F56 adjectives : (esp of people) having the right qualities [B]

virtuous **1** *apprec* having virtue: *She is a virtuous woman.* **2** *deprec* (too) satisfied with one's own good behaviour and expressing this in one's manner towards those who (may) have done wrong: *Oh, stop being so damned virtuous; you aren't perfect, either!* **-ly** [adv]

noble [Wa2, 3] **1** of high quality, *esp* morally; deserving praise; worthy; unselfish: *His attempt to save the poor people's homes was truly noble. What a noble woman she is; she works all the time to help others.* **ig-** [neg] **-bly** [adv] **2** admirable in appearance; grand: *It is a building of noble proportions* [⇒ J40]. **nobility** [U]

worthy [Wa1] **1** often *pomp or humor & ironical* deserving praise: *He is indeed a worthy man and has led a good life. I'm afraid our worthy friends won't help us.* **2** [(of)] deserving something stated: *This man is worthy of praise; he has done well.* **un-** [neg] **-ily** [adv] **-iness** [U]

conscientious taking care to work well: *She is a conscientious student; she always tries hard.* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

selfless caring for and thinking (only) of others, not oneself; completely unselfish and therefore noble: *What a selfless person she is, always helping other people!* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

F57 adjectives & adverbs : relating to the wrong qualities [B]

bad not good; not what someone or something should be, morally, socially, religiously, etc: *What bad weather! She's a bad child; she won't do what we want her to do. This apple is bad; I won't eat it. I've got a really bad headache, much worse than last week; it feels like the worst.*

(headache) I've ever had. Don't try to read in this bad light. **-ly** [U] **-ness** [U]

ill [adv Wa5 often in comb] **1** unfavourably: to *think/speak ill of someone* **2** hardly; scarcely; not enough: *I can ill afford the time. The child looked ill-fed.* **3** badly, cruelly, or unpleasantly: *The child was ill-treated.*

nasty [Wa1] **1** morally bad or improper: *This is a nasty book; the work of a nasty mind.* **2** very ugly or unpleasant to see, taste, smell, etc: *It's nasty to drink from a dirty cup. Fish tastes nasty if it isn't fresh. What nasty foggy weather!* **3** harmful; painful: *There was a nasty accident here yesterday and two people were killed. He got a nasty cut on the head in a fight. Our hotel bill came as a nasty shock.* **-ily** [adv] **-iness** [U]

foul [Wa1] (esp of weather, character, etc) very bad: *He has a foul temper (⇒ F103) when he doesn't get what he wants. This weather is really foul; it has been raining heavily all week.* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

rotten [Wa2] *infml & emot* bad: *It was rotten of you to tell him what I said about him. What rotten weather! The book was rotten; I didn't like it at all.* **-ness** [U]

selfish concerned with or directed towards one's own advantage without care for others: *She is a selfish person, and everything she does is for selfish reasons.* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

base [Wa1] *esp lit & old use* bad, esp because doing things, or done, for selfish, dishonest, etc reasons: *It was a base action to take her money!*

offensive **1** causing annoyance or anger or offence (⇒ F149): *What an offensive thing to say! She is a very offensive person sometimes.* **in-** [neg] **2** unpleasant: *What's that offensive smell?* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

F58 adjectives : relating to the wrong qualities [B]

evil [Wa2] very bad, esp in thought or behaviour; wicked or harmful: *He is an evil man with evil ideas, and leads an evil life.* **-lly** [adv]

wicked [Wa1] very bad; evil: *What a wicked man he is!* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

devilish evil; like a devil (⇒ C323): *Stop playing such devilish tricks on people!* **-ly** [adv]

diabolical *fml & pomp* devilish; evil: *He had a diabolical plan to kill his family.* **-lly** [adv Wa4]

sinful **1** evil; guilty of, or being, sin (⇒ F62, C341): *'What a sinful city that is!' the priest said. He has led a sinful life, harming many people.* **2** *infml* shameful; seriously wrong or bad: *What a sinful waste of money!* **-lly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

abysmal *usu deprec* (of work, qualities, etc) very bad; very much worse than usual: *He is an abysmal failure at his work. She showed abysmal ignorance (= lack of knowledge) last night!* **-lly** [adv]

