

that has not been mentioned earlier) as something more: *By the way, what do you think of her new dress?*

**incidentally** (used to add something interesting to what was said before, either on that or another subject); by the way: *I must go now; incidentally, if you want that book I'll bring it next time.*

**furthermore** *fml & emph* (used to introduce additional matter into an argument) also; in addition: *The house isn't big enough for us and furthermore, it's too far from the town.*

**over and above** *usu emph* in addition to: *Over and above this, we need more time.*

**even** **1** (used just before the surprising part of a statement, to add to its strength) which is more than might be expected: *Even John doesn't go out in the summer* (so certainly nobody else does). *John doesn't go out even in the summer* (so certainly not in the winter). *John doesn't even go out in the summer* (so he certainly won't go swimming). *He passed me in the street and he never even spoke to me* (= he didn't even speak to me). **2** (used for adding force to an expression) indeed; (and) one might almost say: *He looked happy, even gay.* (*infml*) *He looked happy, gay even.* **3** (used before a comparative) still; yet: *It was cold yesterday, but it's even colder today.* *He finished his work even more quickly than usual.* **even as** just at the same moment as: *He fell even as I stretched out my hand to help him.* **even if/though** though: *Even if you don't like wine* (= though you may not like wine), *try a glass of this!*—(compare *If you like wine, try a glass of this!*) **even now/so/then** in spite of what has/had happened; though that is true: *I (have) explained everything, but even now/then she doesn't/didn't understand.* *It's raining; even so, I think we should go.*

## N101 determiners, etc : both, each, either, etc

**both** **1** [det] being two: *Both his eyes were hurt in the accident.* *She learned to use both hands equally well.* **2** [pron] the one as well as the other: *Both of us are coming.* *Both of his eyes were hurt.* *We are both well.* *John and Mary have both won prizes.* *John and Mary both have won prizes.* *Why not use both? Why not do both?* **both . . . and . . .** not only but also . . . *She spoke with both kindness and understanding.* *He both speaks and writes Swahili.* *She is well known both for her kindness and for her understanding.*

**every** [det] all, but esp one by one: *He talked to every person at the meeting.* *Every person spoke to him.* *She used to come every day but now she only comes once a week.* *Drink some of this medicine every three hours* (= let three hours pass before you take any more).

**each** **1** [det] every one separately: **a** (esp before a singular [C] noun): *She cut the cake into*

*pieces and gave one to each (good) child.* *Each (good) child gets one piece of cake.* *Each one of the (good) children.* **b** (after esp plural nouns, pronouns): *(The boys) John, Peter and Bill each say they came first in the race.* *They each live in a big city; one in London and the other in New York.* *They each want to do something different.* **2** [pron] both or all (of two or more) separately: *She cuts the cake into pieces and gives one to each of the (good) children.* *John and Mary never agree; each wants to do something different.* *He tells each of us only what we have to know.* **3** [adv Wa5] for or to every one: *The tickets are £1 each.*

**else** [adv Wa5] (after question words, some pronouns and adverbs) **1** besides; in addition: *I've said I'm sorry. What else can I say?* (= What more). *Who else* (= which other person) *did you see?* *Where else did he go?* *Does anybody else want to look at this book?* *I don't know the answer.* *You must ask somebody else.* *There isn't much else I can do to help you.* *This is someone else's bicycle, not mine.* **2** in/at a different place, time, or way; apart from that mentioned: *I can't come on Tuesday.* *When else can we meet?* *Everybody else but me has gone to the party.* **or else** **1** or otherwise; or if not: *He must pay £100 or else go to prison.* *The book must be here, or else you've lost it.* **2** (used alone for expressing a threat): *Do what I tell you or else!*

**either** **1** [det] one or the other of two: *He's lived in London and Manchester but he doesn't like either city very much.* *I've cut the cake in two; you can have either half.* **2** [det] one and the other of two; each: *He sat in the car with a policeman on either side of him.* **3** [pron] one or the other of two: *He has lived in London and Manchester, but he doesn't like either (of them).* *Either of these two dictionaries is/are useful.* **4** [conj] (used before the first of two or more choices which are expressed by like noun phrases, verb phrases, etc, separated by **or**): *It's either a boy or girl.* *He must either sing a song or tell a funny story.* *Choose either red (or) black or green.* *You either love him or hate him.* **5** [adv] (used with neg expressions) also: *I haven't read this book, and my brother hasn't either* (= both haven't read it). *I can't swim!*—*I can't either!* (= I, too, am unable to swim). *Didn't he recognize you either?* *They're not going down but they're not going up either; they're sort of steady.*

**or** [conj] **1** (used between two or more choices after **either**): *The water is either too hot or too cold, never just right!* **2** (used for a choice like this but without **either**): *You can go or stay; decide now.* *They can come on Monday or Tuesday or Friday, but not on Wednesday or Thursday.* **3** (used to show a result) otherwise; if not: *You must work or go hungry.* **4** that is; which means: *He believes in democracy or the rule of the people, by the people, and for the people.*

**either-or** an unavoidable choice between only

two possibilities: *You may both be right in what you say; it's not a simple either-or. We fight, or we don't; it's an either-or decision.*

**neither** 1 [det; pron] not one and not the other of two: *Which of the books did you like?—Neither (of them); they were both dull! Neither road out of town is good, but this one is better than the other. Two books that are neither of them very good (= neither is good). (They) neither of them wanted to go.* 2 [conj] (used before the 1st of two or more choices which are expressed by like noun phrases, verb phrases, etc, separated by **nor**) not either: *They went neither by day nor by night (= never). He neither ate, drank, nor smoked; he liked neither the meal nor the cigarettes.* 3 [adv] (used after an expression or sentence with **no**, **not**, **never**, etc) nor; no more; also not: *I can't swim—Neither can I! (infml) Me neither! (= I can't either).*

**nor** [conj] 1 (used between the two or more choices after **neither**): *It's just warm, neither cold nor hot.* 2 (used before the 2nd, 3rd, etc choices after **not**) and/or not: *The job cannot be done by you nor (by) me, nor (by) anyone else.* 3 (used at the beginning of an expression just before a verb) and also . . . not: *I don't want to go; nor will I (= and I won't). We have many enemies; nor can we be sure of all our friends! (BrE also) and nor can we be sure of our friends. The meal didn't cost much nor was it very good! (BrE also) and nor was it very good.*

USAGE *BrE* uses *and* and *but* before **nor** (def 3). *AmE* does not. Both *BrE* and *AmE* can use *and* and *but* before **neither**: . . . *butland neither was it very good.*

**neutral** 1 [B] not taking or belonging to either side in a war, argument, etc: *He wants to stay neutral in their quarrel.* 2 [B] not strong: *She likes neutral colours, not bright reds and blues.* 3 [C] a person or country that is neutral: *We were neutrals in that war.* **neutrality** [U] the state or condition of being neutral: *The USA's neutrality in the Second World War ended when she was attacked.* **neutralize**, **-ise** [T1] to make neutral; to take away the special effects of: *neutralizing an area of land/a poison* **neutralization**, **-isation** [U] the act or result of neutralizing

**otherwise** 1 [conj] or else; if not: *Go now; otherwise you won't get there tonight. Do it now; otherwise, don't do it at all.* 2 [adv Wa5] in other ways: *She's not very clever, but otherwise she's a nice girl.* 3 [adv Wa5] *usu fml* in another way: *He asked to see you but I said he couldn't; you were otherwise engaged (= busy with someone or something else) at the time.*

