

Unit 1

(be) a bone of contention (idiom) /ə ˈbəʊn əv kənˈtenʃn/ a subject which causes disagreement and arguments between people *Where to go on holiday is always a bone of contention in our family.*

adapt (v) /əˈdæpt/ to change your behaviour in order to deal more successfully with a new situation *A large organization can be slow to adapt to change.*

alienate (from) (v) /ˈeɪliəneɪt/ to make sb feel that they do not belong in a particular group *The constant upgrading of gadgets can alienate those teenagers whose parents can't afford the latest technology.*

alienated (from) (adj) /ˈeɪliəneɪtɪd/ when sb is made to feel that they do not belong in a particular group *Very talented children may feel alienated from the others in their class.*

alienating (adj) /ˈeɪliəneɪtɪŋ/ sth that makes sb feel that they do not belong in a particular group *Missing so much school as she battled with her illness was an alienating experience.*

alienation (n) /eɪliəˈneɪʃn/ the feeling that you do not belong in a particular group *Many immigrants suffer from a sense of alienation.*

alter (v) /ˈɔːltə(r)/ to make sb/sth different *This incident altered the whole course of events.*

although (conj) /ɔːlˈðəʊ/ used for introducing a statement that makes the main statement in a sentence seem surprising *Although the sun was shining, it wasn't very warm.*

as a result (of sth) (conj) /əz ə rɪˈzʌlt/ caused by or because of *She died as a result of her injuries.*

association (n) /əˌsəʊʃiˈeɪʃn, -siˈeɪʃn/ a connection or relationship between people or organizations *They have maintained a close association with a college in the US.*

attachment (n) /əˈtætʃmənt/ a strong feeling of affection for sb/sth *Prisoners can develop an attachment to their guards.*

back to square one (idiom) /bæk tə ˈskweə(r) ˈwʌn/ a return to the situation you were in at the beginning of a project, task, etc., because you have made no real progress *If this suggestion isn't accepted, we'll be back to square one.*

because of (prep) /brɪˈkɔːz əv/ used before a noun or noun phrase to say that sb/sth is the reason for sth *He walked slowly because of his bad leg.*

chop and change (idiom) /tʃɒp ən ˈtʃeɪndʒ/ to keep changing your mind or what you are doing *You can't keep chopping and changing – are you going to apply for Law or Medicine?*

(be) close at hand (idiom) /kləʊs ət ˈhænd/ near; in a place where sb/sth can be reached easily *There are good cafés and a restaurant close at hand.*

consequently (adv) /kɒnsɪkwəntli/ as a result; therefore *She failed her exams and was consequently unable to start her studies at college.*

despite (prep) /dɪˈspɑɪt/ used to show that sth happened or is true although sth else might have happened to prevent it *Her voice was shaking despite all her efforts to control it.*

determine (v) /dɪˈtɜːmɪn/ to discover the facts about sth; to calculate sth exactly *An inquiry was set up to determine the cause of the accident.*

disaffection (n) /ˌdɪsəˈfekʃn/ the feeling of being no longer satisfied with your situation, organization, belief, etc. and therefore not loyal to it *There are signs of growing disaffection amongst voters.*

due to (conj) /ˈdjuː tə/ caused by sb/sth; because of sb/sth *The team's success was largely due to her efforts.*

enhance (v) /ɪnˈhɑːns/ to increase or further improve the good quality, value or status of sb/sth *This is an opportunity to enhance the reputation of the company.*

even though (conj) /ɪˈvɒlθəʊ/ despite the fact or belief that; no matter whether *I like her, even though she can be annoying at times.*

evolve (v) /ɪˈvɒlv/ to develop gradually, especially from a simple to a more complicated form; to develop sth in this way *The idea evolved from a drawing I discovered in the attic.*

exclude (from) (v) /ɪkˈskluːd/ to prevent sb/sth from taking part in sth or entering a place *Women are still excluded from some London clubs.*

excluded (from) (adj) /ɪkˈskluːdɪd/ prevented from taking part in sth or entering a place *Many local people felt excluded from decisions that affected their own community.*

exclusion (n) /ɪkˈskluːʒn/ the act of preventing sb/sth from entering a place or taking part in sth *He was disappointed with his exclusion from the England squad.*

exclusive (adj) /ɪkˈskluːsɪv/ only to be used by one particular person or group; only given to one particular person or group *The hotel has exclusive access to the beach.*

furthermore (adv) /ˌfɜːðəˈmɔː(r)/ in addition to what has just been stated *He said he had not discussed the matter with her. Furthermore, he had not even contacted her.*

give rise to (idiom) /gɪv ˈraɪz tə/ to cause sth to happen or exist *The novel's success gave rise to a number of sequels.*

go from strength to strength (idiom) /gəʊ frəm ˌstreŋθ tə ˌstreŋθ/ to become more and more successful *Since her appointment, the department has gone from strength to strength.*

go hand in hand (idiom) /gəʊ ˌhænd ɪn ˈhænd/ to be closely connected such that one thing causes the other *Poverty and poor health often go hand in hand.*

however (adv) /haʊˈevə(r)/ used to introduce a statement that contrasts with sth that has just been said *He was feeling bad. He went to work, however, and tried to concentrate.*

imagery (n) /ˈɪmɪdʒəri/ language that produces pictures in the minds of people reading or listening *Her written style uses inspirational verbal imagery.*

improve (v) /ɪmˈpruːv/ to make sth/sb better than before *I need to improve my French.*

in addition (to) (conj) /ɪn əˈdɪʃn/ used when you want to mention another person or thing after sth else *In addition to these arrangements, extra ambulances will be on duty until midnight.*

(be) in sb's hands (idiom) /ɪn ˌsʌmbədɪz ˈhændz/ being taken care of or controlled by sb *The matter is now in the hands of my lawyer.*

in spite of (conj) /ɪn ˈspɑɪt əv/ when sth is surprising because there is a reason which may have prevented it *They went swimming in spite of all the danger signs.*

isolate (from) (v) /ˈaɪsəleɪt/ to separate sb/sth physically or socially from other people or things *This decision will isolate the country from the rest of Europe.*

isolated (from) (adj) /ˈaɪsəleɪtɪd/ without much contact with other people or other countries *The decision left the country isolated from its allies.*

isolating (adj) /ˈaɪsəleɪtɪŋ/ that makes sb feel alone or lonely *Caring for a new baby can be isolating, so it's good to meet other new parents.*

isolation (n) /aɪsəˈleɪʃn/ the state of being alone or lonely *Many unemployed people experience feelings of isolation and depression.*

jump out of one's skin (idiom) /dʒʌmp aʊt əv wʌnz ˈskɪn/ to move violently because of a sudden shock *It was midnight, so when I heard the door open, I nearly jumped out of my skin.*

lead to (v) /ˈliːd tə/ to have sth as a result *Eating too much sugar can lead to health problems.*

loyalty (n) /ˈlɔɪəlti/ the quality of being faithful in your support of sb/sth *Can I count on your loyalty?*

make great strides (idiom) /meɪk ˈɡreɪt straɪdz/ to improve the way in which sth is developing *We're making great strides in the search for a cure.*

make no bones about (sth) (idiom) /meɪk nəʊ ˈbəʊnz ə ˌbaʊt/ to be honest and open about sth; to not hesitate to do sth *She made no bones about telling him exactly what she thought of him.*

marginalization (n) /ˌmɑːdʒɪnəlaɪˈzeɪʃn/ the process or result of making sb feel as if they are not important and cannot influence decisions or events; the act of putting sb in a position in which they have no power *Charities are working together to prevent the marginalization of the elderly.*

moreover (adv) /məʊəˈʊəvə(r)/ used to introduce some new information that adds to or supports what you have said previously *A talented artist, he was, moreover, a writer of some note.*

move the goalposts (idiom) /muːv ðə ˈɡəʊlˌpɔːsts/ to change the rules for sth, or conditions under which it is done, so that the situation becomes more difficult for sb *I finally managed to get on top of the job and then they moved the goalposts again!*

on account of (prep) /ɒn əˈkaʊnt əv/ because of sb/sth *She retired early on account of ill health.*

owing to (prep) /ˈəʊɪŋ tə, ˈəʊɪŋ tu/ because of *Owing to his illness, he could not continue with his studies.*

oxymoron (n) /ˌɒksɪˈmɔːrɒn/ a phrase that combines two words that seem to be the opposite of each other *Surely it's an oxymoron to describe it as a deafening silence?*

personification (n) /pəˌsɒnɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/ the practice of representing objects, qualities, etc. as humans, in art and literature; an object, quality, etc. that is represented in this way *We had to write about the personification of autumn in Keats's poem.*

progress (v) /prəˈɡres/ develop over a period of time; to make progress *The course allows students to progress at their own speed.*

pull your socks up (idiom) /pʊl jɔː ˈsɒks ʌp/ to try to improve your performance, work, behaviour, etc. *You're going to have to pull your socks up.*

rapprochement (n) /ræˈpɔːʃmɑːnt/ a friendly relationship in which people understand each other very well *She understood the importance of establishing a close rapport with clients.*

reform (v) /rɪˈfɔːm/ to improve a system, an organization, a law, etc. by making changes to it *They made an election promise to reform the social security system.*

rejection (n) /rɪˈdʒekʃn/ failure to give a person or an animal enough care or affection *It's painful when you experience rejection, especially by those whom you classed as friends.*

repetition (n) /ˌrepəˈtɪʃn/ the fact of doing or saying the same thing many times *In his work, we find the constant repetition of the same themes.*

restore (v) /rɪˈstɔː(r)/ to repair a building, work of art, piece of furniture, etc. so that it looks as good as it did originally *Her job is restoring old paintings.*

result in (v) /rɪˈzʌlt ɪn/ to make sth happen *The cyclone has resulted in many thousands of deaths.*

reverse (v) /rɪˈvɜːs/ to change sth completely so that it is the opposite of what it was before *The government has failed to reverse the economic decline.*

revert (v) /rɪˈvɜːt/ to return to a former state; to start doing sth again that you used to do in the past *After her divorce she reverted to her maiden name.*

rhetorical question (n) /rɪˈtɒrɪkl ˈkwestʃən/ asked only to make a statement or to produce an effect rather than to get an answer *'Don't you care what I do?' he asked, but it was a rhetorical question.*

save your skin (idiom) /seɪv jɔː ˈskɪn/ to try to avoid death, punishment, etc. in an extremely difficult situation *To save his own skin, he lied and blamed the accident on his friend.*

segregate (into) (v) /ˈseɡrɪgeɪt/ to separate people of different races, religions or sexes and treat them in a different way *Whites and blacks were segregated into different parts of the city.*

segregated (adj) /ˈseɡrɪgeɪtɪd/ separated by race, religion or sex and treated in a different way *The students argued for everyone on campus to be mixed, not split into segregated ethnic groups.*

segregation (n) /ˌseɡrɪˈgeɪʃn/ the act or policy of separating people of different races, religions or sexes and treating them in a different way *Racial segregation began earlier in South Africa, but was official policy from 1948 to 1994.*

shape (v) /ʃeɪp/ to have an important influence on the way that sb/sth develops *His ideas had been shaped by his experiences during the war.*

(be) (all) skin and bones (idiom) /skɪn ən 'bəʊnz/ extremely thin in a way that is not attractive or healthy *She may be a famous model, but she isn't a good role model – she's all skin and bones.*

thanks to (conj) /'θæŋks tə/ used to say that sth has happened because of sb/sth *It was all a great success—thanks to a lot of hard work.*

that said (conj) /ðæt 'sed/ used to introduce an opinion that makes what you have just said seem less strong *Finding football on every channel is intensely irritating. That said, I can't deny its global popularity.*

the effect of (n) /ði i'fekt əv/ a change that sb/sth causes in sb/sth else; a result *I can certainly feel the effects of too many late nights.*

the influence of (n) /ði 'ɪnfluəns əv/ the effect that sb/sth has on the way a person thinks or behaves or on the way that sth works or develops *What exactly is the influence of television on children?*

therefore (adv) /'ðeəfɔ:(r)/ used to introduce the logical result of sth that has just been mentioned *He's only seventeen and therefore not eligible to vote.*

transform (v) /træns'fɔ:m/ to completely change the appearance or character of sth, especially so that it is better *A new colour scheme will transform your bedroom.*

turn the corner (idiom) /tɜ:n də 'kɔ:nə(r)/ to pass a very important point in an illness or a difficult situation and begin to improve *The doctors were worried, but she seems to have turned the corner now and should be home in a few days.*

turn upside down (idiom) /tɜ:n ʌpsaɪd 'daʊn/ to cause large changes and confusion in a person's life *His sudden death turned her world upside down.*

what's more (conj) /wɒts 'mɔ:(r)/ used to add a point that is even more important *You're wrong, and, what's more, you know it!*

whereas (conj) /weə'æz/ used to compare or contrast two facts *Some of the studies show positive results, whereas others do not.*

while (conj) /waɪl/ during the time that sth is happening; used to contrast two things *While I was waiting at the bus stop, three buses went by in the opposite direction.*

