

# OXFORD Illustrated Children's Dictionary



The perfect family dictionary

**pollen noun**

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

**petal noun** (plural **petals**)

each of the separate coloured outer parts of a flower



**flower noun** (plural **flowers**)

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

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

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

**overcoat** *noun*  
a warm outdoor coat

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*overran by ten minutes.*

**overseas** *adverb*

abroad • *They travelled overseas.*

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

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

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

to sleep longer than you meant to

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

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

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

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

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

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

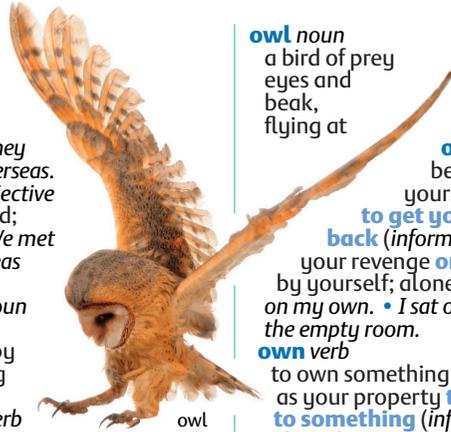
**overture** *noun*  
a piece of music played at the start of a concert, opera, or ballet

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

**overweight** *adjective*  
too heavy

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

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



owl

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

with large eyes and beak, flying at night

**own** *adjective*  
belonging to yourself or itself

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Pp

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

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

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

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

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

**pack** *noun*

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

**pack** *verb*

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

**package** *noun*

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

**package holiday** *noun*

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

**packet** *noun*

- a small parcel

**pad<sup>1</sup>** *noun*

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

**pad<sup>1</sup>** *verb* (**padding, padded**)

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

**pad<sup>2</sup>** *verb* (**padding, padded**)

- to pad is to walk softly

**padding** *noun*

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

**paddle** *verb*

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

**paddle** *noun*

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

**paddock** *noun*

- a small field for keeping horses

**paddy** *noun* (**paddies**)

- a field where rice is grown

**padlock** *noun*



padlock

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

**page<sup>1</sup>** *noun*

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

**page<sup>2</sup>** *noun*

- a boy who acts as an attendant or runs errands

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

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

**pageantry** *noun*

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

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

- a Buddhist tower or Hindu temple in the Far East

**pail** *noun*

- a bucket

**pain** *noun*

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

**to take pains** is to make a careful effort or take trouble over something

**painful** *adjective*

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

**painfully** *adverb*

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

**is to be extremely thin or slow**

**painstaking** *adjective*

- making a careful effort

**paint** *noun*

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

**paint** *verb*

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

**paintbrush** *noun*

- a brush used in painting



**painter** *noun*

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

**painting** *noun*

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

**pair** *noun*

- 1 two things or people that go together or are the same kind • *I need a new pair of shoes.*

- 2 something made of two parts joined together • *Have you got a pair of scissors?*