**each other** also **one another** [pron] (not subject of a clause) each of two or more does something to the other(s): *Susan and Robert kissed each other (= Susan kissed Robert and Robert kissed Susan). They give presents only to each other, not to me. John and Peter wear each other's shirts.*

USAGE Some people like to say *each other* about two people or things, and *one another* about more than two, but this is not a strict rule

**mutual** [Wa5;B] 1 equally shared by each one: *They have mutual interests and a mutual love of flowers. I saw our mutual friends, the Smiths.* 2 equally so, one towards the other: *They are mutual enemies.* **-ly** [adv]

**rest** [the GU (of)] what is left; the ones that still remain: *We'll eat some of the butter and keep the rest (of it) for breakfast. He's only got one shirt, because all the rest (of them) are being washed. John's English and the rest of us are Welsh.*

## N102 adjectives, etc : enough and sufficient

**enough** 1 [A;E: (for, 3)] as much of (a quantity) or as many of (a plural) as may be necessary: *The child doesn't drink enough milk. We have enough seats for everyone. She has enough money/money enough to buy a car.* 2 [adv Wa5 (for, 3)] to the necessary amount or degree: *It's warm enough (to swim). He didn't run fast enough (to catch the train). The child has been punished enough. Is he old enough for the army? I was foolish enough to believe his lies (= I believed them).* 3 [adv Wa5] not very but only rather: *She cooks well enough and she would cook very well indeed if she took more trouble.* 4 [pron] a quantity or number which satisfies need: *I have enough to do. Not enough is known about this subject. I've had enough (= too much) of your rudeness!* **oddly/curiously/strangely enough** although this is old/curious/strange: *He's lived in France for years, but strangely enough he can't speak a word of French.* **sure enough infml** as expected: *He said he would come, and sure enough he came.* **fair enough infml** all right; satisfactory and reasonable: *You can eat the ones I don't want.—That's fair enough!* **enough and to spare** more than is necessary: *You may pick some apples from our tree; we have enough and to spare.* **more than enough** more than is necessary; too much: *Don't give him any more cake; he's had more than enough.* **enough of a fool** foolish enough: *He's enough of a fool to do it!* **enough of a man** manly enough: *Are you enough of a man for this dangerous job?*

USAGE 1 *Enough* can come before or after a plural or a [U] noun (*enough money/people, money/people enough*) but must come after a singular [C] noun (*fool enough*). 2 *Enough + that* (*He's old enough that he can do it*) is quite common, particularly in *AmE*, but teachers and examiners do not like it. 3 *Sufficient* has the same meaning as *enough* (defs 1, 4) but is more formal. It is more often used for degree (*sufficient reason*) while *enough* is used for quantity. *Sufficiently* has the same meaning as *enough*.



**sufficient** [Wa5;B (for).3] often *fml* enough: *There is sufficient food for everybody. We have sufficient to feed everybody.* **in-** [neg] **-ly** [adv]

**sufficiency** [U] often *fml* 1 the state of being or having enough 2 [S (of)] a supply which satisfies: *We have a sufficiency of coal.* **in-** [neg]

**adequate** [B] 1 [(for)] enough for the purpose: *We took adequate food for the short holiday.* 2 only just enough: *We had adequate food but none to waste.* 3 [(to)] having the necessary ability or qualities: *I hope you will prove adequate to the job.* 4 [Wa5] only just good enough: *The performance was adequate, though hardly exciting.* **in-** [neg] **-ly** [adv] **-quacy** [U]

### N103 adverbs & adjectives : plenty and plentiful

**plenty** [adv Wa5] *not fml* quite (in the phr **plenty** ... **enough**): *There's no need to add any more—it's plenty big enough already.*

**plentiful** [B] existing in quantities or numbers that are (more than) enough: *Fruit is plentiful this year. The camp has a plentiful supply of food.* **-ly** [adv]

**abundant** [B] more than enough: *There are abundant supplies of firewood in the forest.* **-ly** [adv]

**ample** [Wa2;B] 1 (usu before nouns of types [U] or [P]) enough or more than is necessary: *We have ample money for the journey.* 2 with plenty of space; large: *There is room for an ample garden.* **-ply** [adv]

**bountiful** [B] *esp lit* freely given; plentiful: *The king gave them bountiful gifts.* **-ly** [adv]

**generous** [B] more or bigger than usual: *She gave him a generous helping (= amount) of food.* **-ly** [adv]: *He gave generously to help the poor.*

**lavish** [B] 1 very free, generous, or wasteful in giving or using: *He is a lavish spender. She was lavish with her help and lavish of her time.* 2 given or spent in great quantity: *He gave her lavish praise.* **-ly** [adv]

**excessive** [B] too much; too great: *The prices at this hotel are excessive. She takes an excessive interest in clothes.* **-ly** [adv]

### N104 nouns, etc : plenty

**plenty** 1 [pron] a large amount or number, esp as much as or more than is needed or wanted: *Do you need any more money?—No, we have plenty. We have £100 and that's plenty. Plenty of chairs are needed for the meeting. Plenty of space is needed too. If you want some chairs, there are plenty in here. She gave the boys plenty to eat. Be sure to arrive in plenty of time (=early enough).* 2 [U] the state of having a

large supply esp of the needs of life: *Those were years of plenty when everyone had enough to eat.*

**abundance** [S (of); U] *usu fml* a great quantity; plenty: *At the feast there was food and drink in abundance. There was an abundance of corn last year.*

**bounty** 1 [U] *esp lit* generosity: *a rich lady famous for her bounty to the poor* 2 [C] something that is given generously 3 [C] a prize given by a government for some special act: *There is a bounty of £10 for every dangerous animal killed.*

**excess** 1 [S; U: 9 esp of, over] the fact of exceeding, or an amount by which something exceeds (the stated amount): *This excess of losses over profits will ruin the business.* 2 [S; U: 9 esp of, over] *deprec* something more than is reasonable; more than the reasonable degree or amount: *He eats to excess. He praised the book to excess.* 3 [A] additional; more than is usual, allowed, etc: *You'll have to pay excess postal charges on this letter. Excess profits tax is paid to the government by companies that make very high profits.* **in excess of** more than: *He advised his son never to spend in excess of his income.*

### N105 adjectives, etc : not plentiful [Wa1]

**short** 1 [B of] not having enough: *We're short of water at the moment.* 2 [F] *infml* not having enough money: *Can you lend me £5? I'm a bit short at the moment.* 3 [E] less than the right number or amount: *We're two people short for the job.*

**scarce** 1 [B] not much or many compared with what is wanted; hard to find; not plentiful: *Good fruit is scarce just now and costs a lot. (infml) Pretty girls are scarce in this town.* 2 [adv] hardly; scarcely: *I could scarce believe my eyes.* [⇒ N99]

**rare** [B] not common; not easy to find; very scarce: *Animals are rare in that place. That's a rare animal.* **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

### N106 nouns : not plenty

[ALSO ⇒ F8]

**shortage** [C;U] a lack of things: *There is a shortage of good building wood. Those were times of general shortage.*

**scarcity** [U;C] a state of being scarce; lack: *Those were times of scarcity (of money). We have scarcities of all kinds of necessary goods.*

**rarity** 1 [U] the quality of being rare 2 [C *usu sing*] something uncommon: *Women who bake their own bread are becoming a rarity.*

**dearth** [S of] *esp lit & emot* a lack or shortage: *There has been a dearth of good new ideas lately.*

## N107 verb forms : having or not having enough

**be enough** [I0 (for)] to be what is needed: *This food is enough for our needs.*

**suffice** [I0 (for)] *fml* & *old use* to be enough: *An hour should suffice (for the journey). The food did not suffice for them. Suffice it to say that . . . (=I will say only that . . .)*