Unit 2

a bit (adv) /ə 'bɪt/ rather; to a small degree *These trousers are a bit tight.*

a little (adv) /ə 'lɪtl/ rather; to a small degree *She seemed a little afraid of going inside.*

absolution (n) /ˌæbsə'lu:ʃn/ a formal statement that sb is forgiven for what he or she has done wrong *Some people might go to church and seek absolution.*

absolve (v) /əb'zɒlv/ to state formally that sb is not guilty or responsible for sth *The court absolved him of all responsibility for the accident.*

acquit (of charges) (v) /ə'kwɪt/ to decide and state officially in court that sb is not guilty of a crime *The jury acquitted him of murder.*

acquittal (n) /ə'kwɪtl/ an official decision in court that sb is not guilty of a crime *The case resulted in an acquittal.*

aggressively (adv) /ə'ɡresɪvli/ in a way that is angry and threatening *"What do you want?" he demanded aggressively.*

always (adv) /'ɔ:lweɪz/ at all times; on every occasion *There's always somebody at home in the evenings.*

annually (adv) /'ænjʊəli/ once a year *The exhibition is held annually.*

at the / that moment (adv) /ət ðə, ðæt 'məʊmənt/ at an exact point in time *We're busy at the moment.*

baffled (adj) /'bæfld/ completely confused by sth strange or difficult to understand *I'm baffled by her decision.*

barely (adv) /'beəli/ in a way that almost does not happen or exist *She barely acknowledged his presence.*

befuddled (adj) /bɪ'fʌldld/ confused and unable to think normally *He was befuddled by drink.*

bewildered (adj) /bɪ'wɪldəd/ confused *He turned around, with a bewildered look on his face.*

bow down to (idiom) /'baʊ daʊn tə/ to allow sb/sth to tell you what to do *The government should not bow down to pressure from any groups who advocate violence.*

buck the trend (idiom) /bʌk ðə 'trend/ to resist or oppose the general direction in which a situation is changing or developing *The company managed to buck the trend and increase profits this year.*

bury your head in the sand (idiom) /,beri jɔ: 'hed ɪn ðə 'sænd/ to refuse to admit that a problem exists or refuse to deal with it *We're massively in debt and burying your head in the sand won't help.*

calmly (adv) /'kɑ:mli/ in a way that shows you are not excited, nervous or upset *'I'll call the doctor,' he said calmly.*

clearly (adv) /'kliəli/ in a way that is easy to see or hear *It's difficult to see anything clearly in this mirror.*

concerned (adj) /kən'sɜ:nd/ worried and feeling concern about sth *The President is deeply concerned about this issue.*

confess (v) /kən'fes/ to admit, especially formally or to the police, that you have done sth wrong or illegal *After hours of questioning, the suspect confessed.*

confession (n) /kən'feʃn/ a statement that a person makes to admit that they are guilty of a crime; the act of making such a statement *After hours of questioning by police, she made a full confession.*

convict (of robbery / arson, etc.) (v) /kən'vɪkt/ to decide and state officially in court that sb is guilty of a crime *He was convicted of fraud.*

conviction (n) /kən'vɪkʃn/ the act of finding sb guilty of a crime in court; the fact of having been found guilty *She has six previous convictions for theft.*

creating mood and atmosphere /kri:etɪŋ ,mʌ:ɪd ən 'ætəmɔ:sfɪə(r)/ causing feelings or impressions associated with a particular place *This novelist excels in creating mood and atmosphere; I feel as if I'm walking through 19th-century London.*

daily (adv) /'deɪli/ happening, done or produced every day *The temperature was recorded daily.*

dazed (adj) /deɪzd/ unable to think clearly, especially because of a shock or because you have been hit on the head *Survivors waited for the rescue boats, dazed and frightened.*

defend (v) /dɪ'fend/ to say or write sth in support of sb/sth that has been criticized *He defended his decision to punish the boy.*

defendant (n) /dɪ'fendənt/ the person in a trial who is accused of committing a crime *Several witnesses gave evidence for the defendant.*

detain (for) (v) /dɪ'teɪn/ to keep sb in an official place, such as a police station, a prison or a hospital, and prevent them from leaving *One man has been detained for questioning.*

dismally (adv) /'dɪzməli/ in a way that causes or shows sadness *She shook her head dismally.*

disorientated (adj) /dɪs'ɔ:riəntətɪd/ unable to recognize where you are or where you should go *It is very easy to get lost or disorientated in a smoky atmosphere.*

distraught (adj) /dɪ'strɔ:t/ extremely upset and anxious so that you cannot think clearly *She's still too distraught to speak about the tragedy.*

even (adv) /'i:vən/ used to emphasize sth unexpected or surprising *It was cold there, even in summer.*

everywhere (adv) /'evriweə(r)/ in, to or at every place; all places *I've looked everywhere.*

exonerate (from / of) (v) /ɪg'zɒnəreɪt/ to officially state that sb is not responsible for sth that they have been blamed for *The police report exonerated Lewis from all charges of corruption.*

flustered (adj) /'flʌstəd/ nervous and/or confused, especially because you have a lot to do or are in a hurry *She arrived late, looking hot and flustered.*

follow sb's lead (idiom) /,fɒləʊ ,sʌmbədɪz 'li:d/ to use an example or action done by sb else as a guide to copy *If one bank raises interest rates, all the others will follow their lead.*

foreshadowing events /fɔ:ʃədəʊɪŋ i'vents/ giving signs of things that will happen in the future *The technique of foreshadowing events in the early chapters draws the reader in and encourages them to continue.*

fortunately (adv) /'fɔ:tʃənətli/ by good luck *I was late, but fortunately the meeting hadn't started.*

go against the grain (idiom) /gəʊ ə,ɡenst ðə 'ɡreɪn/ to be or do sth different from what is normal or natural *It really goes against the grain to have to work on a Sunday.*

go with the flow (idiom) /gəʊ wɪð ðə 'fləʊ/ to be relaxed and not worry about what you should do *There's no need to book any excursions before we get there – let's just go with the flow.*

greedily (adv) /'ɡri:dɪli/ in a way that shows that you want more money, power, food, etc. than you really need *She ate noisily and greedily.*

hardly (adv) /'hɑ:ɹdli/ almost no; almost not; almost none *We hardly know each other.*

hastily (adv) /'heɪstɪli/ very quickly, because you are in a hurry, especially when this has bad results *She hastily grabbed the pile of books from the desk, knocking over her coffee in the process.*

hopefully (adv) /'həʊpflɪ/ used to express what you hope will happen *Hopefully, we'll arrive before dark.*

immediately (adv) /ɪ'mi:diətli/ without delay *It was answered almost immediately.*

impatiently (adv) /ɪm'peɪʃntli/ in an annoyed or irritated way, especially because you have to wait for a long time *'Come on,' I said impatiently, 'we only have an hour until the tour starts!'*

implicate (in a robbery / attack etc.) (v) /'ɪmplɪkeɪt/ to show or suggest that sb is involved in sth bad or criminal *He tried to avoid saying anything that would implicate him further.*

incredibly (adv) /ɪn'kredəbɪli/ extremely *That was an incredibly stupid thing to do.*

incredulously (adv) /ɪn'kredjʊləsli/ in a way that shows you cannot believe sth *He laughed incredulously.*

indict (v) /ɪn'daɪt/ to officially charge sb with a crime *She was indicted on charges of corruption.*

indictment (n) /ɪn'daɪtmənt/ a written statement accusing sb of a crime *This led to his indictment on allegations of conspiracy.*

involved (adj) /ɪn'vɒlvd/ taking part in sth; being part of sth or connected with sth *Some people tried to stop the fight, but I didn't want to be involved.*

jeopardize (v) /'dʒəpədaɪz/ to risk harming or destroying sth/sb *He would never do anything to jeopardize his career.*

(in) jeopardy (idiom) /'dʒəpədi/ in a dangerous position or situation and likely to be lost or harmed *The future of the school and 50 jobs are in jeopardy.*

just (adv) /dʒʌst/ exactly; simply; only *There is just one method that might work.*

luckily (adv) /'lʌkɪli/ by good luck *Luckily, I'd remembered to put some boots in the car.*

naturally (adv) /'nætʃrəli/ in a relaxed and normal way; in a way that you would expect *Just act naturally and no one will suspect you.*

nearby (adv) /nɪə'baɪ/ a short distance from sb/sth; not far away *They live nearby.*

nearly (adv) /'nɪəli/ almost; not quite; not completely *I've worked here for nearly two years.*

only (adv) /'əʊnli/ nobody or nothing except; in no other situation, place, etc. *There are only a limited number of tickets available.*

penalize (v) /'pɪnəlaɪz/ to punish sb for breaking a rule or law by making them suffer a disadvantage *You will be penalized for poor spelling.*

penalty (n) /'penəlti/ a punishment for breaking a law, rule or contract *Assault carries a maximum penalty of seven years' imprisonment.*

plea (n) /pli:/ an urgent emotional request *He refused to listen to her tearful pleas.*

plead (v) /pli:d/ to state in court that you are guilty or not guilty of a crime *The accused was deemed unfit to plead.*

present (adj) /'preznt/ existing or happening now *You can't use it in its present condition.*

proper (adj) /'prɒpə(r)/ right, appropriate or correct; according to the rules *We should have had a proper discussion before voting.*

prosecute (v) /'prɒsɪkjʊt/ to officially charge sb with a crime in court *The police decided not to prosecute.*

prosecution (n) /,prɒsɪ'kju:ʃn/ a person or an organization that prosecutes sb in court, together with the lawyers, etc. *He was a witness for the prosecution.*

recently (adv) /'ri:ntli/ not long ago *We received a letter from him recently.*

relatively (adv) /'relətɪvli/ to a fairly large degree, especially in comparison to sth else *I found the test relatively easy.*

release (on bail) (v) /rɪ'li:z/ to let sb/sth come out of a place where they have been kept *They were released on police bail pending further enquiries.*

remand (in custody) (v) /rɪ'ma:nd/ to send sb away from a court to wait for their trial which will take place at a later date *The two men were charged with burglary and remanded in custody.*

responsible (adj) /rɪ'spɒnsəbl/ having the job or duty of doing sth or taking care of sb/sth, meaning that you may be blamed if sth goes wrong *Mike is responsible for designing the entire project.*

revealing character /rɪ'vi:lɪŋ 'kærəktə/ showing the qualities and features that make people different from each other *Revealing character through dialogue and action can be just as effective as the use of adjectives.*

sadly (adv) /'sædli/ unfortunately *Sadly, after eight years of marriage they had grown apart.*

seriously (adv) /'sɪəriəsli/ in a serious way; used at the beginning of a sentence to show a change from joking to being more serious *Seriously though, it could be really dangerous.*

spur (sb) into action (idiom) /spɜ:(r) ,ɪntu:'ækʃn/ to encourage sb to do sth or to encourage them to try harder to achieve sth *He's getting a new scooter if he passes his exams – that should spur him into action!*

step up to the mark (idiom) /step ʌp tə ðə 'mɑ:k/ to try harder in order to benefit from an opportunity or deal with a situation *After some indifferent performances, the team stepped up to the mark to finish second in their group.*

stumped (adj) /stʌmpt/ unable to answer a question or solve a problem *Farmers are aware of the problem, but are stumped by what to do about it.*

suddenly (adv) /'sʌdnli/ quickly and unexpectedly *I suddenly realized what I had to do.*

swiftly (adv) /'swɪftli/ quickly; after a very short time *She moved swiftly to the rescue.*

take (the) initiative (idiom) /teɪk (ði) 'ɪnɪʃətɪv/ to decide and act on your own without waiting for sb to tell you what to do *He took the initiative in asking the board to conduct an enquiry.*

testify (v) /'testɪfaɪ/ to make a statement that sth happened or that sth is true, especially as a witness in court *She refused to testify against her husband.*

testimony (n) /'testɪməni/ a formal written or spoken statement saying what you know to be true, usually in court *Her claim was supported by the testimony of several witnesses.*

turn a blind eye (idiom) /tɜ:n ə 'blaɪnd 'aɪ/ to pretend not to notice sth bad that is happening, so you do not have to do anything about it *The authorities were either unaware of the problem or they turned a blind eye to it.*

usually (adv) /'ju:ʒuəli/ in the way that is usual or normal; most often *I'm usually home by six o'clock.*

warily (adv) /'weəriəli/ carefully, because you think there may be a danger or problem or you do not trust sb/sth *The cat eyed the dog warily.*

Unit 3

account for (v) /ə'kaʊnt fə(r)/ to be the explanation or cause of sth *The poor weather may have accounted for the small crowd.*

arise (from) (v) /ə'raɪz/ (especially of a problem or a difficult situation) to happen; to start to exist *This article explores a question which has arisen from my professional experience.*

assembly line (n) /ə'sembli laɪn/ a line of workers and machines in a factory, along which a product passes, having parts made, put together or checked at each stage until the product is finished *Henry Ford introduced the first automobile assembly line in 1913.*

attribute to (v) /ə'trɪbjʊt tə/ to say or believe that sth is the result of a particular thing *She attributes her success to hard work and a little luck.*

boost productivity /bu:st ,prɒdʌk'tɪvəti/ to cause the rate at which goods are produced (and the amount produced) to increase *Some companies have found that allowing workers to listen to music boosts productivity.*

boost profits /bu:st 'prɒfɪts/ to cause an increase in the amount of money that you make in business after paying the costs involved *Unique products command higher prices and can immediately boost profits.*

boost sales /bu:st 'seɪlz/ to cause the number of items sold to increase *A film deal will usually boost sales of the book on which it is based.*

bring about (v) /brɪŋ ə'baʊt/ to make sth happen *What brought about the change in his attitude?*

comprehensive policy (n) /,kɒmpri'hensɪv 'pɒləsi/ a written statement of a contract of insurance that covers all the possible risks *As a new driver, you'd be well advised to take out a fully comprehensive policy.*

conduct a survey /kən,dʌkt ə 'sɜ:veɪ/ to carry out an investigation of the opinions, behaviour, etc. of a particular group of people, usually by asking questions *A nationally representative survey of the US population is conducted each year.*

conduct market analysis /kən,dʌkt ,mɑ:kɪt ə'næləsɪs/ to study closely the different areas, countries or sections of the population that might buy goods or services *It's important to conduct market analysis to establish the viability of a new product.*

conduct market research /kən,dʌkt ,mɑ:kɪt 'ri:sɜ:tʃ/ to collect information about what people buy and why *Failure to conduct market research is a costly mistake if the product proves unpopular.*