F59 adjectives : behaving badly [B]

wicked [Wa1] **1** *infml esp old use* behaving badly: *You wicked child—go to bed at once!* **2** suggesting ideas, actions, etc which could be exciting (but perhaps immoral): *She gave him a wicked smile and left the room. You're looking wicked—what are you planning?* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

naughty [Wa1] **1** (usu of a child) bad in behaviour; not obeying a parent, teacher, set of rules, etc: *You naughty boy; its naughty to pull your sister's hair. It was naughty of Father to stay out so late.* **2** *euph* (esp in newspapers) morally, esp sexually, improper: *He wrote an amusing and naughty book.* **-ily** [adv]

mischievous **1** *deprec* causing harm, often with intention: *Someone is spreading mischievous stories about the minister's private life (= is saying that it is bad).* **2** having or showing a liking for playfulness, esp of a rather troublesome kind: *One expects healthy children to be mischievous at times. The little girl had a mischievous expression on her face.* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

F60 adjectives : not good in particular ways

sinister [B] intending, threatening, or leading to evil: *He had a sinister look on his face. She has a sinister plan to get control of the company.*

ulterior [Wa5:A; (B)] *infml* hidden or kept secret, esp because bad: *He has an ulterior motive (= reason or intention) for wanting to see her; he is going to ask for money.*

obscene [B] **1** (esp of ideas, books, etc, usu about sex) nasty and dirty: *What an obscene mind he has! She doesn't read obscene books, she says.* **2** very bad indeed: *I think his behaviour is quite obscene.* **-ly** [adv]

depraved [B] having (developed) a bad character: *That young man has become thoroughly depraved; he drinks too much and has forgotten what truth and honesty are.*

F61 *infml* adjectives : not good [B]

awful very bad: *What awful weather!* **-ly** [adv] *How awfully unkind!*

terrible very bad indeed: *What terrible weather! Don't read that book; it's terrible.* **-bly** [adv] *He behaved terribly.*

diabolical *often humor* very bad: *We went to see the new play last night; it was really diabolical.* **-lly** [adv Wa4]

dreadful very bad, unpleasant, or shocking: *What is that dreadful smell! His exam results are dreadful.* **-lly** [adv]

horrible very unpleasant or ugly: *What a horrible picture she's painted!* **-bly** [adv]

ghastly [Wa2] very bad: *We had a ghastly time at that party.*

appalling of very bad quality: *Mary is an appalling cook.* **-ly** [adv]

frightful very bad; horrible: *What frightful weather!* -ly [adv] [also ⇒ F124]

F62 nouns : relating to wrong qualities

evil [U; C] great wickedness or misfortune: *He warned his son to beware of evil of the evils of the big city.*

sin 1 [U] evil as understood in a religion: *These people say that the city is a place full of sin and you must leave it.* 2 [C] an evil act, esp as understood in a religion: *In some religions it is a sin to eat the meat of pigs and drink alcohol. 'His sins could affect his children's lives,' said the priest.* [also ⇒ C341]

mischief 1 [U] bad, but not seriously bad, behaviour or actions, as of children, probably causing trouble and possibly damage or harm: *If his mother leaves him alone for five minutes, the little boy gets into mischief. Give him a toy to play with; that'll keep him out of mischief. She knew the children were up to some mischief (= doing or planning something wrong) and she found them in the garden digging up the flowers. Go to bed; you've done enough mischief (for) today.* 2 [U] troublesome playfulness or an expression, such as a smile or a look, of a desire to behave in this way: *She gave her father a smile that was full of mischief, and he wondered what trick she planned to play on him.* 3 [C] *infnl* a person, esp a child, who is often troublesomely playful: *Before long, the baby will be as big a mischief as his three-year-old brother.* 4 [U] damage, harm, or hurt done by a person, animal, or thing; wrong-doing: *The monkey did a lot of mischief before it was caught and put back in its cage; it broke a number of things. He's sorry for having told lies, but the mischief (= the harm caused by his lies) has been done and can't be undone.* **do someone/oneself a mischief** *usu humor* to hurt someone/oneself: *If you try to lift a heavy weight like that you'll do yourself a mischief.* **to make mischief (between people)** to speak so as to cause trouble, disagreement, quarrels, unfriendly feelings, etc (between people): *That old woman has an evil tongue and is always making mischief between her son and his wife.*