**be short of** [v adv prep T1] not to have enough of: *We are (rather) short of money at the moment.*

**be out of** [v adv prep T1] to have none of: *We are (quite) out of paper at the moment but are hoping to get some next week.*

**be without** [v prep T1] *esp fml* not to have: *They are without water at the moment.*

**do without** [v prep, v adv T1, 4; I0] to live or continue in spite of lacking (something or someone): *It is bad to do without sleep. The director cannot do without a secretary. If there's no sugar you will have to do without. Mr Jones is not here; you must do without speaking to him.*

## N108 adjectives : moderate and fair [B]

**moderate** 1 [Wa5] of middle degree, power, or rate; neither large nor small, high nor low, fast nor slow, etc: *It's a large house, but the garden is of moderate size. At the time of the accident, the train was travelling at a moderate speed. The wind will be light to moderate.* 2 (done or kept) within sensible limits: *He's a moderate drinker; he only drinks one or two beers a day. The workers' demands are moderate; they're asking for only a small increase in their wages.* 3 [Wa5] often *euph* of average or less than average quality or amount: *The teacher thinks that this pupil has only moderate ability.* **moderation** [U] the condition of being moderate (def 2): *He shows moderation in everything he does. What she did showed (a) lack of moderation.* -ly [adv]

**modest** 1 *a* not large in quantity, size, value, etc: *Please accept this modest gift; it's all I can afford. He stayed at a small modest hotel.* *b* not having or showing a desire for much or too much: *The servant girl was very modest in her demands and asked for only a small increase in wages.* 2 *apprec* avoiding or not showing anything that is improper or impure: *She is a quiet modest girl. The old lady said that young women should wear more modest dresses (=that don't leave so much of their bodies uncovered).* *im-* [neg] 3 *apprec* having or expressing a lower opinion than is probably deserved, of one's ability, knowledge, skill, successes, etc: *The young actress is very modest about her success; she says it's due as much to good luck as to her own abilities. After the war, the general wrote a very modest book about the part he'd played in winning it.* -ly [adv] -y [U]

**fair** [Wa1] 1 not too much or too little (for a

purpose); just right: *He was fair in the amount of money he gave to each of them.* *un-* [neg] 2 neither too good nor too bad: *His examination results were fair, not wonderful.* -ly [adv]: *It's a fairly interesting book; nothing wonderful.*

**reasonable** 1 (esp of prices) fair; not too much: *They charged a reasonable price.* 2 (of a person or his behaviour) sensible: *He is a reasonable man. It was a perfectly reasonable thing to do.* *un-* [neg] -bly [adv]

## N109 adjectives, etc : available

**available** [B] 1 able to be got, obtained, used, etc: *There is water available at the hut. I'm sorry, sir, those shoes are not available in your size. Are there any available cars I can use?* 2 able to be visited or seen; not busy: *The doctor is (not) available now. He is available to see you now.* *un-* [neg] **availability** [U] the state or condition of being available: *I'm not sure about the availability of this medicine; I'll telephone and check.*

**ready** [Wa1; F.F3] available; able to be reached, used, etc: *Are your men ready to work? Keep your gun ready in case of trouble.*

**in stock** available in a shop, store, etc: *Do you have these books in stock?—No, sir, they aren't in stock at present.*

**to hand** *fml* available for collection, use, etc: *Sir, the books you ordered are now to hand.*

## N110 adjectives, etc : spare and extra [Wa5]

**spare** [B] beyond what is needed or used: *Do you have any spare money? What do you do in/with your spare time (= when not working)? These pieces are spare; I don't need them.*

**extra** 1 [A; adv] beyond what is usual or necessary: *We need extra money. She bought an extra loaf of bread. He had to work extra hard to get more money.* 2 [E; F] as well as the regular charge: *Dinner costs £3 and the wine is extra. They charge extra for wine, £3 extra.* 3 [C] something or someone extra: *We have all the most important things; we don't need any extras.*

**additional** [B] more than at first: *The meal costs £3 and there is an additional 20p for service. We need some additional help; we can't do it alone.* -ly [adv]

**surplus** [B; S] (an amount) additional to what is needed or used, esp of money: *After paying the rent they were left with no surplus for food. They sold the surplus goods.*

**superfluous** [B] more than is necessary or wanted: *This bread is superfluous; we already have as much as we can eat.* -ly [adv] -fluity [U]

## doing things

### N120 verbs : doing and acting

**do** 1 [T1] (with actions and non-material things): *I want you to do some repairs for me. He does science at school. The car can do 80 miles an hour. I shan't do anything for you. There's nothing more to do to be done. Look at what a little hard work can do! What are you doing?* 2 [T1] (with action nouns ending in -ing): *He does (the) cooking and she does (the) washing. It's teaching that he does.* 3 [T1] *infrm* (with places) to visit and see everything interesting in: *They did Oxford in three days.* 4 [T1; L7, 9; D1] (with certain particular non-material expressions): *I did my best (to help him). I used to do business with him. Those who do good will find peace. This medicine will do you good. I hope you will do better in future. You did right (in telling me). He had only done his duty, after all. That won't do (you) any harm. I have some work to do. I hope you will do me the honour of paying me a visit. Will you do me a kindness? Hard work does wonders. Let her do her worst; I'm not afraid! You did wrong in agreeing to the plan.* 5 (with people and non-material things) to give or provide with: **a** [D1 (to); T1]: *Your fine behaviour does you honour. That picture of her doesn't do her justice.* **b** [D1 (for); T1] *Do me a favour.* 6 [L9] to behave; act: *When in Rome, do as the Romans do. Do as you're told! You did well in coming to see me quickly.* 7 [T1 no pass] *esp BrE* (with people) to serve by means of action with things: *The hairdresser will do you next. They did me very well at that hotel (with their good food and clean rooms).* 8 [T1] (with things) to arrange: *She did her hair, and then did the flowers.* 9 [T1] (with things) to clean: *He did his teeth and she did the room after doing the dishes.* 10 [T1] *esp BrE* (with people) to cheat; have: *I'm afraid he's done you on that sale, my friend! You've been done!* 11 [T1] (with people) to perform as or copy the manner of: *Olivier did 'Othello' last night. He does Harold Wilson very well.* 12 [T1 no pass] *esp BrE* (with people) to be enough for: *Will £5 do you?* 13 [T1] (with things) to cook: *They do fish very well in that restaurant.* 14 [D1 (for); T1] (with things) to prepare: *Do (us) a report on that book. He did a complete suit in only 3 days!* 15 [I0 (for)] (usu in the infinitive) to be suitable: *That won't do. How would this do? It does not do to work too much. This little bed will do for our youngest daughter. Will £5 do? How will £5 do?* 16 [L9] to advance towards a desired state: *The sick man is doing well under his doctor's care. After the birth, mother and child are doing well/nicely. He did well in business during the war and became rich. Our firm is doing well. They did poorly on/in the examination.* 17 [I0] (in the -ing