**palace** *noun*

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

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

- the roof of your mouth

**pale** *adjective*

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

**paleness** *noun*

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

- a board on which an artist mixes colours

**pallid** *adjective*

- pale, especially because of illness

**palm** *noun*

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

**paltry** *adjective*

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

**pamper** *verb*

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

**pamphlet** *noun*

- a thin book with a paper cover

**WORD ORIGINS**

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

**pan** *noun*

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

**pancake** *noun*

- a flat round cake of batter fried on both sides

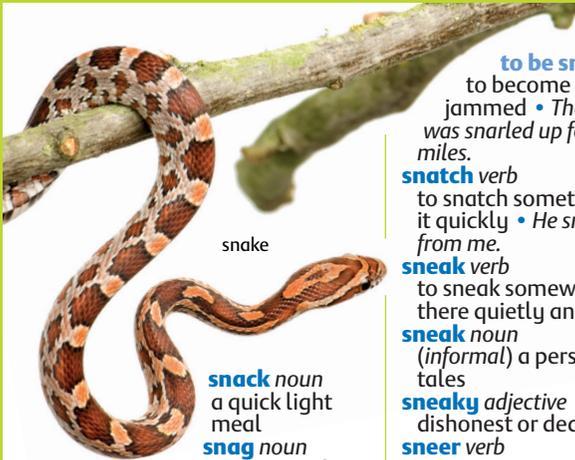
**panda** *noun*

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

**pandemonium** *noun*

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

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snake

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

difficulty or obstacle

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**snapshot** *noun*  
an informal photograph taken quickly

**snare** *noun*  
a trap for catching animals

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

**snarl** *verb*  
an animal snarls when it growls angrily

**snarl** *noun*  
a snarling sound

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

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

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

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

**sneaky** *adjective*  
dishonest or deceitful

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

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

**sneeze** *noun*  
the action or sound of sneezing

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

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

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

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

**snigger** *noun*  
a quiet sly laugh

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

**snip** *noun*  
an act of snipping something

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

**snippet** *noun*  
a short piece of news or information

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

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

**snobbish** *adjective* thinking or behaving like a snob

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

22 coloured balls on a cloth-covered table

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

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

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

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

**snort** *noun*  
a snorting noise

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

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

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

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

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

**snowflake** *noun*  
a flake of snow

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

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

clearing snow from a road or railway track

**snowstorm** *noun*

a storm with snow falling

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

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



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

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

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

**snuggle** *verb*

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

**so** *adverb*

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

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

**so** *conjunction*

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

**soak** *verb*

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

**soap** *noun*

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

**soap opera** *noun*

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

**soar** *verb*

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

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

to sob is to cry with gasping noises

**sob** *noun*

a sound of sobbing

**sober** *adjective*

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

**so-called** *adjective*

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

**soccer** *noun*

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

**sociable** *adjective*

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

sociable people are friendly and like to be with other people

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

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

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

**social work** *noun*

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

**society** *noun* (**societies**)

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

**sock** *noun*

a soft piece of clothing that covers your foot and the lower half of your leg **to pull your socks up** (*informal*) is to try to do better