contactless card (n) /'kɒntæktləs kɑ:d/ a small plastic card which stores information electronically and can contact an electronic device to which it is not connected in order to make a payment *I can only use my contactless card up to £20, but it's useful when the cash machine is out of order.*

current account (n) /'kʌrənt ə'kaʊnt/ a type of bank account that you can take money out of at any time, and that provides you with a chequebook and cash card *Some banks charge a monthly fee for their current accounts in return for added features such as travel insurance.*

dip (v) /dɪp/ to go downwards or to a lower level *Sales for this quarter have dipped from 38.7 million to 33 million.*

direct debit (n) /dɪ'rekt, dɪ-, daɪ- 'deɪbɪt/ an instruction to your bank to allow sb else to take an amount of money from your account on a particular date, especially to pay bills *We pay all our bills by direct debit.*

escalate (v) /'eskəleɪt/ to become or make sth greater, worse, more serious, etc. *The fighting escalated into a full-scale war.*

ethos (n) /'i:θɒs/ the moral ideas and attitudes that belong to a particular group or society *Investing in arms companies is strongly against the group's ethos.*

flat-pack (v) /'flæt pæk/ to take sth apart in small pieces that need to be put together, e.g. furniture that is sold in pieces in a flat box and that you have to build yourself *This cabinet is solidly built and cannot be flat-packed.*

fluctuating (adj) /'flʌktʃueɪtɪŋ/ that changes frequently in size, amount, quality, etc., especially from one extreme to another *The documentary follows the fluctuating fortunes of a particular marketing company.*

forage (for sth) (v) /'fɒrɪdʒ/ to search for food *The female only leaves the young when she forages for food.*

fritter away (v) /'frɪtə ə'weɪ/ to waste time or money on things that are not important *He frittered away the millions his father had left him.*

gain access /geɪn 'ækses/ to obtain a way of entering a place or the right to use sth *Protesters tried to gain access to the palace.*

gain experience /geɪn ɪk'spiəriəns/ to obtain knowledge and skill through doing sth for a period of time *She has gained confidence and experience since last year's competition.*

gain market share /geɪn ,mɑ:kɪt 'ʃeə(ði)/ to increase the amount that a company sells of its products or services compared with other companies selling the same things *They gained market share in the last financial year and are now ranked in the top three in this field.*

generate (v) /'dʒenəreɪt/ to produce or create sth *We need someone to generate new ideas.*

give rise to (idiom) /gɪv 'raɪz tə/ to cause sth to happen or exist *Fraudulent insurance claims give rise to increasing premiums.*

gradual (adj) /'grædʒʊəl/ happening slowly over a long period; not sudden *Recovery from the disease is very gradual.*

happen (v) /'hæpən/ to take place, especially without being planned *You'll never guess what's happened!*

key indicator (n) /ki:'ɪndɪkeɪtə(r)/ an extremely important sign that sth will happen *One of the key indicators of happiness is a strong social network.*

launch a product /lɔ:ntʃ ə 'prɒdʌkt/ to make a product available to the public for the first time *Before launching a product, you should check the intended name in relevant languages to avoid embarrassing mistakes.*

launch an advertising campaign /lɔ:ntʃ ən 'ædvətaɪzɪŋ kæm'peɪn/ to start producing a series of adverts in connection with a particular product *Companies often used to launch an advertising campaign on TV, but use of online advertising is increasing.*

launch an investigation /lɔ:ntʃ ən ɪn'vestɪ'geɪʃn/ to start an official examination of the facts about a situation, crime, etc. *The police have launched an investigation into the accident.*

lead to (v) /li:d tə/ to have sth as a result *A reward was offered for any information that led to an arrest.*

liability (n) /laɪə'bɪləti/ the amount of money that a person or company owes *The company is reported to have liabilities of nearly \$90,000.*

line (of products / cosmetics / clothing) (n) /laɪn/ a type of product *We are starting a new line of casual clothing.*

live beyond your means (idiom) /lɪv bɪ,jɒnd jɔ:(r) 'mi:nz/ to spend more money than you have *After they'd lived beyond their means for the first two years of their marriage, they faced heavy debts.*

live on the breadline (idiom) /lɪv ɒn ðə 'bredlaɪn/ have the lowest level of income on which it is possible to survive *Many people without jobs are living on the breadline.*

loss leader (n) /'lɒs ,li:də(r)/ an item that a shop/store sells at a very low price to attract customers *The printer itself is a loss leader, but each new toner cartridge sold makes a healthy profit.*

make a deal /meɪk ə 'di:l/ to agree, especially in business, on particular conditions for buying or doing sth *The manager has made a deal with a catering company.*

make a loss /meɪk ə 'lɒs/ to lose money, especially in business *We made a significant loss on that last transaction.*

make a profit /meɪk ə 'prɒfɪt/ to make money in business, or by selling things, after paying the costs involved *The company made a healthy profit of \$106 million last year.*

manipulate data /mənɪpjuleɪt 'deɪtə/ to control or use information in a skilful way to find things out or to make decisions *They were found guilty of manipulating data to support their claim.*

manipulate our minds /mənɪpjuleɪt ə 'maɪndz/ to control or influence sb/sth, often in a dishonest way so that they do not realize it *Pop-up adverts online manipulate our minds when we're trying to focus on something entirely different.*

manipulate public opinion /mənɪpjuleɪt 'pʌblɪk ə'pɪnjən/ to control or influence the opinions that people in society have in a dishonest way so that they do not realize it *His emotional appeal was carefully calculated to manipulate public opinion.*

(branded / counterfeit / official) merchandise (n) /'mɜːtʃəndaɪz/ goods that are bought or sold; goods that are for sale in a shop/store *You can buy official merchandise wherever you see this logo.*

moderate (adj) /'mɒdərət/ that is neither very good, large, hot, etc. nor very bad, small, cold, etc. *The team enjoyed only moderate success last season.*

no-claims bonus (n) /nəʊ 'kleɪmz ,bəʊnəs/ a reduction in the cost of your insurance because you made no claims in the previous year *Don't make a very small claim because you'll lose your no-claims bonus and that could cost you more in the long run.*

(retail / fast-food / local) outlet (n) /'aʊtlet/ a shop/store or an organization that sells goods made by a particular company or of a particular type *The business has thirty-four retail outlets in this state alone.*

outstrip inflation /aʊtstri:p ɪn'fleɪʃn/ to be faster than the general rise in the prices of services and goods in a particular country *House prices in the south-east continue to outstrip inflation.*

outstrip rivals /aʊtstri:p 'raɪvlz/ to be faster, better or more successful than sb you are competing against *Their latest computer outstrips all its rivals.*

outstrip supply /aʊtstri:p sə'plaɪ/ to be greater than the amount available *Demand is outstripping supply.*

perpetuate (v) /pə'petʃueɪt/ to make sth such as a bad situation, a belief, etc. continue for a long time *This new law just serves to perpetuate inequality.*

pipe dream (n) /'paɪp dri:m/ a hope or plan that is impossible to achieve or not practical *Without a boat mechanic, the idea of running fishing tours was just a pipe dream.*

plummet (v) /'plʌmɪt/ to fall suddenly and quickly from a high level or position *Share prices plummeted to an all-time low.*

point-of-sale (terminal / advertising / display) (n) /'pɔɪnt əv 'seɪl/ the place where a product is sold *More information on healthy foods should be provided at the point-of-sale display.*

pop-up (shop / restaurant / gallery) (adj) /'pɒp ʌp/ that opens quickly somewhere and is designed to only use that location for a short period of time *The airline opened a pop-up shop to promote its winter sale.*

(be) poverty-stricken (adj) /'pɒvəti ,stri:kɪn/ extremely poor; with very little money *He came from a poverty-stricken family in turn-of-the-century Brooklyn.*

premium (n) /'pri:mɪəm/ an amount of money that you pay once or regularly for an insurance policy *It's an annual policy, but I only pay eleven monthly premiums as the last month is free.*

result (in / from) (v) /rɪ'zʌlt/ to make sth happen *The cyclone has resulted in many thousands of deaths.*

rocket (v) /'rɒkɪt/ to increase very quickly and suddenly *The total has rocketed from 376 to 532.*

seconds (n) /'sekəndz/ items sold at a lower price than usual because they are not perfect *We used to get seconds from a biscuit factory – OK, so they were broken, but they tasted the same.*

self-sufficient (adj) /self sə'sɪfɪnt/ able to do or produce everything that you need without the help of other people *The country is totally self-sufficient in food production.*

set up a company /set ʌp ə 'kʌmpəni/ to create or start a business that makes money by producing or selling goods or services *She set up a company buying and selling antiques online.*

set up a display /set ʌp ə dɪ'spleɪ/ to build an arrangement of things in a public place to inform or entertain people or advertise sth for sale *Some of us needed to arrive early for the conference to set up a display.*

set up an advertising agency /set ʌp ən 'ædvətaɪzɪŋ ,eɪdʒənsi/ to create or start a business that provides a service designing and producing adverts on behalf of other companies *He works as a photographer for an advertising agency.*

sharp (adj) /ʃɑ:p/ sudden and rapid, especially of a change in sth *The director was forced to report a sharp decline in profits.*

significant (adj) /sɪg'nɪfɪkənt/ large or important enough to have an effect or to be noticed *There are no significant differences between the two groups of students.*

slump (v) /slʌmp/ to fall in price, value, number, etc., suddenly and by a large amount *Sales have slumped this year.*

soar (v) /sɔ:(r)/ rise very quickly *Unemployment has soared to 18%.*

sort code (n) /'sɔ:t kəʊd/ a number that is used to identify a particular bank *That's your account number, but I'll also need your six-digit sort code, please.*

splash out on (v) /splæʃ 'aʊt ɒn/ to spend a lot of money on sth *He splashed out hundreds of pounds on designer clothes.*

squander (v) /'skwɒndə(r)/ to waste money, time, etc. in a stupid or careless way *She squandered her chances of winning.*

stable (adj) /'steɪbl/ firmly fixed; not likely to move, change or fail *The situation in the country has remained relatively stable for a few months now.*

standing order (n) /'stændɪŋ 'ɔ:də(r)/ an instruction that you give your bank to pay sb a fixed amount of money from your account on the same day each week/month, etc. *If you support charities by standing order, you'll never forget to donate.*

steady (adj) /'stedi/ developing, growing, etc. gradually and in an even and regular way *We are making slow but steady progress.*

(be) strapped for cash (adj) /stræpt fə 'kæʃ/ having little or not enough money *I'm strapped for cash at the moment – can I pay you later?*

struggle to make ends meet (idiom) /'strʌgl tə ,meɪk endz 'mi:t/ to try very hard and find it difficult to earn just enough money to buy the things you need *For years, she struggled to make ends meet.*

(energy / equipment / major) supplier (n) /sə'plaɪə(r)/ a person or company that supplies goods *You will need to be able to deal with both customers and suppliers.*

surge (v) /sɜ:dʒ/ to move quickly and with force in a particular direction *The gates opened and the crowd surged forward.*

third-party (adj) /'θɜ:ɪd ,pɑ:ti/ relating to or involving insurance that pays sb who is affected by your actions *Third-party insurance will only protect you if you damage someone else's car – not your own.*

trappings (of success / power / wealth) (n) /'træpɪŋz/ the possessions, clothes, etc. that are connected with a particular situation, job or social position *They enjoyed all the trappings of wealth.*

trigger (v) /'trɪgə(r)/ to make sth happen suddenly *A wide range of emotionally stressful events may trigger a relapse.*

tumble (v) /'tʌmbəl/ to fall suddenly and in a dramatic way *World records tumbled at the last Olympics.*

volatile (adj) /'vɒlətaɪl/ likely to change suddenly; easily becoming dangerous *Exporting the product was difficult due to a volatile exchange rate.*