form) happening: *What's doing at your place tonight? There's nothing doing in this town at night.* 18 [I2 neg] (a helping verb, as in): *Don't go. Don't be silly! (esp BrE) Don't let's go. (nonstandard AmE) Let's don't go.* 19 [I2] *emph* (a helping verb, as in): *He never comes.—You're wrong; he does come! Go, yes, do go! Be seated; please do be seated.* 20 [I0] (in place of another verb, as in): *He likes it, and so does she. He doesn't like it, and neither does she.* 21 [I0] (in place of another verb, as in): *He looks hungry.—So he does!* 22 [I0] (in place of another verb, as in): **a** *fml* *Have you visited her?—Yes; I have done so (many times).* **b** (*BrE*) *Have you visited her?—Yes; I have done. Will you come for the weekend?—Yes; I may do.* 23 [I0] (in place of another verb, as in): *Did he come?—Yes; he did.* 24 [I0] (in place of another verb, as in): **a** *He likes it doesn't he?* **b** *He likes it, doesn't he!* **c** (*esp BrE*) *He likes it, does he?* 25 [I0] (in place of another verb, as in): *He knows English better than he did. He rose early as he had always done.* 26 [T1] (in place of another verb, as in): *What he does is (to) teach. What John did to his suit was (to) ruin it.* 27 [T1] in place of another verb, as in: *What are you doing?—(I'm) cooking. What have you done?* 28 [I0] *emph* (as in): *That will do! That's enough! That will do! It's perfect as it is. That will do! I order you to stop before it's too late.* **What . . . doing** (often expressing disapproval) *why?*: *What is that book doing on the floor? What is that child doing up so late at night? He should be in bed! What is that very poor woman doing buying an expensive fur coat?* **be up and doing** *infrm* to be active: *He's up and doing by 5 o'clock in the morning!* **How do you do?** *polite* (a form of words used when introduced to someone; in later meetings, say 'How are you?') **How are you doing?** *infrm, esp AmE* an informal greeting to a friend **What do you do (for a living)?** What is your work? **do it yourself** *infrm* the idea of doing repairs and building things oneself, instead of paying workmen: *She's very interested in do it yourself. She's a great do-it-yourself-er.* **do one's (own) thing** *sl* to do what is personally satisfying, even though others may disapprove **nothing doing** *sl* no: *Will you lend me £5?—Nothing doing.* **do or die** *fml* to succeed or die; do everything possible to succeed: *Now is the moment to do or die! That does it! Now you've done it!* (expressions showing that enough, or too much has been done): *That does it; it's perfect. That does it! I refuse to work with you any more!*

**act** [I0] 1 to do something (to stop something happening, to help someone, etc): *Act now before it is too late. We must act at once. If you had acted in time, this would not have happened. He acted on her advice (= He did what she advised).* 2 [L9] to behave: *She has been acting very strangely lately.* 3 [L9] to do some work: *He acted as chairman at the meeting. I can't go; will you act for me/act on my behalf,*

*please?* **4** [L9] (of chemicals, etc) to have an effect on: *Water acts on iron and makes it rust.*  
**transact** [T1] *fml* to do, engage in, or carry on (as a piece of business): *Have you transacted all your business yet?* **transaction** **1** [U] the act of transacting **2** [C] an example of this  
**be up to** [v adv prep T1] *infml*, often *deprec* to be doing: *What is he up to now? What funny (= strange) business is he up to? Those children must be up to something bad; they're too quiet!*  
**be at** [v prep T1] *infml* to be doing, working, etc: *What are you at now? He is at his old game of telling lies (= He is telling lies again).*  
**tackle** [T1] *infml* to begin or try to do something, esp forcefully: *He tackled the job as quickly as possible.*

## N121 verbs : reacting and responding [IØ]

**react** **1** [(to)] to act in reply; to behave differently as a result: *When the sun comes out the flowers react by opening wide. How did he react to your suggestion?* **2** [(with)] *tech* (of a substance) to change when mixed with another  
**respond** **1** [(by, to, with)] to act in return: *He responded (to my suggestion) with a laugh/by laughing.* **2** [(to); also T5a] *esp fml* to answer: *I offered him a drink but he didn't respond (to my offer). 'I can't marry you,' she responded sadly.*  
**responsive** [B (to)] acting in return; easily persuaded: *She wasn't very responsive to our request for money.* **un-** [neg] **-ly** [adv] **-ness** [U]

## N122 verbs, etc : repeating and doing again

**repeat** **1** [T1, 5] to do again: *I'm afraid he has repeated his mistake.* **2** [T1, 6a] to say (something heard or learnt): *repeat a poem; Don't repeat what I told you.* **3** [IØ] *infml* (of food that one has eaten) to be tasted afterwards in the mouth: *I find that onions repeat.* **not bear repeating** (of words) to be too bad to say again: *I won't tell you what he said when the bomb went off—it doesn't bear repeating!* **repeat a course/a year** (in education) to remain in the same class for a further year **repeat an order** (in business) to supply the same article again **repeat oneself** to say or be the same thing again and again: *I love listening to Freddie's stories—he never repeats himself. History seems to be repeating itself.*  
**re-do** [T1] to do again: *Re-do the bathroom (= paint it again) in pink.*  
**echo** **1** [C; (U)] the return of sound when it strikes a surface: *There is a good echo in this big room. The echoes of their shouts came back from the hillsides.* **2** [C] (fig) any repeating of anything that suggests an echo: *His words were an echo of his mother's.* **3** [IØ; T1] to (cause to) come back as an echo: *The hills echoed with the shouts of the men.* **4** [T1] (fig) to repeat: *He*

*echoes her opinions; he has no thoughts of his own. Stop echoing my ideas!*

**practise also practice** *AmE* **1** [T1, 4; IØ] to perform (an action) repeatedly or do (esp a musical exercise) regularly in order to gain skill: *She's been practising the same tune on the piano for nearly an hour. You mustn't practise the drums while the baby is sleeping. They're practising singing the new song. You'll never learn to ride a bicycle unless you practise.* **2** [T1] to train (a person or animal) by repeated exercises: *She practised the child in telling the time.* **3** [Wv4; T1] to act in accordance with (the ideas of one's religion or other firm belief): *Do most Christians practise their religion? a practising Jew* **4** [T1] *fml* to (force oneself to) show or use (some necessary quality in behaviour): *In dealing with sick old people nurses must practise great patience.* **5** [T1] *fml* to make a habit or practice of: *Our income has decreased and now we have to practise economy (= have to avoid spending money).* **6** [T1] to perform (something needing special knowledge) according to rule: *Some people practise magic, or calling up the spirits of the dead.* **7** [Wv4; IØ (as); T1] to do (the work of) or work regularly as (a doctor, lawyer, etc): *He's passed his law examinations and is now practising (as a lawyer). One brother practises medicine and the other practises law. a practising doctor* **8** [T1 (on, upon)] to make unfair use of (a trick) for one's own advantage: *That shopkeeper practised a deception on me.* **practitioner** [C] **1** a person who practises a skill or art **2** a person who works in a profession esp a doctor or lawyer: *medical practitioners*

## N123 verbs : functioning and performing

[ALSO ⇒ I103, N134]

**function** [IØ] *often fml* (esp of a thing) to be in action; work: *The machine won't function properly unless you oil it well. Death happens when the brain ceases to function.*  
**behave** **1** [L9] to act in a certain way: *He behaved well/badly at the meeting. I'm not sure how they will behave when they meet.* **2** [IØ; T1] to keep (oneself) in a polite or acceptable manner: *The car behaved itself (= went well, although it might have broken down).*  
**perform** [IØ; T1] to do (something) fully: *The doctor performed all his duties carefully. She performed well last night.*  
**discharge** [T1] *fml* to perform (a duty or promise): *The nurse discharged her duties with loving care.*