vice 1 [U] wickedness of character: *He's a wild boy but there's no vice in him.* 2 [C] a serious fault of character; a bad habit: *His laziness is his greatest vice. His vices are smoking and drinking too much.* 3 [U; C] evil living: *There's a lot of vice in big cities.*

obscenity 1 [U] the quality of being obscene: *He was upset by the obscenity of the film and did not think that young people should see it.* 2 [C] an obscene act, practice, or habit: *'These obscenities should not be allowed; they must be stopped!' he said. For some people, wearing no clothes in public is an obscenity.*

depravity 1 [U] the quality or state of being

depraved: *His depravity led him into crime.* 2 [C] a depraved act, practice, or habit: *The depravities of the evil king made him hateful to all good men.*

F63 nouns : rules of behaviour

morality [U] the rightness (or not) of behaviour, of an action, etc: *I am worried about the morality of what he is doing.* **im-** [neg]

morals [P] rules of behaviour; behaviour itself, esp in matters of sex: *A society's morals change slowly as time passes. She thinks his morals aren't very good.*

ethics 1 [P] moral rules: *What ought I to do? —It's a question of ethics.* 2 [U] the study of morality: *He was reading a book on ethics.*

conscience [C; U] an inner sense that knows the difference between right and wrong, judges one's actions according to moral laws and makes one feel guilty, good, evil, etc: *My conscience is clear. There is nothing troubling my conscience. She has a guilty conscience.* **have no conscience** to be unable to tell the difference between right and wrong: *Jean's got no conscience; she'd steal anything from anybody.* **in all conscience** without offending one's conscience: *I couldn't do such a wicked thing in all conscience.* **matter of conscience** a question which only one's conscience can decide: *I can't advise you on such a question; it's a matter of conscience.* **on one's conscience** causing one to feel guilty: *How can you sleep with such a thing on your conscience?*

scruple [C *usu pl with sing meaning*] a feeling of doubt about whether one is doing right or not: *He has no scruples; he'll do anything for money.* **scrupulous** very careful, esp in not doing anything wrong: *She is a scrupulous worker.* **un-** [neg] **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

duty [C; U] what one must do either because of one's job or because one thinks it right: *When duty calls I must obey. She has a strong sense of duty. Do your duty. It's my duty to help you. He paid a duty visit (= because of conscience) to his mother.* **dutiful** [B] showing a strong sense of duty: *He was always a very dutiful son/worker.* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

obligation [C; U] *usu fml* duty; what one must do: *You have an obligation to help us; we have helped you in the past. I am under an obligation to help him (= I must help him). You have no obligation to buy (= You don't need to buy). He did it from a sense of obligation (= He felt he ought to do it and so he did it).* [also ⇒ C191]

F64 nouns : right and wrong

right 1 [U] what is right or morally good: *The child is old enough to know the difference between right and wrong.* 2 [S; U; (of, to, 3)] (a) morally just or lawful claim: *She has a right!*

has no right/has less right than I have (to say that). He has the right to do it. The law gave him the right of cutting wood in the forest. **by right of** because of (something that gives a just claim): She is British by right of marriage. **in one's own right** because of a personal claim that does not depend on anyone else: Elizabeth II is queen of England in her own right. **be in the right** to have justice on one's side; not to deserve blame: I must find out which of them was in the right.

wrong 1 [U] what is not right; standards according to which some things are bad: He knows right from wrong well enough. **2** [C] esp lit any bad action, esp one which causes pain: The wrongs he has done will not be forgotten. **in the wrong** deserving blame **two wrongs don't make a right** you ought not to harm someone as punishment for harming you