Unit 4

accomplish (v) /ə'kʌmplɪʃ/ to succeed in doing or completing sth *I don't feel I've accomplished very much today.*

agile (adj) /'ædʒaɪl/ able to think quickly and in an intelligent way *Her agile mind continues to lead her to new discoveries.*

agility (n) /ə'dʒɪləti/ the ability to think quickly and in an intelligent way *You have three minutes to complete this test of mental agility.*

analogous (adj) /ə'næləgəs/ similar in some way to another thing or situation and therefore able to be compared with it *The national debt is analogous with private debt.*

analogy (n) /ə'nælədʒi/ a comparison of one thing with another thing that has similar features; a feature that is similar *The teacher drew an analogy between the human heart and a pump.*

aptitude (n) /'æptɪtju:d/ natural ability or skill at doing sth *His aptitude for dealing with children got him the job.*

articulate (adj) /ɑ:'tɪkjələt/ good at expressing ideas or feelings clearly in words *He was unusually articulate for a ten-year-old.*

ascertain (v) /,æse'teɪn/ to find out the true or correct information about sth *It can be difficult to ascertain the facts.*

attribute to (v) /ə'trɪbjʊt tə/ to say or believe that sth is the result of a particular thing *She attributes her success to hard work and a little luck.*

bilious (adj) /'bɪliəs/ bad-tempered; full of anger *He couldn't cope with criticism of his work and died a friendless and bilious old man.*

brain-teaser (n) /'breɪn ,tɪzə(r)/ a problem that is difficult but fun to solve *There were some real brain-teasers in the quiz.*

brainchild (n) /'breɪntʃɪld/ an idea or invention of one person or a small group of people *That programme was the brainchild of a young producer who's new to TV.*

brainwash (v) /'breɪnwɒʃ/ to force sb to accept your ideas or beliefs, for example by repeating the same thing many times or by preventing the person from thinking clearly *They were brainwashed into believing that their leader was all-powerful.*

brainwave (n) /'breɪnweɪv/ a sudden good idea *I've had a brainwave!*

brogue (n) /brəʊg/ the accent that sb has when they are speaking, especially the accent of Irish or Scottish speakers of English *The heaviness of a brogue depends on the origin of the speaker and whether English was his or her first language.*

carry out (v) /'kæri aʊt/ to do and complete a task *Extensive tests have been carried out on the patient.*

cease (v) /si:z/ to stop doing sth *The company ceased trading in June.*

clear up (v) /kɪə 'ʌp/ to solve or explain sth *Oh, I see – thanks for clearing up that little mystery!*

collaborate (v) /kə'læbəreɪt/ to work together with sb in order to produce or achieve sth *Researchers around the world are collaborating to develop a new vaccine.*

commemorate (v) /kə'meməreɪt/ to exist to remind people of a person or an event from the past *A plaque commemorates the battle.*

comprise (v) /kəm'praɪz/ to be the parts or members that form sth *Older people comprise a large proportion of those living in poverty.*

conduct (v) /kən'dʌkt/ to organize and/or do a particular activity *The negotiations have been conducted in a positive manner.*

conquer (v) /'kɒŋkə(r)/ to succeed in dealing with or controlling sth *The only way to conquer a fear is to face it.*

contradiction (n) /,kɒntrə'dɪkʃn/ a lack of agreement between facts, opinions, actions, etc. *There is a contradiction between the two sets of figures.*

contradictory (adj) /kɒntrə'dɪktəri/ containing or showing a contradiction *We are faced with two apparently contradictory statements.*

correspondence (n) /ˌkɒrə'spɒndəns/ a connection between two things; the fact of two things being similar *There is a close correspondence between the two extracts.*

corresponding (adj) /ˌkɒrə'spɒndɪŋ/ matching or connected with sth that you have just mentioned *Profits have risen by 15% compared with the corresponding period last year.*

croon (v) /kruːn/ to sing, especially familiar songs, in an exaggeratedly sentimental way *Bobby Darin was crooning 'Dream Lover'.*

curiosity (n) /ˌkjʊəri'ɒsəti/ a strong desire to know about sth *Children show curiosity about everything.*

curious (adj) /'kjʊəriəs/ having a strong desire to know about sth *They were very curious about the people who lived upstairs.*

deductive (adj) /dɪ'dʌktɪv/ using knowledge about things that are generally true in order to think about and understand particular situations or problems *A deductive approach to research is aimed at testing theory.*

dexterity (n) /ˈdek'stɪərəti/ skill in using your hands or your mind *You need manual dexterity to be good at video games.*

dexterous (adj) /'dekstrəs/ skilful with your hands *Even at seventy-five, my grandfather had the dexterous hands of a skilled craftsman.*

diligence (n) /'dɪlɪdʒəns/ careful and thorough work or effort *She shows great diligence in her schoolwork.*

diligent (adj) /'dɪlɪdʒənt/ showing care and effort in your work or duties *He was always a diligent student and I can highly recommend him for this position.*

discern (v) /dɪ'sɜːn/ to see or hear sth, usually with difficulty *We could just discern the house in the distance.*

discerning (adj) /dɪ'sɜːnɪŋ/ able to show good judgement about the quality of sb/sth *The discerning customer will recognize this as a high-quality product.*

disparate (adj) /'dɪspərət/ made up of parts or people that are very different from each other *This machine can keep the disparate parts of the system coordinated.*

disparity (n) /dɪ'spærəti/ a difference, especially one connected with unfair treatment *The minister acknowledged the growing regional disparities in economic prosperity.*

divergence (n) /dɪ'vɜːdʒəns/ the process or fact of separating or becoming different *There are divergences between the legal systems of the two countries.*

divergent (adj) /dɪ'vɜːdʒənt/ developing or moving in different directions; becoming less similar *The two scientists have followed divergent paths since the 1990s.*

eloquent (adj) /'eləkwənt/ able to use language and express your opinions well, especially when you are speaking in public *She was an eloquent speaker, with a beautiful voice.*

find out (v) /faɪnd 'aʊt/ to get some information about sth/sb by asking, reading, etc. *He'd been seeing her for a while, but didn't want his parents to find out.*

get over (v) /get ə'ʊvə(r)/ to deal with or gain control of sth *She can't get over her shyness.*

give up (v) /gɪv 'ʌp/ to stop trying to do sth *They gave up protesting when more police arrived.*

gutter (n) /'gʌtə(r)/ the bad social conditions or low moral standards sometimes connected with the lowest level of society *She rose from the gutter to become a great star.*

have a jaw (idiom) /hæv ə 'dʒɔː/ have a chat *Grandad, do you know the expression 'have a jaw'? I mean, does anyone still use it?*

hold up (v) /həʊld 'ʌp/ to delay or block the movement or progress of sb/sth *An accident is holding up traffic.*

homogeneity (n) /ˌhɒmədʒə'niːəti/ the quality of being homogeneous *Cultural homogeneity is created by education and the media.*

homogeneous (adj) /ˌhɒmə'dʒiːniəs, hə'mɒdʒənəs/ consisting of things or people that are all the same or all of the same type *Old people are not a homogeneous group, as some people seem to think.*

impede (v) /ɪm'piːd/ to delay or stop the progress of sth *Work on the building was impeded by severe weather.*

impressionable (adj) /ɪm'preʃənəbl/ easily influenced or affected by sb/sth *He was a bad influence on the child, who was at an impressionable age.*

incarnate (adj) /ɪn'kɑːnət/ in human form *The leader seemed to be the devil incarnate.*

ingenious (adj) /ɪn'dʒiːniəs/ very suitable for a particular purpose and resulting from clever new ideas *His plots are always very ingenious.*

ingenuity (n) /ˌɪndʒə'njuːəti/ the ability to invent things or solve problems in clever new ways *The problem tested the ingenuity of even the most imaginative students.*

inquiring (adj) /ɪn'kwɑːrɪŋ/ showing an interest in learning new things *An enquiring mind is always a sign of intelligence.*

install (v) /ɪn'stɔːl/ to fix equipment or furniture into position so that it can be used *The hotel chain has recently installed a new booking system.*

integrity (n) /ɪn'teɡrəti/ the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles *She questioned his integrity as a councillor.*

interchange (n) /ɪntətʃeɪndʒ/ the act of sharing or exchanging sth, especially ideas or information *The annual conference serves as a useful interchange of ideas.*

interchangeable (adj) /ɪntətʃeɪndʒəbl/ that can be exchanged, especially without affecting the way in which sth works *The two words are virtually interchangeable.*

introspective (adj) /ɪntrə'spektɪv/ tending to think a lot about your own thoughts, feelings, etc. *There were a lot of family problems and Jim became increasingly introspective.*

intuitive (adj) /ɪn'tjuːɪtɪv/ obtained by using your feelings rather than by considering the facts *He had an intuitive sense of what the reader wanted.*

kerbstone (adj) /'kɜːbstəʊn/ unsophisticated, without training or experience *I'm not going to take any notice of a review written by an unknown kerbstone critic.*

make up (v) /meɪk 'ʌp/ to form sth *Women make up 56% of the student numbers.*

make out (v) /meɪk 'aʊt/ to manage to see sb/sth or read or hear sth *I could just make out a figure in the darkness.*

memorize (v) /'meməraɪz/ to learn sth carefully so that you can remember it exactly *Please memorize your PIN immediately.*

methodical (adj) /mə'thɒdɪkəl/ done in a careful and logical way *She is very slow but methodical in her work.*

modest (adj) /'mɒdɪst/ not talking much about your own abilities or possessions *She's very modest about her success.*

modesty (n) /'mɒdəsti/ the fact of not talking much about your abilities or possessions *He accepted the award with characteristic modesty.*

observant (adj) /əb'zɜːvənt/ good at noticing things around you *She keeps an observant eye on developments in education.*

pass on (v) /pɑːs 'ɒn/ to give sth to sb else, especially after receiving it or using it yourself *Pass the book on to me when you've finished with it.*

pick sb's brains (idiom) /pɪk sʌmbədɪz 'breɪnz/ to ask sb a lot of questions about sth because they know more about the subject than you do *You're good at geography – can I pick your brains about this assignment?*

pin on (idiom) /pɪn 'ɒn/ to make sb be blamed for sth, especially for sth they did not do *You can't pin this one on me—I wasn't even there!*

pull off (v) /pʊl 'ɒf/ to succeed in doing sth difficult *I never thought you'd pull it off.*

put up (v) /pʊt 'ʌp/ to build sth or place sth somewhere *The council have put up a statue to commemorate the mining industry that shaped the town.*

rack your brains (idiom) /ræk jɔː(r) 'breɪnz/ to think very hard or for a long time about sth *She racked her brains, trying to remember exactly what she had said.*

recall (v) /rɪ'kɔːl/ to remember sth *If I recall correctly, he lives in Luton.*

receptive (adj) /rɪ'septɪv/ willing to listen to or to accept new ideas or suggestions *She was always receptive to new ideas.*

recite (v) /rɪ'saɪt/ to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. that you have learned, especially to an audience *Each child had to recite a poem to the class.*

recollect (v) /ˌrekeɪ'lekt/ to remember sth, especially by making an effort to remember it *She could no longer recollect the details of the letter.*

reel off (v) /riːl 'ɒf/ to say or repeat sth quickly without having to stop or think about it *He immediately reeled off several names.*

reflect (on) (v) /rɪ'flekt/ to think carefully and deeply about sth *She was left to reflect on the implications of her decision.*

remember (v) /rɪ'membə(r)/ to have or keep an image in your memory of an event, a person, a place, etc. from the past *I don't remember my first day at school.*

remind (v) /rɪ'maɪnd/ to help sb remember sth, especially sth important that they must do *Remind me to phone Alan before I go out.*

reminisce (v) /ˌremɪ'nɪs/ to think, talk or write about a happy time in your past *We spent a happy evening reminiscing about primary school.*

resolve (v) /rɪ'zɒlv/ to find an acceptable solution to a problem or difficulty *Attempts are being made to resolve the problem of security in schools.*

revolutionize (v) /ˌrevə'ljuːʃənəɪz/ to completely change the way that sth is done *Aerial photography has revolutionized the study of archaeology.*

scatterbrained (adj) /'skætəbreɪnd/ always losing or forgetting things and unable to think in an organized way *She's so scatterbrained that she didn't think to call and ask him.*

self-aware (adj) /self ə'weə(r)/ having or showing knowledge and understanding of your own character *He was sufficiently self-aware to recognize the cause of his problems.*

sociable (adj) /'səʊʃəbl/ enjoying spending time with other people *I'm not feeling very sociable this evening.*

team up (with) (v) /tiːm ʌp/ to join with another person or group in order to do sth together *I usually work alone, but I teamed up with Jenna to do this project.*

the brains behind (idiom) /ðə 'breɪnz bɪ,haɪnd/ the person who is responsible for thinking of and organizing sth *The band's drummer is the brains behind their latest venture.*

transmit (v) /trænz'mɪt/ to send an electronic signal, radio or television broadcast, etc. *The ceremony was transmitted live by satellite to over fifty countries.*

turn around (v) /tɜːn ə'raʊnd/ to make sth start being successful after it has been unsuccessful for a time *The directors implemented a five-year plan to turn around the business after dismal results.*

upstart (n) /'ʌpstɑːt/ person who has just started in a new position or job but who behaves as if they are more important than other people, in a way that is annoying *That upstart thinks he knows everything!*

variance (n) /'veəriəns/ the amount by which sth changes or is different from sth else *The state of the economy explains the variance in political trust and approval.*

varied (adj) /'veərɪd/ of many different types *They offer a varied programme of entertainment.*

visionary (adj) /'vɪʒənəri/ original and showing the ability to think about or plan the future with great imagination and intelligence *She proved to be an exceptional manager and a visionary leader.*

worship (n) /'wɜːʃɪp/ the practice of showing respect for God or a god, by saying prayers, singing with others, etc. *15% of the population attend a place of worship.*