## N124 adjectives : active and functional

**active** [B] able to act, function, etc; working well: *He is still active although he is very old now. Please don't expect active help from us; we*



can't do much. She takes an active part in the work of the club. The volcano is still active (= might still give out fire etc). **in-** [neg] **-ly** [adv]

**functional** [B] 1 made for or concerned with practical use without ornamentation: *Some people don't like the look of functional modern chairs, made on functional principles, even though they're comfortable. A hospital should be planned as a functional building.* 2 [Wa5] made for or having a special purpose: *The workman's been taught to use that one particular machine; such functional training doesn't fit him for any other kind of work.* 3 [Wa5] med (of a disease or disorder) having an effect only on the working of an organ, not on the organ itself **-ly** [adv]

**working** [Wa5;A] 1 able to work, move, etc: *They made a working model (= small copy) of the machine before they tried to build it.* 2 useful for work: *She was wearing her working clothes. How many working days do we have next week?*

**dynamic** [B] 1 [Wa5] tech of or relating to force or power that produces movement 2 often apprec (of people, ideas, etc) full of or producing power and activity: *He is a dynamic person. It was a dynamic period in history.* **-ally** [adv Wa4]

**vigorous** [B] 1 forceful; strong; healthily active: *As a cricketer he's vigorous rather than skilful.* 2 using or needing forcefulness and strength: *The politician made a vigorous speech in defence of the government. He did some vigorous exercises.* 3 (of a plant) healthy; growing strongly **-ly** [adv]

## N125 adjectives : passive and inert [B]

**passive** being acted on but doing nothing in return: *She is very passive; things happen but they don't seem to affect her.* **-ly** [adv]: *He listened passively to what they said.*

**inert** 1 [Wa5] lacking the power to move: *inert matter* 2 [Wa5] without active chemical properties: *inert gases* 3 (of people) slow to act; lazy

**extinct** 1 (esp of animals, plants, etc) no longer found alive as a type: *Dinosaurs [⇒ A94] are extinct animals. Many kinds of animals are in danger of becoming extinct.* 2 no longer active: *Arthur's Seat in Edinburgh is an extinct volcano [⇒ L115].* **extinction** [U] the state of being extinct

**dormant** inactive, esp not actively growing or producing typical effects: *dormant seeds; dormant animals asleep for the winter; a dormant disease/volcano; (fig) Many people disliked the plan, but opposition remained dormant because nobody could think of a better one.*

**ornamental** often derog perhaps beautiful, but not really necessary: *In her new book there are several passages that are only ornamental.* **-ly** [adv]

## N126 adjectives, etc : latent and potential

**latent** [B] existing but not yet noticeable or active or fully developed **-ly** [adv]

**potential** 1 [Wa5;B] existing in possibility; not at present active or developed, but able to become so: *Every seed is a potential plant. He is seen as a potential leader of our political party.* **-ly** [adv] 2 [U] the potential ability to do something: *He is still young but he has great potential/the potential to win.* **potentiality** [U;C] (a) power or quality that is potential: *This is a country of great potentiality/potentialities.*

## N127 nouns : acts, actions, etc

**act** [C] often fml & pomp something which has been done, could be done, etc: *Murder is a terrible act. From his acts he seems to be a fool. If you did that it would be an act of great kindness.*

**action** [C;U] genl something which is done: *We need action, not words! His actions suggest that he is a fool. The machine works with an up-and-down action.* **in-** [neg U]

**activity** 1 [U] the state of being active: *Activity is better than doing nothing. There was very little activity in the city last night.* **in-** [neg] 2 [C] something that one does: *Climbing mountains is one of his many activities.*

**function** [C] a special duty (of a person) or purpose (of a thing): *The function of a chairman is to lead and control meetings. The brain performs a very important function; it controls the nervous system of the body. The function of an adjective is to describe or add to the meaning of a noun.*

**behaviour** BrE, **behavior** AmE [U] general way of acting or functioning: *The behaviour of these animals is very interesting.*

**performance** [U] the action of performing: *Good performance sells a car (= If a car performs well, it can be sold easily). The policeman died in the performance of his duty.*

**vigour** BrE, **vigor** AmE [U] forcefulness; strength shown in power of action in body or mind: *He began his work with vigour and soon cut the tree up into logs. In his speech, he attacked his opponents with great vigour.*

**reaction** 1 [C (to)] a case of reacting: *What was your reaction to the news?* 2 [S;U] (a) change back to a former condition: *For a time everybody admired the new actor, but then (a) reaction set in and they got tired of him.* 3 [U] the quality of being reactionary [⇒ C113]: *His efforts were defeated by the forces of reaction.* 4 [C;U] (in science) a (a) force exercised by a body in reply to another force: *Action and reaction are equal and opposite (Newton).* b (a) change caused in a chemical substance by the action of another

**response** [U;C] the act of responding: *They*

*gave no response to our offer. Our invitation met with no response.*

- repetition** 1 [C; U] the action or an act of repeating: *The performance improved with each repetition. Let there be no repetition of this behaviour!* 2 [U] the exercise of repeating words **repetitive** [B] tending to repeat or be repeated: *He is a bit repetitive; he tells you the same things again and again.* -ly [adv] -ness [U]
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2 [Wn3; C] BrE any small thing, esp the name of which one forgets or does not know: *Put the doings on the table.*

**work** [U] something done, esp often or for money: *What work are you doing today? Have you finished your work/that work yet?* [⇒ I101]

**workings** [P] not fml the way in which something works or acts: *What a strange idea; the workings of his mind are unlike anyone else's.*

**goings-on** [P] infml, usu deprec activities, usu of an undesirable kind: *There was shouting and loud music and all sorts of goings-on I can't describe!*

## N128 verbs : managing and coping

**manage** 1 [I0; T1, 3] (often with **can, could**) to (be able to perform a difficult movement or action): *It's heavy, but I can manage (to carry) it. She can't manage alone on the stairs. She managed the stairs alone/without help.* 2 [I0] to succeed in living esp on a small amount of money: *We have very little, but we manage.* 3 [T1] infml, often polite (with **can, could**) to take (for a special use): *I can't manage another mouthful. I could manage another holiday soon, I'm so tired. I couldn't manage two weeks holiday this year, only one. I can't manage Tuesday—make the meeting Wednesday.*

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**fare** [(it) L9] 1 to manage; get on; progress; succeed: *How did you fare in the exam? I think I fared well/badly.* 2 esp lit to turn out; happen: *It fared ill with them.*

## N129 verbs : doing well and looking up, etc [I0]

**do well** to manage well: *He is doing (very) well now.*

**get better** to become better: *The weather is getting better now. She was ill but now she's getting better.*

**come on** [v adv] infml 1 to become better: *She was ill but she's coming on (well) now.* 2 to be developing: *How is your work coming on now?*

**look up** [v adv] infml to become better: *Things are looking up now; business is good.*

## N130 verbs : succeeding, etc

[ALSO ⇒ N164]

**succeed** 1 [I0 (in)] to gain a purpose or reach an aim: *He succeeded in preventing her from leaving. She succeeded the second time she took the examination.* 2 [I0] to do well, esp in gaining position or popularity in life: *He is the type of person who succeeds anywhere. to succeed in life* 3 [T1] to follow after: *A silence succeeded his words.*

**come off** [v adv I0] *infrm* to succeed: *The sale came off and he made a lot of money.*

**improve** 1 [T1] to use well and/or to make better: *I want to improve my abilities. I'll improve the shape of the handle so it's easier for you to use.* 2 [I0] to get better: *His health's improving. He's improving in health.*

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**attain** to succeed in arriving at, esp after effort; reach: *He attained the position of minister. His skill had attained perfection before he died. How can we attain such wealth?*