F65 adjectives : right and wrong

right [B (in); F3] just; morally good: This is the right thing to do. I'll try to do whatever is right. It's not right, but wrong, to tell lies. I was right in selling right to sell the farm. It seemed only right to give her something. **-ness** [U]

wrong [B (in); F3] morally bad; evil: Telling lies is wrong—it's wrong to tell lies. **-ness** [U]

moral 1 [Wa5;A] concerning character, behaviour, or actions, considered or judged as being good or evil, right or wrong: Commercial matters must be judged by moral as well as business standards. **2** [Wa5;A] based on the idea of what is right (compared with what is lawful): He refused to join the army, saying that no one had a moral right to kill others. She is a woman of great moral courage. His judgment was based on the law of the land and not on moral law. **3** [B] apprec good (in character, behaviour, etc): He didn't lead a very moral life. **im-** [neg] What an immoral thing to suggest! **4** [Wa5;A] able to understand the difference between right and wrong, good and evil: Is a baby born with a moral sense? Animals are not moral beings in the way in which humans appear to be. **5** [B] teaching, showing, or intended to show that which is good or right in human behaviour: The film was not just amusing; it gave a valuable moral lesson as well.

ethical [B] morally right or good: I shouldn't do that; it isn't ethical. **-lly** [adv Wa4]

F66 adjectives & combining forms : relating to quality

high-, top- very good: This is a high-quality book. They are all top-grade students.

low- not at all good: This is a low-quality film. They ate in a low-class restaurant.

-class type or quality: He only sells high-class materials in his shop. This is a third-class film; it isn't very good. These people say that they are

treated like second-class citizens [⇒ C83] in their own country.

-grade (esp of substances) type or quality: This is a high-grade coal; it's very good. He sold us some low-grade building materials.

rate level or quality: What a first-rate book that is! He is a second-rate actor, not the best.

Happiness and sadness

F70 adjectives : feeling pleasure

happy [Wa1] **1** [B] (of people) feeling pleasure and contentment: I'm so happy to be back home. She's a happy girl; she enjoys life. He's happiest when he's working. **2** [B] (of relationships) giving pleasure to the people concerned: They are a happy family, and seldom quarrel. **3** [A] (of events) fortunate: By a happy chance I met him again yesterday. **4** [A] (of behaviour, thoughts, etc) suitable: That wasn't a very happy remark. **5** [F3] pleased; not finding it difficult (to): I'll be happy to meet him when I am free. **6** [A] (of wishes) joyful: Happy New Year! A happy birthday, darling! **-ily** [adv]

glad [Wa1] **1** [F, F3, 5a] esp emot happy: I was glad to see her again. I'd be glad to help him if he asked. **2** [A] esp formerly showing happiness: She gave a glad cry when she saw him. **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

pleased [B] feeling or showing happiness or satisfaction: I always feel pleased when I've finished a piece of work. I'm very pleased you've come. She had a pleased look on her face. I'm pleased with his work. **be pleased to (do something)** **1** polite to be very willing to; be glad to: Thank you for your invitation, which we shall be pleased to accept. **2** fml (of a ruler) to decide (as a favour) to: The Queen is pleased to appoint our firm as personal shoemakers. **pleased with oneself** esp ironical (too) satisfied with what one has done: He's feeling rather pleased with himself after his successful results in the examinations.

cheerful [B] happy and bright: She had a cheerful smile on her face. He gave me a cheerful wave. Try to be a bit more cheerful; your life hasn't ended. **-lly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

F71 adjectives : feeling particular pleasure [B]

carefree 1 apprec free from anxiety; happy; without sorrow or fear: On a day like this I feel quite carefree. Her mind was full of carefree thoughts. **2** deprec irresponsible: He's carefree with his money. His carefree nature makes life difficult for his wife.

joyful full of joy; very happy: She looks really joyful at being a grandmother. This is a joyful occasion; let's all be happy. **-lly** [adv]