Unit 5

(be) a long way off (idiom) /ə ˌlɒŋ weɪ ˈɒf/ at a long distance away or long period of time in the future *September was a long way off.*

absolute (adj) /ˈæbsəlu:t/ total and complete *'You're wrong,' she said with absolute certainty.*

accelerate (v) /ək'seləreɪt/ to start to go faster *The car accelerated to overtake me.*

advance (v) /əd'vɑ:ns/ to move forward towards sb/sth, often in order to attack or threaten them or it *They had advanced twenty miles by nightfall.*

alternate (adj) /ɔ:l'tɜ:nət/ happening or following one after the other regularly *Stretch up thirty times with alternate arms as a warm-up exercise.*

alternative (adj) /ɔ:l'tɜ:nətɪv/ that can be used instead of sth else *Do you have an alternative solution?*

the Antipodes (n) /ði æn'tɪpədi:z/ a way of referring to Australia and New Zealand *She was heading across the southern Indian Ocean towards the Antipodes.*

backdrop (n) /'bækdrɒp/ the general conditions in which an event takes place, which sometimes help to explain that event *It was against this backdrop of racial tension that the civil war began.*

chief /tʃi:f/ (adj) most important *Her chief rival for the gold medal is Jones of the USA.*

chug (v) /tʃʌg/ to move making the sound of an engine running slowly *The train chugged steadily along the West Highland Line.*

collide (with) (v) /kə'laɪd/ to crash into another person or vehicle, etc. *As he fell, his head collided with the table.*

come a long way (idiom) /kʌm ə ˌlɒŋ 'weɪ/ to have made a lot of progress *We've come a long way since the early days of the project.*

complete with (adj) /kəm'pli:t wɪð/ including sth as an extra part or feature *The book, complete with CD, costs £35.*

compulsive (adj) /kəm'pʌlsɪv/ that makes you pay attention to it because it is so interesting and exciting *The programme made compulsive viewing.*

compulsory (adj) /kəm'pʌlsəri/ that must be done because of a law or a rule *English is a compulsory subject at this level.*

crackdown (n) /'krækdaʊn/ severe action taken to restrict the activities of criminals or of people opposed to the government or sb in authority *The government has ordered a crackdown on truancy.*

crash into (v) /kɹæʃ ɪn'tu:z/ to hit an object or another vehicle, causing damage *A truck went out of control and crashed into the back of a bus.*

creep (v) /kri:p/ to move slowly, quietly and carefully, because you do not want to be seen or heard *I crept up the stairs, trying not to wake my parents.*

definite (adj) /'defɪnət/ sure or certain; unlikely to change *Can you give me a definite answer by tomorrow?*

definitive (adj) /dɪ'fɪnətɪv/ considered to be the best of its kind and almost impossible to improve *This is the definitive biography of Einstein.*

downfall (n) /'daʊnfɔ:l/ the loss of sb's money, power, social position, etc.; the thing that causes this loss *Greed was her downfall.*

downpour (n) /'daʊnpɔ:(r)/ a heavy fall of rain that often starts suddenly *We got caught in a torrential downpour.*

economic (adj) /i:kə'nɒmɪk, ˌekə'-/ connected with the trade, industry and development of wealth of a country, an area or a society *Economic growth was fastest in Japan.*

economical (adj) /i:kə'nɒmɪkəl, ˌekə'-/ providing good service or value in relation to the amount of time or money spent *It would be more economical to buy the bigger size.*

equator (n) /ɪ'kwetə(r)/ an imaginary line around the earth at an equal distance from the North and South Poles *The island is twenty degrees south of the equator.*

entire (adj) /ɪn'taɪə(r)/ including everything, everyone or every part *The entire village was destroyed.*

exact (adj) /ɪg'zækt/ correct in every detail *She gave an exact description of the attacker.*

extreme (adj) /ɪk'stri:m/ not ordinary or usual; serious or severe *Children will be removed from their parents only in extreme circumstances.*

foremost (adj) /'fɔ:məʊst/ the most important or famous; in a position at the front *This question has been foremost in our minds recently.*

further down the road (idiom) /'fɜ:də daʊn ðə ˌrəʊd/ at some time in the future *There are certain to be more job losses further down the road.*

glide (v) /ɡlaɪd/ to move smoothly and quietly, especially as though it takes no effort *The skaters were gliding over the ice.*

gross (adj) /ɡrɔ:s/ very obvious and unacceptable *It was a gross miscarriage of justice.*

hemisphere (n) /'hemɪsfɪə(r)/ one half of the earth, especially the half above or below the equator *In the northern hemisphere, December is a winter month.*

historic (adj) /hɪ'stɔ:rɪk/ important in history; likely to be thought of as important at some time in the future *The party has won a historic victory at the polls.*

historical (adj) /hɪ'stɔ:rɪkəl/ connected with the past *You must place these events in their historical context.*

hit head-on (idiom) /hɪt ˌhed ˈɒn/ to collide in such a way that the front part of one vehicle goes into the front part of another vehicle or thing *The cars hit head-on.*

hit the road (idiom) /hɪt ðə ˌrəʊd/ to start a journey/trip *Our flight leaves just before midday – we should hit the road.*

hold-up (n) /'həʊld ʌp/ a situation in which sth is prevented from happening for a short time *We should finish by tonight, barring hold-ups.*

hurtle (v) /'hɜ:tl/ to move very fast in a particular direction *A runaway car came hurtling towards us.*

jackknife (v) /'dʒæk naɪf/ (of an articulated vehicle) bend into a V-shape in an uncontrolled skidding movement *The motorway was closed for several hours after a huge lorry jackknifed across all three lanes.*

latitude (n) /'lætɪtju:d/ the distance of a place north or south of the equator, measured in degrees *The sun is directly overhead at noon at this latitude.*

let-down (n) /'let daʊn/ sth that is disappointing because it is not as good as you expected it to be *The London exhibition was a bit of a let-down.*

longitude (n) /'lɒŋɡɪtju:d/ the distance of a place east or west of the Greenwich meridian, measured in degrees *The town is at longitude twenty-eight degrees west.*

lose track of (idiom) /lu:z ˈtræk əv/ to not have information about what is happening or where sb/sth is *I lost all track of time.*

main (adj) /meɪn/ being the largest or most important of its kind *Be careful crossing the main road.*

major (adj) /'meɪdʒə(r)/ very large or important *We have encountered major problems.*

make your way (into) (idiom) /'meɪk jɔ:(r) weɪ/ to move or get somewhere; to make progress *The blues eventually made its way into different kinds of music.*

notable (adj) /'nəʊtəbl/ deserving to be noticed or to receive attention; important *His eyes are his most notable feature.*

noticeable (adj) /'nəʊtɪsəbl/ easy to see or notice; clear or definite *Her scars are hardly noticeable now.*

(be) on the right track (idiom) /bɪn ðə ˌraɪt ˈtræk/ to think or behave in the right way *We haven't found a cure yet – but we are on the right track.*

(be) on the road (idiom) /bɪn ðə ˌrəʊd/ travelling, especially for long distances or periods of time *The band has been on the road for six months.*

only (adj) /əʊnli/ used to say that no other or others of the same group exist or are there *She's their only daughter.*

outbreak (n) /'aʊtbreɪk/ the sudden start of sth unpleasant, especially violence or a disease *Outbreaks of rain are expected in the afternoon.*

outcome (n) /'aʊtkʌm/ the result or effect of an action or event *We are waiting to hear the final outcome of the negotiations.*

outlook (n) /'aʊtlʊk/ the probable future for sb/sth; what is likely to happen *The outlook for jobs is bleak.*

overshoot (v) /əʊʊə'ʃu:t/ to go further than the place you intended to stop or turn *The aircraft overshoot the runway.*

the Pacific Rim (n) /ðə pə'sɪfɪk ˈrɪm/ the countries around the Pacific Ocean, especially the countries of eastern Asia, considered as an economic group *He was promoted to Regional Sales Director for the Pacific Rim.*

parallel (n) /'pærəlel/ an imaginary line around the earth that is always the same distance from the equator; this line on a map *The Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn are the parallels which form the boundaries of the hottest part of the world.*

(our) paths cross (idiom) /pə:ðz ˈkrɒs/ meet by chance *Our paths were to cross again many years later.*

prime meridian (n) /praɪm mə'rɪdiən/ a line of longitude at which longitude is defined as zero degrees *The Royal Observatory is the home of Greenwich Mean Time and the prime meridian of the world.*

principal (adj) /'prɪnsəpl/ most important; main *The principal reason for this omission is lack of time.*

prowl (v) /praʊl/ to move quietly and carefully around an area, especially with the intention of committing a crime *A man was seen prowling around outside the factory just before the fire started.*

pull up (v) /pʊl ʌp/ to stop *He pulled up at the traffic lights.*

real (adj) /ri:əl/ actually existing or happening and not imagined or pretended *It wasn't a ghost; it was a real person.*

run-up (n) /'rʌn ʌp/ a period of time leading up to an important event; the preparation for this *The shops are fully stocked for the Christmas run-up.*

setback (n) /'setbæk/ a difficulty or problem that delays or prevents sth, or makes a situation worse *The team suffered a major setback when their best player was injured.*

shatter (v) /'ʃætə(r)/ to make sth suddenly break into small pieces *Windows were shattered in the blast.*

shed its load (v) /ʃed ɪts ˈləʊd/ (of a vehicle) to lose or drop what it is carrying *The traffic jam was caused by a lorry shedding its load.*

sheer /ʃiə(r)/ used to emphasize the size, degree or amount of sth *The area is under threat from the sheer number of tourists using it.*

skid (v) /skɪd/ to slide sideways or forwards in an uncontrolled way *The car skidded on the ice and went straight into the wall.*

smash into (v) /'smæʃ ɪntə, ɪntu:z/ to move with a lot of force against sth solid *The car smashed into a tree.*

smooth the path (for) (idiom) /smu:ð ðə ˈpɑ:θ/ to make it easier for sb/sth to develop or make progress *These negotiations are intended to smooth the path for the emergence of a peace treaty.*

sole (adj) /səʊl/ only; single *My sole reason for coming here was to see you.*

specific (adj) /spə'sɪfɪk/ detailed and exact *I gave you specific instructions.*

stop dead in your tracks (idiom) /stɒp ˌded ɪn jɔ:(r) ˈtræks/ to suddenly stop because sth has frightened or surprised you *The sight made him stop dead in his tracks.*

stride (v) /straɪd/ to walk with long steps in a particular direction *She came striding along to meet me.*

stroll (v) /strɔ:l/ to walk somewhere in a slow relaxed way *People were strolling along the beach.*

the Subcontinent (n) /ðə ˌsʌb'kɒntɪnənt/ a large land mass that forms part of a continent, especially the part of Asia that includes India, Pakistan and Bangladesh *Large areas of the Subcontinent have been badly affected by recent flooding.*

swerve (v) /swɜ:v/ to change direction suddenly, especially in order to avoid hitting sb/sth *He swerved sharply to avoid a cyclist.*

technical (adj) /'teknɪkl/ connected with the practical use of machinery, methods, etc. in science and industry *We offer free technical support for those buying our software.*

technological (adj) /,teknə'lɒdʒɪkl/ connected with technology *Wireless computing was a major technological breakthrough.*

(reach) the end of the road (idiom) /di'end əv ðə 'rəʊd/ the point at which sth can no longer continue in the same way *Last year's champions reached the end of the road with a defeat in the second round.*

total (adj) /'təʊtl/ including everything *The evening was a total disaster.*

tropic (n) /'trɒpɪk/ one of the two imaginary lines drawn around the world 23° 26' north or south of the equator *The temperature is high between the tropics because the sun is high in the sky, causing intense convection of rising air.*

upbringing (n) /'ʌpbriŋɪŋ/ the way in which a child is cared for and taught how to behave while it is growing up *Her upbringing had given her the social skills to cope with such situations.*

uprising (n) /'ʌpraɪzɪŋ/ a situation in which a group of people join together in order to fight against the people who are in power *He led an armed uprising against the government.*

utter (adj) /'ʌtə(r)/ used to emphasize how complete sth is *To my utter amazement, she agreed.*

veer (v) /viə(r)/ to change direction suddenly *It is still not clear why the missile veered off course.*

washout (n) /'wɒʃaʊt/ an event, etc. that is a complete failure, especially because of rain *They feared that the wedding was going to be a washout after torrential rain.*

write off (v) /raɪt 'ɒf/ to damage sth, especially a vehicle, so badly that it cannot be repaired *He's written off two cars this year.*

Unit 6

all-consuming (work / passion / state) (adj) /,ɔ:l kən'sju:mɪŋ/ taking up all of your time or energy *I could never understand his all-consuming passion for collecting stamps.*

amity (n) /'æməti/ a friendly relationship between people or countries *The purpose of the treaty is to help the two countries develop amity.*

(be) at sb's beck and call (idiom) /ət ,sæmbədɪz ,bek ən 'kɔ:l/ always ready to obey sb's orders *She is constantly at the beck and call of her invalid father.*

betray the cause (idiom) /bɪ'treɪ ðə 'kɔ:z/ to ignore or turn against the principle or belief that you had previously supported in order to achieve sth or gain an advantage for yourself *Voters turned to the Communist party when they felt Labour had betrayed the socialist cause.*

compromise (n) /'kɒmpromaɪz/ an agreement made between two people or groups in which each side gives up some of the things they want so that both sides are happy at the end *In any relationship, you have to make compromises.*

contract (n) /'kɒntrækt/ an official written agreement *Under the terms of the contract the job should have been finished yesterday.*

deposit (n) /dɪ'pɒzɪt/ a sum of money that is given as the first part of a larger payment *We've put down a 5% deposit on a house.*

devotion (n) /dɪ'vəʊʃn/ great love, care and support for sb/sth *His devotion to his wife and family is touching.*

drive a wedge between (people) (idiom) /,draɪv ə wedʒ bɪ'twi:n ,pi:pl/ to make people start disliking each other *I don't want to drive a wedge between the two of you.*

drum up support (idiom) /,drʌm ʌp sə'pɔ:t/ to try hard to get e.g. support or business *He had flown to the north of the country to drum up support for the campaign.*

estate agent (n) /'ɪsteɪt ,eɪdʒənt/ a person whose job is to sell houses and land for people *The estate agent came out to measure and value our house.*

euphoria (n) /ju:'fɔ:riə/ an extremely strong feeling of happiness and excitement that usually lasts only a short time *I was in a state of euphoria all day.*

feel-good (movie / story / factor) (adj) /'fi:l gud/ making you feel happy and pleased about life *After the recession, people were waiting for the return of the feel-good factor before starting to spend money again.*

get on each other's nerves (idiom) /,get ɒn i:tʃ ,ʌðəz 'nɜ:vz/ to annoy each other *We often end up getting on each other's nerves, but we never talk about the real reason.*

get on like a house on fire (idiom) /,get ,ɒn laɪk ə 'haʊs ɒn ,faɪə(r)/ to become friends quickly and have a very friendly relationship *They only met a few weeks ago, but they get on like a house on fire.*

have a change of heart (idiom) /hæv ə ,tʃeɪndʒ əv 'hɑ:t/ to have a change of attitude towards sth/sb, usually making you feel more friendly, helpful, etc. *Dan did not want to get married, but recently he's had a change of heart.*

have a soft spot for sb (idiom) /hæv ə 'sɒft spɒt fə ,sæmbədi/ to like sb *She's always had a soft spot for you.*

have an old head on young shoulders (idiom) /hæv ən ,əʊld hed ɒn ,jʌŋ 'ʃəʊldəz/ used to describe a young person who thinks and acts in a more sensible way than you would expect for a person of their age *That's a very mature comment – you have an old head on young shoulders.*