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**pass** 1 [*also I0*] to be successful in (an examination, test, etc): *Did she pass? He passed all his tests.* 2 to let (someone) pass (an examination, test, etc): *They passed him. He was passed as fit by the doctor.*

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## N133 nouns : success and failure

**success** 1 [U] the act of succeeding in something: *Success at last! The book is finished!* 2 [U] a good result: *Our efforts met with success.* 3 [C] a person or thing that succeeds or has succeeded: *Although he has no money he has clever children and that makes him a success. His book has come out/his play has been performed and it's a success.* 4 [U9] *esp old use* a result: *What success?* **successful** [B] showing success: *He is a successful writer.* **un- [neg] -ly** [adv]

**improvement** [U;C] (a sign of) improving or being improved: *There's been an improvement in your work this year. Several improvements were made to our office, and it's much more comfortable now.*

**accomplishment** [C] a skill, ability, etc accomplished after esp years of effort: *Her fine piano-playing is her greatest accomplishment. What are his accomplishments in his subject?*

**achievement** 1 [U] the successful finishing or gaining of something: *Can one be happy without a feeling of achievement in life?* 2 [C] something successfully finished or gained esp through skill and hard work: *He was proud of his daughter's achievements.*

**fulfilment** also **fulfillment** *AmE* 1 [U; (C)] satisfaction after successful effort: *When the teacher heard that all his students had passed their examination well, he felt a sense of fulfilment.* 2 [U] the act of fulfilling or condition of being fulfilled: *The help that we give her depends on her fulfilment of her promise to*

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## N133 nouns : success and failure

**success** 1 [U] the act of succeeding in something: *Success at last! The book is finished!* 2 [U] a good result: *Our efforts met with success.* 3 [C] a person or thing that succeeds or has succeeded: *Although he has no money he has clever children and that makes him a success. His book has come out/his play has been performed and it's a success.* 4 [U9] *esp old use* a result: *What success?* **successful** [B] showing success: *He is a successful writer.* **un-** [neg] **-ly** [adv]

**improvement** [U; C] (a sign of) improving or being improved: *There's been an improvement in your work this year. Several improvements were made to our office, and it's much more comfortable now.*

**accomplishment** [C] a skill, ability, etc accomplished after esp years of effort: *Her fine piano-playing is her greatest accomplishment. What are his accomplishments in his subject?*

**achievement** 1 [U] the successful finishing or gaining of something: *Can one be happy without a feeling of achievement in life?* 2 [C] something successfully finished or gained esp through skill and hard work: *He was proud of his daughter's achievements.*

**fulfilment** also **fulfillment** *AmE* 1 [U; (C)] satisfaction after successful effort: *When the teacher heard that all his students had passed their examination well, he felt a sense of fulfilment.* 2 [U] the act of fulfilling or condition of being fulfilled: *The help that we give her depends on her fulfilment of her promise to*

work harder. After many years, his plans have come to fulfilment.

**attainment** 1 [U] the act of attaining: *His attainment of the position of minister after all these years surprised everybody.* 2 [C] a skill, ability, etc got after much effort; an accomplishment: *Singing Welsh songs is one of his many attainments.*

**prosperity** [U] success in life or business: *This little town shows all the signs of prosperity. He owes his prosperity to hard work (= He worked hard and therefore he has prospered).*

**pass** [C] 1 a success in an examination, etc: *Did he pass?—Yes, he got a good pass.* 2 a person who has passed in an examination, etc: *There were 15 passes.*

**fail** [C] not *fml* a lack of success in an examination, etc: *He passed two subjects but got a fail in the third.*

**failure** 1 [U] lack of success: *Failure in business has made him very unhappy. She fears failure and so she won't even try.* 2 [C] a person who has failed: *She thinks she is a failure in life/in everything she does. There were 15 passes and 2 failures in the test.*

### N134 verbs : executing and implementing things

[ALSO ⇒ N123]

**execute** [T1] 1 to carry out; perform or do completely (an order, plan or piece of work): *The plan was good, but it was badly executed. The soldier executed the captain's orders.* 2 *law* to carry out the orders in (a will [⇒ C123]): *He asked his brother to execute his will.* 3 *law* to make effective in law (an important written paper) by having it signed, witnessed, etc 4 to perform (music, dance steps, etc) **execution** [U (of)] the act of executing: *The soldier failed in the execution of his duties.*

**implement** [T1] to start (something) working; to put to practical use: *He tried to implement his ideas too quickly and people wouldn't accept them.* **implementation** [U] the act of implementing: *He succeeded in the implementation of his ideas.*

### N135 verbs : undertaking and taking on, etc

**undertake** 1 [T1] to take up (a position); to start on (work): *He undertook responsibility for the changes. He undertook the leadership of the team.* 2 [T3, 5] to promise or agree: *He undertook to improve the working arrangements.*

**take on** [v adv T1] to be responsible for doing: *He agreed to take on the new job. I can't take on any more work at the moment.*

**agree to do** [T1] to say that one will do (something): *He agreed to do the job.* **agreement** 1 [U] the act of agreeing: *Their agreement about the matter surprised me.* 2 [C] an

example or occasion of this: *We have come to an agreement about doing the job.* 3 [C] a piece of paper which shows what people agree to do and which each person signs: *Have you seen/signed the agreement yet?*

**accept** [T1] *more fml* to agree to do: *Will you accept the job?* **acceptance** 1 [U; C] the act of accepting: *His acceptance of the job pleased us.* 2 [C] an example or occasion of this: *We offered 20 places in the school and so far we have had 18 acceptances.*

**assume** [T1] to take as one's duty, responsibility, etc: *The new government assumed power last week. She assumed office as chief minister. I must assume responsibility for the work now that he is dead.* **assumption** [U (of)] the act of assuming: *Her assumption of office takes place next week.*

### N136 verbs : refusing and rejecting

[ALSO ⇒ G127, 8]

**refuse** [I0; T1, 3; D1] not (to accept or do or give): *He asked her to marry him but she refused (to marry him). She refused his offer. She refused him even a kiss.*

**reject** [T1] to refuse strongly; not accept: *He rejected their offer of a job/their help.*

### N137 verbs : avoiding, etc

**avoid** [T1, 4] 1 to miss or keep away from, esp on purpose: *I avoided her by leaving by the back door. She avoided answering my questions.* 2 to escape: *I avoided punishment by running away. I avoided being punished.* **avoidance** [U] the act of avoiding

**evade** 1 [T1] to get out of the way of or escape from: *He evaded his enemy. The lion evaded the hunters. Why does Mary keep evading me?* 2 [T1, 4] *derog* to avoid (doing) (something one should do): *He tried to evade (paying) his taxes.* 3 [T1] *derog* to avoid answering (a question) properly: *Answer honestly and stop evading my questions!* **evasion** 1 [U] the act of evading 2 [C] an example of this

**shirk** [T1, 4; I0] to avoid (unpleasant work) because of laziness, lack of determination, etc: *We mustn't shirk our cleaning job/doing our cleaning. Is that boy still shirking? Tell him to get on with the job!* **shirker** [C] a person who shirks (work, etc)

**dodge** 1 [I0] to move suddenly aside: *I tried to hit him but he dodged.* 2 [T1] to avoid by so doing: *He dodged my blow.* 3 [T1] *infml* to avoid by a trick or in some dishonest way: *tax-dodging* **dodger** [C] a person who dodges (paying taxes, etc)