**socket** *noun*

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

**soda** *noun*

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

**soda water** *noun*

soda water is fizzy water used in drinks

**Na**

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

sodium is a soft silvery-white metal

**sofa** *noun*

a long soft seat with sides and a back

**soft** *adjective*

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

**softness** *noun*

**soft drink** *noun*

a drink that does not contain alcohol

**soften** *verb*

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

**software** *noun*

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

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

very wet and soft

**soil**<sup>1</sup> *noun*

soil is the loose earth that plants grow in

**soil**<sup>2</sup> *verb*

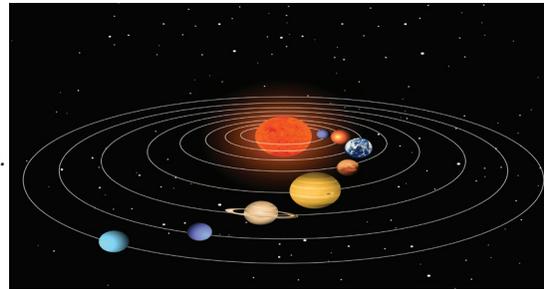
to soil something is to make it dirty

**solar** *adjective*

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

**solar system** *noun*

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



**solder** *noun*

solar system

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

**solder** *verb*

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

**soldier** *noun*

a member of an army

**sole**<sup>1</sup> *noun*

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

**sole**<sup>2</sup> *adjective*

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

**solemn** *adjective*

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

**solicitor** *noun*

a lawyer who advises clients and prepares legal documents

**solid** *adjective*

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

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**veil** *noun*

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

**vein** *noun*

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

**velocity** *noun* (**velocities**)

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

**velvet** *noun*

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

**vendetta** *noun*

a long-lasting quarrel or feud

**WORD ORIGINS**

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

**vending machine**

*noun*

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

**veneerable**

*adjective*

worthy of respect or honour because of being so old

**venetian blind**

*noun*

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



vending machine

**vengeance** *noun*

vengeance is harming or punishing someone because they have done harm to you

**vengeful** *adjective* a vengeful person wants to punish someone who has harmed them

**venison** *noun*

venison is the meat from a deer

**Venn diagram** *noun*

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

**venom** *noun*

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

bitter hatred for someone

**venomous** *adjective* poisonous

**vent** *noun*

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

**ventilate** *verb*

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

**ventriloquist** *noun*

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

**venture** *noun*

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

**venture** *verb*

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

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

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

**verb** *noun*

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

**verbal** *adjective*

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

**verbally** *adverb* in spoken words, not in writing

**verdict** *noun*

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

**verge** *noun*

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

**verge** *verb*

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

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

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

**vermin** *noun*

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

**verruca** *noun* (**verrucas**)

(say ver-**oo**-ka)

a kind of wart on the sole of your foot

**versatile** *adjective*

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

**verse** *noun*

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

**version** *noun*

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

**versus** *preposition*

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

**vertebra** *noun* (**vertebrae**)

(say ver-**ti**-bra)

each of the bones that form your backbone

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

an animal with a backbone

**vertical** *adjective*

going directly upwards, at right angles to something level or horizontal **vertically** *adverb* in a vertical direction

**vertigo** *noun*

vertigo is feeling dizzy because you are high up

**very** *adverb*

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

**very** *adjective*

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

**Vesak** *noun* (say ves-**ak**)

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



Vesak

**vessel** *noun*

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

**vest** *noun*

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

**vestment** *noun*

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

**vet** *noun*

a person trained to treat sick animals

**veteran** *noun*

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

**veterinary** *adjective*

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

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

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

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

to veto something is to refuse to let it happen

**vex** *verb*

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

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

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

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

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

**vibrate** *verb*

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

**vicar** *noun*

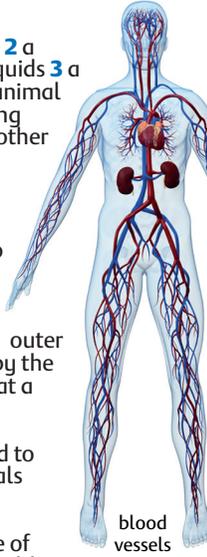
a minister of the Church of England who is in charge of a parish

**vicarage** *noun*

the house of a vicar

**vice**<sup>1</sup> *noun*

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

**vice**<sup>2</sup> *noun*

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

**vice-president** *noun*

a deputy to a president

**vice versa** *adverb*

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

**vicinity** *noun* (**vicinities**)

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

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

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

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

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

**victimize** *verb*

to victimize someone is to treat them unfairly

**victor** *noun*

the winner of a battle or contest

**victory** *noun* (**victories**)

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

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

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

**WORD ORIGINS**

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

**video** *verb*

to video something is to record it on videotape

**video recorder** or **video cassette recorder** *noun*

a machine for recording television programmes and playing them back

**videotape** *noun*

videotape is magnetic tape used for video recording

**view** *noun*

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

about smoking. **on view** shown for people to see

**view** *verb*

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

**viewer** *noun*

someone who watches something, especially a television programme

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

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

**vigilance** *noun* vigilance is watching carefully for something

**vigorous** *adjective*

full of strength and energy

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

vigour is strength and energy

**Viking** *noun*

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

**vile** *adjective*

disgusting or bad • *What a vile smell.*

**villa** *noun*

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

**village** *noun*

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

**villain** *noun*

a wicked person or criminal

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

a plant on which grapes grow

**vinegar** *noun*

vinegar is a sour liquid used to flavour food

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

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

**vintage** *noun*

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

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

vinyl is a kind of plastic

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

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

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