have somebody to lean on (idiom) /hæv ,sæmbədi tə 'li:n ɒn/ to have sb on whom you can depend for help and support *We all have to have somebody to lean on in times of trouble.*

hotly disputed (subject / theory / claim) (adj) /'hɒtli dɪ ,spju:tɪd/ that is argued about in an angry or excited way or with a lot of strong feeling *He refuses to release the legal advice on which he based his hotly disputed claim.*

infatuation (n) /ɪn ,fætʃu'eɪʃn/ very strong feelings of love or attraction for sb/sth, especially when these are unreasonable and do not last long *It isn't love – it's just a passing infatuation.*

keep your head (idiom) /,ki:p jɔ:(r) 'hed/ to remain calm in a difficult situation *The police are on their way – keep your head and don't make any sudden movements.*

landlord (n) /'lændlərd/ a person or company from whom you rent a room, a house, an office, etc. *The house has an absentee landlord who visits the property once a year.*

lease (n) /li:s/ a legal agreement that allows you to use a building, a piece of equipment or some land for a period of time, usually in return for rent *Under the terms of the lease, you have to pay maintenance charges.*

letting agent (n) /'letɪŋ ,eɪdʒənt/ a person whose job is to manage your affairs when sb pays money to live in your house for a period of time *If you want the house to earn money while you're abroad, you'll need someone to act as your letting agent.*

level-headed (adj) /,levl 'hedɪd/ calm and sensible; able to make good decisions even in difficult situations *This position requires a level-headed person with experience in managing risk.*

live in each other's pockets (idiom) /,lɪv ɪn i:tʃ ,ʌðəz 'pɒkɪts/ used to refer to two people who are too close to each other or spend too much time with each other *Problems can arise when young couples can't find work and they live in each other's pockets all day.*

long-lasting (battery / effect / relationship) (adj) /,lɒŋ 'lɑ:stɪŋ/ that can or does last for a long time *Events like these have such long-lasting effects.*

long-term (objective / prognosis / employment) (adj) /,lɒŋ tɜ:m/ that will last or have an effect over a long period of time *The company's long-term objectives include greater market share.*

loyalty (n) /'lɔ:lti/ the quality of being faithful in your support of sb/sth *Can I count on your loyalty?*

mania (n) /'meɪniə/ an extremely strong desire or enthusiasm for sth, often shared by a lot of people at the same time *Football mania is sweeping the country.*

mortgage (n) /'mɔ:ɡɪdʒ/ a legal agreement by which a bank or similar organization lends you money to buy a house, etc., and you pay the money back over a particular number of years; the sum of money that you borrow *He didn't earn enough to support his family and pay the mortgage.*

much-respected (idea / person / type of love) (adj) /'mʌtʃ ri ,spektɪd/ admired or held in very high opinion *She was a modest woman of high morals and a much-respected person in the community.*

narcissism (n) /'nɑ:sɪsɪzəm/ the habit of admiring yourself too much, especially your appearance *The performance was dominated by the preening narcissism of the group's lead singer.*

not have the heart to (idiom) /,nɒt hæv ðə 'hɑ:t tə/ to be unable to do sth because you know that it will make sb sad or upset *He's recently lost his mother, so I don't have the heart to tell him it's over between us just yet.*

notice (n) /'nəʊtɪs/ a formal letter or statement saying that you will or must leave your job or house at the end of a particular period of time *Tenants must give written notice to the landlord of their intention to move out of the property.*

pledge allegiance /pledʒ ə'li:dʒəns/ to formally promise continued support for a political party, religion, ruler, etc. *The bill would require schoolchildren to pledge allegiance to the flag.*

rally the troops (idiom) /,ræli ðə 'tru:ps/ to bring people together in order to help or support sb/sth *The team captain vainly tried to rally his troops.*

rent (n) /rent/ an amount of money that you regularly pay so that you can use a house, etc. *How much rent do you pay for this place?*

rose-tinted (glasses / lens / view) /'rəʊz ,tɪntɪd/ used to describe an idea or a way of looking at a situation as being better or more positive than it really is *He tends to view the world through rose-tinted glasses.*

rout (the enemy) (v) /raʊt/ to defeat your opponents completely in a competition, a battle, etc. *The massed army of conscripts had been enough to rout the enemy.*

sack (a town) (v) /sæk/ to destroy things and steal property in a town or building *The army rebelled and sacked the palace.*

seven-year (itch / campaign / romance) (adj) /'sevn jɜ:(r)/ occurring after seven years *Their marriage ended when they both succumbed to the seven-year itch to seek new partners.*

take sth to heart (idiom) /teɪk ,sæmθɪŋ tə 'hɑ:t/ to be very upset by sth that sb says or does *You shouldn't take everything he says to heart.*

tenant (n) /'tenənt/ a person who pays rent for the use of a room, building, land, etc. to the person who owns it *They had evicted their tenants for non-payment of rent.*

trigger revolt /,trɪgə rɪ'vɒlt/ to cause a protest against authority, especially that of a government, to happen suddenly and often involving violence *Historians have identified a number of factors that triggered revolt amongst the peasants in the fourteenth century.*

use your head (idiom) /,ju:z jɔ:(r) 'hed/ used to tell sb to think about sth, especially when they have asked for your opinion or said sth stupid *'Why don't you want to see him again?' 'Oh, use your head!'*

wage war /weɪdʒ 'wɔ:(r)/ to begin and continue a war, a battle, etc. *He made the decision to wage war.*

wear your heart on your sleeve (idiom) /weə jɔ:(r) ,hɑ:t ɒn jɔ:(r) 'sli:v/ to allow your feelings to be seen by other people *You're not one to wear your heart on your sleeve.*

wrap sb round your little finger (idiom) /ræp ,sæmbədi raʊnd jɔ: ,lɪtl 'fɪŋgə(r)/ to persuade sb to do anything that you want *She has always been able to wrap her parents round her little finger.*

Unit 7

ambling (adj) /'æmbliŋ/ at a slow relaxed speed *This track has an ambling melody and a hint of reggae.*

anti-Semitic (adj) /,ænti sə'mɪtɪk/ that shows hatred of Jews or involves the unfair treatment of Jews *Police investigated the attack as a possible anti-Semitic crime.*

back the wrong horse (idiom) /,bæk ðə ,rɒŋ 'hɔ:s/ to support sb/sth that is not successful *He isn't going to win this election – we've backed the wrong horse.*

backdrop (n) /'bækdɒp/ everything seen around an event that is taking place, but which is not part of that event *The mountains provided a dramatic backdrop for our picnic.*

bark up the wrong tree (idiom) /,bɑ:k ʌp ðə ,rɒŋ 'tri:/ to have the wrong idea about how to get or achieve sth *You're barking up the wrong tree if you're expecting us to lend you any money.*

bitterly disappointed (adj) /,bɪtəli dɪsə'pɔɪntɪd/ extremely upset because sth you hoped for has not happened or been as good, successful, etc. as you expected *They were bitterly disappointed at the result of the game.*

brilliantly conceived (adj) /'brɪljəntli kən,sɪ:vɔ/ planned or thought through in your mind in an extremely successful way *The plan was brilliantly conceived.*

brisk (adj) /brɪsk/ quick; busy *We went for a brisk walk before lunch.*

brush stroke (n) /'brʌʃ streɪk/ a mark made by moving a brush once across a surface *The artist has used tiny brush strokes.*

building block (n) /'bɪldɪŋ blɒk/ a piece of wood or plastic used as a toy for children to build things with; parts that are joined together in order to make a large thing exist *Single words are the building blocks of language.*

by the back door (idiom) /baɪ ðə ,bæk 'dɔ:(r)/ in an unfair or indirect way *He used his friends to help him get into the civil service by the back door.*

canvas (n) /'kænvəs/ a piece of strong heavy rough material used for making tents, sails, etc. and by artists for painting on *Traditionally tents were made of canvas, but lighter weight materials are often now used.*

captivating (adj) /'kæptɪveɪtɪŋ/ taking all your attention; very attractive and interesting *He found her captivating.*

catchy (adj) /'kætʃi/ pleasing and easily remembered *Successful songs at the Eurovision Song Contest generally have catchy tunes.*

come up against a brick wall (idiom) /,kʌm ʌp ə ,ɡenst ə ,brɪk 'wɔ:l/ to become unable to make any progress because there is a difficulty that stops you *I approached several companies to back the project, but I kept coming up against a brick wall.*

comprehensible (adj) /,kɒmpri'hensəbl/ that can be understood by sb *The instructions should be easily comprehensible to parents.*

conventional (adj) /kən'venʃənəl/ following what is traditional or the way sth has been done for a long time *You can use a microwave or cook it in a conventional oven.*

dreary (adj) /'driəri/ that makes you feel sad; dull and not interesting *He didn't want to go back to his dreary little bedsit.*

drive sb up the wall (idiom) /draɪv ,sʌmbədi ,ʌp ðə 'wɔ:l/ make sb crazy or angry *That noise is driving me up the wall.*

dull (adj) /dʌl/ not interesting or exciting *The first half of the game was pretty dull.*

eagerly anticipated (adj) /,i:ɡəli æn'tɪsɪpeɪtɪd/ that sb looks forward to with great interest, pleasure and excitement *The birth of the royal baby was eagerly anticipated.*

elaborate (adj) /ɪ'læbəreɪt/ very complicated and detailed; carefully prepared and organized *She had prepared a very elaborate meal.*

enchanting (adj) /ɪn'tʃɑ:ntɪŋ/ attractive and pleasing *What an enchanting little town!*

enthusiastically received (adj) /ɪn.θju:zɪ,æstɪkli rɪ'sɪ:vɔ/ that produces a very positive reaction showing a lot of excitement and interest *His new play was enthusiastically received by the critics.*

ethereal (adj) /i'θɪəriəl/ extremely delicate and light; seeming to belong to another, more spiritual, world *In a translucent sky, the domes and spires of the city looked almost ethereal.*

evocative (adj) /ɪ'vɒkətɪv/ making you think of or remember a strong image or feeling, in a pleasant way *Her new book is wonderfully evocative of village life.*

fascinating (adj) /'fæsɪneɪtɪŋ/ extremely interesting and attractive *Your trip to Alaska sounds absolutely fascinating.*

forefront (n) /'fɔ:frʌnt/ important or leading position in a particular group or activity *The new product took the company to the forefront of the computer software field.*

frenetic (adj) /frə'netɪk/ involving a lot of energy and activity in a way that is not organized *Liverpool scored two goals in a frenetic final six minutes.*

genre (n) /'ʒɒnrə/ a particular type or style of literature, art, film or music that you can recognize because of its special features *Crime fiction is a genre which seems likely to remain popular.*

get off on the wrong foot (idiom) /get ,ɒf ɒn ðə ,rɒŋ 'fʊt/ to start a relationship badly with colleagues, neighbours, etc.; to start from an incorrect idea *I seem to have got off on the wrong foot with the new boss.*

glass ceiling (idiom) /gla:s 'sɪ:lɪŋ/ the way in which unfair attitudes can stop women, or other groups, from getting the best jobs in a company, etc. although there are no official rules to prevent them from getting these jobs *She progressed through the ranks to middle management, but then seemed to hit the glass ceiling.*

highbrow (adj) /'haɪbrəʊ/ concerned with or interested in serious artistic or cultural ideas *Highbrow critics generally disapprove of this type of novel.*

highly controversial (adj) /,haɪli ,kɒntrə'vɜ:ʃl/ causing a great deal of angry public discussion and disagreement *His highly controversial new play sparked a riot outside the theatre.*

hit the nail on the head (idiom) /,hɪt ðə ,neɪl ɒn ðə 'hed/ to say sth that is exactly right *Yes, you've hit the nail on the head – that is indeed the problem, but how can we fix it?*

hit the roof (idiom) /hɪt ðə 'ru:f/ to become very angry *Dad hit the roof when I took the car without permission.*

highly influential (adj) /,hɪju:ɪdʒli ɪnflu'enʃl/ having a great deal of influence on sb/sth *It was a highly influential work in shaping modern music.*

immediately obvious (adj) /ɪ,mɪ:diətli 'ɒbvɪəs/ easy to see or understand without delay *It was immediately obvious that the bag was too heavy.*

impenetrable (adj) /ɪm'penɪtrəbl/ impossible to understand *I find his style somewhat impenetrable.*

intellectual (adj) /ɪntə'lektʃʊəl/ connected with or using a person's ability to think in a logical way and understand things; well educated and enjoying activities in which you have to think seriously about things *I don't think he has the intellectual skills necessary to study at this level.*

intensely private (adj) /ɪn,tensli 'praɪvət/ never wanting to share thoughts and feelings with other people at all *You won't get an interview with her – she's an intensely private person.*

intricate (adj) /ɪn'trɪkət/ having a lot of different parts and small details that fit together *The building has intricate geometric designs on several of the walls.*

intriguing (adj) /ɪn'trɪ:ɡɪŋ/ very interesting because of being unusual or not having an obvious answer *These discoveries raise intriguing questions.*

jarring (adj) /'dʒɑ:ɪŋ/ having an unpleasant or annoying effect *There was a jarring note of triumph in his voice.*

jaunty (adj) /'dʒɔ:nti/ lively; showing that you are feeling confident and pleased with yourself *I remember our old milkman – always whistling and with his cap at a jaunty angle.*

lavishly decorated (adj) /,lævɪʃli 'dekəreɪtɪd/ made to look attractive by putting generous amounts of decorations on it *The room was lavishly decorated with tinsel and holly.*

lay the foundations (idiom) /,leɪ ðə faʊn'deɪʃnz/ to put forward a principle or an idea on which sth is based and from which it grows *They had laid the foundations for future development.*

lilting (adj) /'lɪlɪŋ/ rising and falling in a pleasant way *She had a light Scottish accent with a characteristic lilting tone.*