**wriggle out of** [v adv prep T1, 4] to avoid (a difficulty) by clever trickery, by pretending, etc: *You know you're to blame, so don't try to wriggle out of it.*

## N138 verbs & nouns : trying

**try** 1 [T1, 4] to test by use and experience to find the quality, worth, desirability, effect, etc: *Have you tried this new soap? Have you tried this hotel? We tried growing our own vegetables but soon found it was harder than we'd imagined. Try a new method. Try your luck and you might win. I tried baking this cake but didn't like the result.* 2 [I0; T3, (T1)] to attempt: *I don't think I can do it but I'll try. I've tried again and again but I still can't do it. You should try to make more of an effort with your appearance. He tried to stand on his head but couldn't. Try harder next time. I tried to get you a room at this hotel but it was full. Try Mrs Jones; she might lend you £1.* 3 [T4] to attempt and do; experience: *I tried standing on my head but it gave me a headache. Try doing more exercises; you'll soon lose weight.* 4 [T1] to attempt to open (a door, window, etc): *I think the door's locked but I'll try it just in case.* **try** and (do) not fml (not used in verb forms with **tried** or **trying**), to try to (do): *You must try and come to the party. I always try and help her (compare I'm always trying to help her). I'll try and telephone you.* 5 [C] infml an act of trying: *Come on; give it a try. We made several tries but failed every time.*

**attempt** 1 [Wa5; T1, 3, 4] esp fml to make an effort at; try: *He attempted the examination but failed. I attempted to speak but was told to be quiet. I attempted walking until I collapsed and fell over. He was found guilty of attempted murder even though the other man did not die.* 2 [C, C3] an act of attempting: *His attempts to help us failed. She made no attempt to stop him.*

**endeavour** BrE, **endeavor** AmE usu fml, lit & pomp 1 [I3] to try: *He endeavoured to climb the mountain.* 2 [C; U] an attempt: *All his great endeavours succeeded at last.*

**strive** esp lit & pomp 1 [L9, esp for/against; I3] to struggle hard (to get or conquer): *He strove for recognition as an artist/to be recognized as an artist. He strives against his illness.* 2 [I0 (with)] old use to fight

**sample** [T1] to try (something, esp food) to learn what it is like: *Sample this. He sampled it and didn't like it.*

## N139 verbs & nouns : helping

**help** 1 [T1; I0; V3] a to do part of an activity (for someone); to be of use to (someone in doing something): *Could you help me up the stairs? The shock helped him (to) walk. Your sympathy helps a lot. Can I help?* b to make better: *Crying won't help (you).* 2 [T1, 4; V4] to avoid; prevent; change; have control over (only in the phrs **can/can't/couldn't help**): *I couldn't help crying. I can't help my big feet. She can't help herself, she doesn't mean to be so rude.* **it can't be helped** These things happen, so we must accept it. *You've broken it now; it*

*can't be helped. I can't help it* It's not my fault; I can't stop it, etc: *Why are you crying?—I just can't help it. Well you can't help it if she ran away across the road; it was just an accident.* **no more than one can help** as little as is possible or necessary: *He never does more work than he can help.* 3 [U] the act of helping: *You're not much help to me just sitting there. You gave me a lot of help; thank you.* 4 [C] something which helps: *You're a good help to me. The new fire is a good help in this cold weather.* 5 [C] a person who does some of someone else's work: *A help comes in twice a week to clean the house.* **Help!** a Please bring help, I'm in danger. b Oh, dear!

**assist** [T1; I0; (in); V3] esp fml to help, support, or aid: *She assisted him in building the house. Good glasses will assist you to read. I have no money left; can you assist me?* **assistance** [U] the act of assisting: *Could you give us some assistance with this work? Can I be of (any) assistance in any way? Thank you for your kind assistance.* **assistant** [C] a person who assists another esp more important person: *She got one of her assistants to do the work.*

**aid** 1 [T1 (with, in); V3] usu fml to give support to; help: *Who aided him with money? I aided him to find some water/in finding some water.* 2 [U] the act of aiding: *We need all the aid we can get.* 3 [C] something that aids in some usu stated way: *He wears a hearing aid (= something that helps him hear better).*

**support** 1 [T1] to bear the weight of, esp preventing from falling: *You support the bottom while I lift the top. He supported her on his arm.* 2 [T1] a to provide money for (a person) to live on: *He supports a family. He supports his old mother.* b to help, with sympathy or practical advice, money, food, etc: *She supported him in his trouble.* 3 [T1] to approve of and encourage: *You must support the new political party. She supports birth control. I will support him if he suggests a change in the committee.* 4 [T1] to be in favour of: *The results support my original idea.* 5 [T1] (with **can/cannot**) to bear: *I can support so much bad behaviour and no more.* 6 [T1] to be loyal to, esp by attending performances: *They support Chelsea (football team). They support the local playhouse.* 7 [U] the act of supporting: *We need more support if we are going to win the election.* 8 [C] an example of this; something or someone that supports: *He was a great support to us all in our time of need. These wooden supports help to hold up the old building.*

**benefit** 1 [T1] to help by doing something good, useful, etc: *His work did not benefit him; he got no money for it.* 2 [I0 (by, from)] to gain; help oneself: *How will I benefit if I go? No one benefited from the news.* 3 [U; C] advantage, help, or profit: *What benefit do we get if we do that? There's no real benefit for me if I go. He got all the benefits; we got all the hard work. This medicine will be of real benefit to you; take it.*

**pander to** [v prep T1] emot often deprec to give

too much help and encouragement to (someone, or to certain feelings, ideas, etc): *She just panders to him/to his every desire. 'Films often pander to people's need to see blood and violence,' he said angrily.*

**auxiliary 1** [C] a person who helps others in the work they do: *These auxiliaries have made our work much easier. She is an auxiliary teacher.*  
**2** [Wa5;B] used in helping: *The auxiliary fire service helps our full-time firemen when there are very big fires in the city.*

## N140 verbs : not helping [T1]

[ALSO ⇒ L173 STOP]

**hinder** [(from)] **1** to stop (someone from doing something): *You're hindering me in my work by talking all the time. You're hindering me from working.* **2** to prevent (an activity from being done): *You're hindering my work.* **hindrance** [C] something or someone that hinders: *Helping him is a hindrance to my own work. Some people think that children are important; others, that they are just hindrances.*

**thwart** esp emot to oppose successfully: *I was thwarted in my plans by the weather. Uncle hates being to be thwarted. His illness has thwarted his hopes of winning the competition.*

**impede** often fml to get in the way of; to make something difficult to do: *Poverty impedes education. Having no car impedes his movements.* **impediment** [C] something which impedes something else: *He has a speech impediment, and can't say 's' properly. There is no impediment to their marriage.*

**prevent** [(from); also V4] **1** to keep (something) from happening or existing: *These rules are intended to prevent accidents. What can we do to prevent this disease spreading?* **2** to stop or hold back (someone or something): *I intend to go and nothing you do can prevent me. I couldn't prevent him from spending the money.*

**prevention** [U] the act of preventing something or someone: *The prevention of disease is more important than trying to cure it later.* **preventive** also **preventative** [B] concerning or for the purpose of preventing: *preventive medicine*

**hamper** to cause difficulty in movement or activity to: *The sun hampered my movements. (fig) I was hampered by my poor knowledge of French.*

**keep** [(from)] to delay or hinder: *What kept you from doing it/coming? You're late; what kept you?*

## Causing

### N150 verbs : making and causing

[ALSO ⇒ I1]