lowbrow (adj) /'ləʊbrəʊ/ having no connection with or interest in serious artistic or cultural ideas *He has very lowbrow tastes.*

medium (n) /'mi:diəm/ the material or the form that an artist, a writer or a musician uses *Watercolour is her favourite medium.*

mellow (adj) /'meləʊ/ soft, rich and pleasant *Mellow music and lighting helped to create the right atmosphere.*

menacing (adj) /'menəsɪŋ/ seeming likely to cause you harm or danger *At night, the dark streets become menacing.*

monorail (n) /'mɒnəreɪl/ a railway system in which trains travel along a track consisting of a single rail, usually one placed high above the ground *Although expensive to build, a monorail has one of the best chances of all transit modes of making a profit in the long run.*

motif (n) /məʊ'ti:f/ a design or a pattern used as a decoration that is repeated and developed in a work of art, literature or music *The rug was decorated with a simple flower motif.*

multifaceted (adj) /,mʌlti'fæstɪd/ having many different aspects to be considered *To solve this kind of multifaceted problem, we need a team of experts in their field.*

multifarious (adj) /mʌlti'feəriəs/ of many different kinds; having great variety *Diving allows the breathtaking experience of seeing the multifarious life forms in a coral reef.*

offensive (adj) /ə'fensɪv/ rude in a way that causes you to feel upset, insulted or annoyed *The programme contains language which some viewers may find offensive.*

open doors (idiom) /,əʊpən 'dɔ:z/ to provide opportunities for sb to do sth and be successful *An excellent degree will open doors for you in the very best companies.*

overrated (adj) /,əʊvə'reɪtɪd/ that is too highly thought of or valued *There is nothing original about his writing and I believe it is overrated.*

palette (n) /'pælət/ the colours used by a particular artist *Greens and browns are typical of Ribera's palette.*

peculiar (adj) /pɪ'kju:liə(r)/ belonging or relating to one particular place, situation, person, etc., and not to others; strange or unusual *He has his own peculiar style which you'll soon get used to.*

perspective (n) /pə'spektɪv/ the art of creating an effect of depth and distance in a picture by representing people and things that are far away as being smaller than those that are nearer the front *The artist plays with perspective to confuse the eye.*

post-industrial (adj) /'pəʊst ɪn,dʌstriəl/ no longer relying on heavy industry *In a post-industrial society, service industries create more wealth than manufacturing.*

post-war (adj) /'pəʊst ,wɔ:(r)/ existing, happening or made in the period after a war, especially the Second World War *The post-war era saw major reforms in welfare.*

predate (v) /,pri:'deɪt/ to be built or formed, or to happen, at an earlier date than sth else in the past *Very few of the town's fine buildings predate the earthquake of 1755.*

primitive (adj) /'prɪmətɪv/ very simple and old-fashioned *The methods of communication used during the war were primitive by today's standards.*

pro-democratic (adj) /,prəʊ demə'krætɪk/ in favour of a system where a country is controlled by representatives who are elected by the people *Despite heavy pressure, the troubled region remains staunchly pro-democratic.*

profoundly moving (adj) /prə'faʊndli 'mu:vɪŋ/ causing very deep feelings of sadness or sympathy *It's a profoundly moving story of love and friendship through times of great sorrow.*

provocative (adj) /prə'vɒkətɪv/ intended to make people angry or upset; intended to make people argue about sth *The book's epilogue is deliberately provocative.*

raucous (adj) /'rɔːkəs/ sounding loud and rough *They grew more and more raucous as the evening went on.*

repellent (adj) /rɪ'pelənt/ very unpleasant; causing strong dislike *I found the pictures repellent.*

silhouette (n) /ˌsɪlu'et/ a picture that shows sb/sth as a black shape against a light background, especially one that shows the side view of a person's face *I could see its black silhouette against the evening sky.*

simply enchanting (adj) /ˌsɪmpli ɪn'tʃɑːntɪŋ/ very attractive or pleasing, especially in a natural way *What a simply enchanting little town!*

sluggish (adj) /'slʌɡɪʃ/ moving, reacting or working more slowly than normal and in a way that seems lazy *The growth of the export market has helped to compensate for sluggish demand at home.*

soothing (adj) /'suːðɪŋ/ that makes sb who is anxious, upset, etc. feel calmer *It is well documented that music can have a soothing effect.*

soppy (adj) /'sɒpi/ silly and sentimental; full of unnecessary emotion *She loves watching soppy romances.*

(be) spot on (idiom) /spɒt 'ɒn/ exactly right *His assessment of the situation was spot on.*

strike the right note (idiom) /ˌstraɪk ðə ˌraɪt 'nəʊt/ to do, say or write sth that is suitable for a particular occasion *It is a bizarre tale and the author strikes just the right note of horror and disbelief.*

subway (n) /'sʌbweɪ/ a path that goes under a road, etc. which people can use to cross to the other side; an underground railway system in a city *He ran through the pedestrian subway.*

superstructure (n) /'suːpəstrʌktʃə(r)/ a structure that is built on top of sth, for example, the upper parts of a ship or the part of a building above the ground *This superstructure is a stunning new urban landmark.*

surging (adj) /'sɜːdʒɪŋ/ moving quickly and with force in a particular direction *He struggled in vain to swim against the surging tide.*

swallow your words (idiom) /ˌswɒləʊ ɟɔː(r) 'wɜːdz/ to admit that what you said was wrong *You'll swallow your words when you see how successful it is.*

theme (n) /θiːm/ the subject or main idea in a talk, piece of writing or work of art *North American literature is the main theme of this year's festival.*

thundering (adj) /'θʌndərɪŋ/ making a very loud deep noise *The village is a quiet backwater away from the thundering traffic.*

tone (n) /təʊn/ a shade of a colour *Dark, rich tones will absorb light to make a room look smaller.*

transparent (adj) /trænz'pærənt/ easy to understand *They ensured that the plans were transparent at every stage.*

underachiever (n) /ˌʌndəʃɪvə(r)/ a person who does less well than they could do, especially in school work *Einstein was a notorious underachiever as a child.*

uninspiring (adj) /ˌʌnɪn'spaɪərɪŋ/ not making people interested or excited *The view from the window was uninspiring.*

unobtrusive (adj) /ˌʌnəb'truːsɪv/ not attracting unnecessary attention *The service at the hotel is efficient and unobtrusive.*

utterly appalled (adj) /ˌʌtəli ə'pɔːld/ totally horrified by sth unpleasant or wrong *I am utterly appalled by the illegal persecution of endangered species.*

whimsical (adj) /'wɪmzɪkl/ unusual and not serious in a way that is either amusing or annoying *Much of his writing has a whimsical quality.*

(be / fall) wide of the mark (idiom) /ˌwaɪd əv ðə 'mɑːk/ not accurate *Their predictions turned out to be wide of the mark.*

Unit 8

(be) a no-brainer (n) /ə ˌnəʊ ˌbreɪnə(r)/ a decision or a problem that you do not need to think about much because it is obvious what you should do *The question of who to support in this election should be a no-brainer.*

(be) a storm in a teacup (idiom) /ə ˌstɔːm ɪn ə ˈtiːkʌp/ a lot of anger or worry about sth that is not important *They'll forget about it soon – it's just a storm in a teacup.*

abundant (adj) /ə ˌbʌndənt/ existing in large quantities; more than enough *Fish are abundant in the lake.*

acute (adj) /ə ˈkjuːt/ very serious or severe *He was suffering from acute chest pains.*

alleviate (pressure / suffering / a shortage) (v) /ə ˈliːviət/ to make sth less severe *Building a new hospital would alleviate pressure on the older building, which is now too small for the city's needs.*

antisocial (adj) /ˌæntɪ'səʊʃl/ harmful or annoying to other people, or to society in general *Their antisocial behaviour drove the other residents to make a complaint.*

assert (v) /ə ˈsɜːt/ to state clearly and firmly that sth is true *She continued to assert that she was innocent.*

building site (n) /ˌbɪldɪŋ saɪt/ an area of land where sth is being built *Tidy your room – it looks like a building site!*

chaotic (adj) /keɪˈɒtɪk/ in a state of complete confusion and lack of order *The traffic in the city is chaotic in the rush hour.*

city dweller (n) /ˌsɪti ˌdwelə(r)/ sb who lives in a city *85% of city dwellers breathe heavily polluted air.*

commence (v) /kə ˈmens/ to begin to happen; to begin sth *The meeting is scheduled to commence at noon.*

congested thoroughfare (n) /kɒn ˌdʒestɪd ˈθʌrəʊfeə(r)/ crowded public street used by traffic, especially a main road in a city *If these plans are approved, one of the city's most congested thoroughfares will turn into a pedestrian zone.*

(a)n political / economic / humanitarian crisis (n) /ˌkrɪsɪs/ a time of great danger, difficulty or confusion when problems must be solved or important decisions must be made *It is hoped that his resignation will end the latest political crisis in the country.*

desist (v) /dɪˈzɪst, -sɪst/ to stop doing sth *They agreed to desist from the bombing campaign.*

elicit (v) /ɪˈlɪsɪt/ to get information or a reaction from sb, often with difficulty *I could elicit no response from him.*

emigrant (n) /ˈemɪɡrənt/ a person who leaves their country to live in another *During the reign of Charles I there was a flood of emigrants to North America.*

endeavour (v) /enˈdevə(r)/ to try very hard to do sth *I will endeavour to do my best for my country.*

fall into the trap (of doing sth) (idiom) /ˈfɔːl ˌɪntə ðə ˌtræp/ to do sth that is a mistake but which seems at first to be a good idea *Parents often fall into the trap of trying to do everything for their children.*

fasten (v) /ˈfɑːsn/ to fix or place sth in a particular position, so that it will not move *She fastened the rope to a tree.*

fight an uphill battle (idiom) /faɪt ən ʌpˌhɪl ˈbætl/ to take part in a struggle or argument that is difficult to win and takes a lot of effort over a long period of time *He's fighting an uphill battle to be fit in time for the championships.*

have the upper hand (idiom) /hæv ðɪ ˌʌpə ˈhænd/ to have an advantage over sb so that you are in control of a particular situation *Moving quickly across the country, the king's forces soon had the upper hand.*

human (adj) /ˈhjuːmən/ of or connected with people rather than animals, machines or gods *The hostages were used as a human shield.*

humane (adj) /hjuːˈmeɪn/ showing kindness towards people and animals by making sure that they do not suffer more than is necessary *Campaigners claim that the animals are not being kept in humane conditions.*

illicit (adj) /ɪˈlɪsɪt/ not allowed by the law *The global illicit trade in endangered species is ravaging the world's biodiversity.*

immigrant (n) /ˈɪmɪɡrənt/ a person who has come to live permanently in a country that is not their own *European immigrants settled much of Australia.*

impoverished (adj) /ɪmˈpɒvərɪʃt/ very poor; without money *The story is about two impoverished students who decide to hitchhike to the festival.*

inflict (v) /ɪnˈflɪkt/ to make sb/sth suffer sth unpleasant *They inflicted a humiliating defeat on the home team.*

migrant (n) /ˈmaɪɡrənt/ a person who moves from one place to another, especially in order to find work *It is estimated that seasonal migrants make up 70% of the labour force.*

panacea (n) /ˌpænəˈsiːə/ sth that will solve all the problems of a particular situation *There is no single panacea for the problem of unemployment.*

(a)n possible / potential / obvious pitfall (n) /ˈpɪtfɔːl/ a danger or difficulty, especially one that is hidden or not obvious at first *We need to be alert to potential pitfalls.*

(a) desperate / sad / tragic plight (n) /plaɪt/ a difficult and sad situation *The African elephant is in a desperate plight.*

principal (adj) /ˈprɪnsɪpl/ most important; main *Tourist revenue is now our principal source of wealth.*

principle (n) /ˈprɪnsɪpl/ a moral rule or a strong belief that influences your actions *Stick to your principles and tell him you won't do it.*

quick fix (n) /kwɪk ˈfɪks/ a rapid solution to a problem, especially an easy or temporary one *There is no quick fix for the steel industry.*

remedy (n) /ˈremədi/ a way of dealing with or improving an unpleasant or difficult situation *There are a number of possible remedies to this problem.*

resolve (a dispute / crisis / situation) (v) /rɪˈzɒlv/ to find an acceptable solution to a problem or difficulty *We hope that the dispute can be resolved peacefully.*

scarce (adj) /skeəs/ that there is not enough of and that is only available in small quantities *Details of the accident are scarce.*

seize (v) /siːz/ to take sb/sth in your hand suddenly and using force *She tried to seize the gun from him.*

sewage system (n) /ˈsuːɪdʒ ˌsɪstəm/ the connected pipes for carrying away used water and waste substances that are produced by human bodies *Without a sewage system in place, many fear that water supplies will become polluted in the camp.*

slum tenement (n) /ˌslʌm ˌtenəmənt/ a large building divided into flats/apartments, in a very poor area of a city *Martin Luther King moved into a slum tenement to draw attention to the living conditions of the poor.*

squalid (adj) /ˈskwɒlɪd/ very dirty and unpleasant *The dogs were being kept in squalid conditions described as 'the worst ever seen' by the officer who rescued them.*

stand-alone building (n) /ˈstænd ə ˌləʊn ˌbɪldɪŋ/ building that is not joined to any others *Our architecture projects range from stand-alone buildings to house extensions and the remodelling of interiors.*

stark (adj) /stɑːk/ very different to sth in a way that is easy to see *The good weather was in stark contrast to the storms of previous weeks.*

tackle (crime / an issue / a challenge) (v) /ˈtækəl/ to make a determined effort to deal with a difficult problem or situation *The government is determined to tackle inflation.*

take the bull by the horns (idiom) /teɪk ðə ˌbʊl baɪ ðə ˈhɔːnz/ to face a difficult or dangerous situation directly and with courage *Nora decided to take the bull by the horns and organize things for herself.*

throw cold water on sth (idiom) /θrəʊ ˌkəʊld ˈwɔːtə ɒn ˌʃʌmθɪŋ/ to give reasons for not being in favour of sth; to criticize sth *She immediately threw cold water on his plans to expand the business.*

unprecedented (adj) /ʌn'presɪdntɪd/ that has never happened, been done or been known before *There were unprecedented scenes of violence in the city's main square.*

unsociable (adj) /ʌn'səʊfəbl/ not enjoying the company of other people; not friendly *I was feeling very unsociable, so I didn't go to the party.*

unsocial (adj) /ʌn'səʊʃl/ outside the normal times of working *She works long and unsocial hours.*