**make 1** [D1 (for); T1] to produce by work or action: *She made a cake. I'll make myself/you a*

*cup of coffee. The children are making a lot of noise. Cheese is made from milk.* **2** [X1, 7; V8] to put into a certain state, position, etc: *Too much food made him ill. The king married her and made her his queen. He made himself heard across the room. He made his ideas known/made known what he felt.* **3** [T1] to earn, gain, or win (money or success): *He makes a lot (of money) in his job. He makes a living (= earns enough to live). I hope you make a success of your work.* **4** [V2; V3 pass] to cause (a person to do something/a thing to happen): *The pain made him cry out. She was made to wait for over an hour. Some people say stepping on a worm makes it rain.* **5** [V2; V3 pass; X1, 7] to represent as being, doing, happening, etc; to cause to appear as: *In the film the battle is made to take place in the winter. This photograph makes her (look) very young.* **6** [T1; X1, (to be) 7, 9] to calculate (and get as a result): *He added up the figures and made a different answer from the one I got. I make it nearly three years since I saw him. What time do you make it? Is that the right time? I make it later. He made the speed to be over the limit.* **7** [L1] to add up to; to come to (an amount) as a result: *Two and two make four.* **8** [L1] to be counted as (first, second, etc): *This makes our third party this month. That makes four who want to go.* **9** [L1; D1] to have the qualities of (esp something good): *No one could have made him a better wife. This story makes good reading. The hall would make a good theatre.* **10** [T1] infml to travel (a distance) or at (a speed): *The train was making seventy miles an hour. He made a few more yards before he fell to the ground.* **11** [T1] to arrive at or on: *We made the station in time to catch the train. We just made the train (= almost missed it). We finally made the party.* **12** [T1 (of); X1] to form (into or from): *Experience has made him a man. The navy has made a man of him.* **13** [X9, esp into, out of] to change or produce (to or from): *Working in the kitchen made the boy into a good cook/a good cook out of the boy. We made the material into a skirt/a skirt out of the material.* **14** [T1] to establish (a law) **15** [D1 (to); T1] to give (a suggestion of payment or a gift): *I'll make you an offer of a hundred pounds. Let me make you a present of it.* **16** [T3] fml, also **to make as if** to be about to: *He made (as if) to speak, but I stopped him.* **17** [T1] infml to give the particular qualities of: *It's the bright paint which really makes the room.* **18** [T1] (used with a noun instead of a verb alone): *He made a promise/no answer (= He promised/did not answer). They were making a search of the room. We made an early start. She made a good choice. He's made his decision. An important discovery has been made.* **make believe** to pretend: *The children are making believe that they're princes and princesses.* [⇒ K173] **make it 1** to succeed **2** to arrive in time **cause** [T1; V3; D1 (to, for)] to lead to; be the cause of: *What caused his illness? His foolish-*



ness caused me to lose my temper. I wish you wouldn't cause me such worry. I think you like causing trouble for people. Why do you cause me to do what I dislike doing most; is it to punish me?

**get 1** [V4] to bring (something) to a start: *I'll get the car going.* **2** [V3] to cause to do: *I got him to help (me) when I moved the furniture. I can't get the car to start.* **3** [X7] to bring (into a certain state): *I'll get the children ready for school. I can't get the car started.* **4** [X9] to put or move into a place: *I can't get it through the door. Get that cat out of the house before your mother sees it! We must get him home.* **5** [T3] to succeed in (doing) (often with future meaning): *When you get to know him you find he's quite different from how you imagined. If I get to see him I'll ask him about it.*

**get . . . done** to have (something) done: *I'll get this work done by tomorrow afternoon.*

**engineer** [T1] to arrange or cause by clever, esp secret planning: *He had powerful enemies who engineered his ruin.*

### N151 verbs : causing things to happen in special ways

**arouse** [T1] to cause (something or someone) to do something or be active, often forcefully: *Her anger was aroused by his silly actions. That book aroused my interest in fishing.*

**stir** [T1] esp lit to cause, arouse: *That book has stirred my interest in fishing.* **stir up** [v adv T1] emph to arouse: *He is always trying to stir up trouble here.*

**precipitate** [T1 (into)] usu fml to cause (something) to happen or (someone) to do something more quickly than expected, desired, etc: *The killing of the king precipitated the war. His action precipitated them into the war.*

**prompt 1** [T1; V3] to cause or urge (someone) to do something: *He's never acted so foolishly before; what could have prompted him?* *Hunger prompted him to steal.* **2** [T1] to be the cause of (a thought, action or feeling): *The sight of the ships prompted thoughts of his distant home.*

**provoke** [T1] to cause, esp forcefully: *If you do that you will provoke trouble. His silly actions provoked laughter.*

**provoke into** [v prep D1; V4b] to cause or force (someone) into (an action or doing something): *Her rudeness provoked me into striking her.*

**incite** [T1 (to); V3] to encourage or cause (someone) to take (a strong action) or to have (a strong feeling): *His remarks incited me to anger. The army was incited to rebellion* [⇒ C135] *He incited them to rise up against their leaders.* **incitement 1** [U] the act of inciting **2** [C] something which incites: *His words were an incitement to rebellion.*

**render 1** [X7] to cause to be: *His fatness renders him unable to touch his toes.* **2** [D1 (to); T1] fml

to give (help): *You have rendered me a service.* **render an account** to send an account of money that is owed **render thanks** to thank someone, esp God: *Let us render thanks (to God) for what we have received.*

**induce 1** [T1 often pass] a to cause to begin (only in the phr **induce labour**) by using medical drugs: *Labour* [⇒ B181] *has been induced.* **b** infml to cause (a baby) to be born, or (a mother) to give birth, by medical means: *The baby was induced by drugs given to the mother, so that it could be born more quickly. She wanted to give birth naturally, but she had to be induced.* **2** [T1] to produce (an effect): *Too much food induces sleepiness.* **3** [V3] to lead (someone) into an act often by persuasion: *I was induced to come against my will. What induced her to come uninvited?*

**involve** [Wv6; T1, 4] to make necessary: *Being a soldier can involve getting killed.*

### N152 nouns : causes and reasons

[ALSO ⇒ G18]

**cause 1** [C] something which produces an effect; a person, thing, or event that makes something happen: *A cigarette was the cause of the fire. What was the cause of the last war? Her stupidity is the cause of all her trouble.* **2** [U] reason: *Don't complain without cause. There's no cause for you to leave; I still love you. There's more cause for you to go to mother's than stay here. Is there sufficient cause for you to sell this house?* **3** [C] a principle or movement strongly defended or supported: *His cause was the freedom of his people: for this he would die if necessary.* **4** [C] law the reason for action in a court of law; a matter over which a person goes to law **make common cause (with)** to take action together for a particular purpose: *The government and the opposition made common cause to win the war.* **causal** [Wa5; B] **tech 1** of or showing the relationship of cause and effect **2** being a cause: *a causal force* **3** (in grammar) expressing a cause: *a causal phrase* **-ly** [adv] **-ity** [U]: *the laws of causality*

**reason 1** [C (for), C3.5a.c, 6a why; U3] the cause of an event; the explanation or excuse for an action: *The reason for the flood was all that heavy rain. I have many reasons to fear him. The reason that/why he died was lack of medical care. There is/We have reason to believe that he was murdered.* **2** [C (for), C3.5a] what makes one decide on an action; the cause of an intention: *What is your reason for wanting to enter the country?*

### N153 nouns : results and effects

**result 1** [C] what happens because of something else: *The war was the result of their desire for more land. What results did you get from your tests?—The results show that he was right.* **2** [I0]