(be) up in arms about/over (idiom) /ʌp ɪn 'ɑ:mz ə,baʊt, ,əʊvə(r)/ to be very angry about sth and ready to protest strongly about it *Everyone was up in arms about the increase in tuition fees.*

urban infrastructure (n) /ˌɜ:bən 'ɪnfɹəstrʌktʃə/ the basic systems and services that are necessary for a town or city to run smoothly, for example buildings, transport and water and power supplies *Improvements in urban infrastructure are essential to keep pace with a growing population.*

yield (v) /jɪld/ to stop resisting sth/sb; to agree to do sth that you do not want to do *He reluctantly yielded to their demands.*

Unit 9

a level playing field (idiom) /ə ,levl 'pleɪɪŋ fi:ld/ a situation in which everyone has the same opportunities *It is argued that this type of education system creates a level playing field.*

a race against time (idiom) /ə ,reɪs ə,geɪnst 'taɪm/ a situation in which you have to do sth or finish sth very fast before it is too late *Getting food to the starving refugees is now a race against time.*

a slave to (idiom) /ə 'sleɪv tə/ sb who is so strongly influenced by sth that they cannot live without it or cannot make their own decisions *Sue's a slave to fashion.*

across the board (idiom) /ə,kros ðə 'bɔ:d/ involving everyone or everything in a company, an industry, etc. *The industry needs more investment across the board.*

addiction (to) (n) /ə'dɪkʃn/ condition of being addicted to sth harmful *She has an addiction to TV game shows.*

adrenaline junkie (n) /ə'drenəɪn ,dʒʌŋki/ sb who craves, and cannot exist without, the feeling of excitement when your heart beats faster and your energy levels increase *He's a complete adrenaline junkie – extreme sports are a normal way of life for him.*

aficionado (n) /ə,fɪ'ʃə:nə:dəʊ/ sb who likes a particular sport, activity or subject very much and knows a lot about it *This coffee is regarded by aficionados as one of the world's finest.*

agonizing (adj) /'æɡənaɪzɪŋ/ causing great pain, anxiety or difficulty *It was the most agonizing decision of her life.*

ailing (adj) /'eɪɪŋ/ ill/sick and not improving; having problems and getting weaker *She looked after her ailing father.*

anguish (n) /'æŋɡwɪʃ/ severe pain, mental suffering or unhappiness *He groaned in anguish.*

association (with) (n) /ə,səʊʃi'eɪʃn, -si'eɪʃn/ a connection or relationship between people or organizations *They have maintained a close association with a college in the US.*

aversion (to) (n) /ə'veɜ:ʃn/ a strong feeling of not liking sb/sth *He had an aversion to getting up early.*

chronic (adj) /'krɒnɪk/ lasting for a long time; difficult to cure or get rid of *She suffered with chronic arthritis.*

compulsion (n) /kəm'pʌlʃn/ a strong desire to do sth, often sth that others feel is wrong, silly or dangerous *He felt a great compulsion to tell her everything.*

conformity (with) (n) /kən'fɔ:məti/ behaviour or actions that follow the accepted rules of society *The procedure is in strict conformity with standard international practices.*

crumb of comfort (idiom) /,krʌm əv 'kʌmfət/ sth very small that helps you not to worry or suffer quite as much *The government's only crumb of comfort is that their opponents are as confused as they are.*

deficiency (n) /dɪ'fɪʃnsi/ the state of not having, or not having enough of, sth that is essential *Vitamin deficiency in the diet can cause illness.*

dependence (on) (n) /drɪ'pendəns/ the state of needing the help and support of sb/sth in order to survive or be successful *The government wants to reduce industry's dependence on coal.*

depletion (n) /dɪ'pli:ʃn/ the reduction of sth by a large amount so that there is not enough left *This campaign highlights the causes for the depletion of the ozone layer.*

devotee (n) /,devə'ti:z/ a person who admires and is very enthusiastic about sb/sth *He's been a golf devotee for twenty-five years.*

diagnosis (n) /,dɪəg'nəʊsɪs/ the act of discovering or identifying the exact cause of an illness or a problem *They are waiting for the doctor's diagnosis.*

endemic (adj) /en'demɪk/ regularly found in a particular place or among a particular group of people and difficult to get rid of *Malaria is endemic in many hot countries.*

exhaustion (n) /ɪɡ'zɔ:stʃən/ the state of being very tired *Her face was grey with exhaustion.*

fatigue (n) /fə'ti:g/ a feeling of being extremely tired, usually because of hard work or exercise *Driver fatigue was to blame for the accident.*

fixation (with) (n) /fɪk'seɪʃn/ a very strong interest in sb/sth, that is not normal or natural *He's got this fixation with cleanliness.*

fortitude (n) /'fɔ:tɪtju:d/ courage shown by sb who is suffering great pain or facing great difficulties *She endured her illness with great fortitude.*

get your fix (idiom) /,get ʃɔ:(r) 'fɪks/ get an amount of sth that you need and want frequently, especially a drug, but also informally sth that is done to excess, e.g. watching television *I have to get my fix of coffee before I can face the day.*

give or take (idiom) /'gɪv ɔ:(r) ,teɪk/ approximately correct *It'll take about three weeks, give or take a day or so.*

go cold turkey (idiom) /gəʊ ,kəʊld 'tɜ:kɪ/ stop taking a drug in a sudden way that produces an unpleasant state *Some say addicts will never quit unless they go cold turkey, but others claim there are more effective solutions.*

grain of truth (idiom) /,greɪn əv 'tru:θ/ a very small amount of truth *There's a grain of truth in that argument.*

handicap (n) /'hændɪkæp/ sth that makes it difficult for sb to do sth *In a job like this, lack of experience is no real handicap.*

have a weakness for sth (idiom) /hæv ə 'wi:kneɪs fə ,sʌmθɪŋ/ have difficulty in resisting sth/sb that you like very much *He has a weakness for chocolate.*

hurdle (n) /'hɜ:dl/ a problem or difficulty that must be solved or dealt with before you can achieve sth *The next hurdle will be getting her parents' agreement.*

in round numbers (idiom) /ɪn 'raʊnd ,nʌmbəz/ presented as a whole number, usually one ending in 0 or 5 *There were about 150 there, in round numbers.*

in the region of (idiom) /ɪn ðə 'rɪdʒən əv/ used when you are giving a number, price, etc. to show that it is not exact *He earns somewhere in the region of €50,000.*

(be) in the running (idiom) /ɪn ðə 'rʌnɪŋ/ having some chance of succeeding or achieving sth *She's in the running for an Oscar.*

insistence on (n) /ɪn'sɪstəns ən/ an act of demanding or saying sth firmly and refusing to accept any opposition or excuses *They didn't appreciate the new headteacher's insistence on a strict uniform policy.*

kick the habit (idiom) /,kɪk ðə 'hæbɪt/ to stop doing sth harmful that you have done for a long time *If you've smoked for years, it's very hard to kick the habit.*

live and breathe sth (idiom) /lɪv ən 'brɪ:ð ,sʌmθɪŋ/ to be very enthusiastic about sth *He just lives and breathes football.*

lapse of time (n) /,læps əv 'taɪm/ a period of time that passes *He wrote to us after a considerable lapse of time.*

menace (to) (n) /'menəs/ a person or thing that causes, or may cause, serious damage, harm or danger *The communists remain a potential menace to the stability of the government.*

more or less (idiom) /,mɔ:ɪ ə 'les/ approximately *She could earn \$200 a day, more or less.*

neck and neck (idiom) /nek ən 'nek/ level with sb in a race or competition *The cyclists were neck and neck as they approached the final lap.*

obsession (with) (n) /əb'seʃn/ a thing or person that sb thinks about too much *Fitness has become an obsession with him.*

or so (idiom) /ɔ: 'səʊ/ about *It'll cost €100 or so.*

or thereabouts (idiom) /ɔ: ,ðeərə'baʊts/ used to say that a particular number, quantity, time, etc. is not exact *She must be about sixty or thereabouts.*

par for the course (idiom) /,pɑ: fə ðə 'kɔ:rs/ just what you would expect to happen or expect sb to do in a particular situation *Starting early and working long hours is par for the course in this job.*

take sth with a pinch of salt (idiom) /teɪk 'sʌmθɪŋ wɪð ə ,pɪntʃ əv 'sɒlt/ to take sth with a pinch of salt means to be careful about believing that sth is completely true *If I were you, I'd take everything he says with a pinch of salt.*

preoccupation (n) /,pri:ɒkju'preɪʃn/ a state of thinking about sth continuously; sth that you think about frequently or for a long time *She found his preoccupation with money very irritating.*

prognosis (n) /'prɒg'nəʊsɪs/ an opinion, based on medical experience, of the likely development of a disease or an illness; a judgement about how sth is likely to develop in the future *The prognosis is not good.*

ray of hope (idiom) /,reɪ əv 'həʊp/ a small amount of hope *There was just one small ray of hope.*

recovery (n) /rɪ'kʌvəri/ the process of becoming well again after an illness or injury; the process of improving or becoming stronger again *My father has made a full recovery from the operation.*

reliance (on) (n) /rɪ'laɪəns/ the state of needing sb/sth in order to survive, be successful, etc.; the fact of being able to rely on sb/sth *Heavy reliance on one client is risky when you are building up a business.*

restriction (on) (n) /rɪ'strɪkʃn/ a rule or law that limits what you can do or what can happen *There are no restrictions on the amount of money you can withdraw.*

serenity (n) /sə'renəti/ the quality of being calm and peaceful *The hotel offers a haven of peace and serenity away from the bustle of the city.*

set the pace (idiom) /,set ðə 'peɪs/ to do sth at a particular speed or to a particular standard so that other people are then forced to copy it if they want to be successful *The company is no longer setting the pace in the home computer market.*

something like (idiom) /'sʌmθɪŋ laɪk/ used to show that a description or an amount, etc. is not exact *They pay six pounds an hour – something like that.*

somewhere around (idiom) /'sʌmweə ə ,raʊnd/ approximately the number or amount mentioned *It cost somewhere around £2,000.*

strip of land (n) /,stri:p əv 'lænd/ a long narrow area of land *They were interested in buying a strip of land from the local recreation ground, but the council rejected the idea.*

susceptibility (to) (n) /sə'septə'bɪləti/ the state of being very likely to be influenced, harmed or affected by sth *Researchers want to identify the genes that increase an individual's susceptibility to this disease.*

take a fancy to (something) (idiom) /,teɪk ə 'fænsɪ tə/ to start liking sth or sb, often without an obvious reason *He's taken quite a fancy to his next-door neighbour.*

tenacity (n) /tə'næsəti/ the quality of not giving up sth easily; the quality of being determined *They competed with skill and tenacity.*

terminal (adj) /'tɜ:mɪnəl/ that cannot be cured and will lead to death, often slowly *He has terminal lung cancer.*

torment (n) /'tɔ:ment/ extreme suffering, especially mental suffering; a person or thing that causes this *She suffered years of mental torment after her son's death.*

torrent of criticism (idiom) /ˌtɒrənt əv ˈkrɪtɪsɪzəm/ a large amount of disapproval expressed suddenly and violently *His attempts at street art provoked a torrent of criticism.*

tranquillity (n) /træŋˈkwɪləti/ the state of being quiet and peaceful *There was an air of tranquillity about the place.*

wall of silence (idiom) /ˌwɔːl əv ˈsaɪləns/ unanswered questions which stop you from making progress *The investigators were confronted by a wall of silence.*

win hands down (idiom) /ˌwɪn hændz ˈdaʊn/ to win sth very easily *They'll win hands down – no doubt about that.*

Unit 10

arc (n) /ɑːk/ part of a circle or a curved line *Set the point of the compasses at one end of the line and draw an arc.*

(be) at your wits' end (idiom) /ət jɔː(r) ˌwɪts ˈend/ to be so worried by a problem that you do not know what to do next *She was at her wits' end wondering how she'd manage it all in time.*

atmospheric (adj) /ˌætˌmɒsˈfɛrɪk/ related to the earth's atmosphere *A sudden drop in atmospheric pressure often forecasts an approaching storm.*

blue-collar worker (n) /ˈbluː ˌkɒlə ˌwɜːkə(r)/ sb who does physical work in industry *Historically, blue-collar workers were those who were paid by the hour, but that has since changed.*

career ladder (n) /kəˈrɪə ˌlædə(r)/ a series of stages by which you can make progress in your career *She was on the first step of the career ladder.*

celestial (adj) /səˈlestiəl/ of the sky or of heaven *She wrote books on astronomy and compiled tables of the positions of celestial bodies.*

cone (n) /kəʊn/ a solid or hollow object with a round flat base and sides that slope up to a point *The ice cream cone was invented when an ice cream seller ran out of bowls.*

cosmic (adj) /ˈkɒzmɪk/ connected with the whole universe *Do you believe in a cosmic plan?*

creSCent (n) /ˈkresənt/ a curved shape that is wide in the middle and pointed at each end *Croissants take their name from their shape, a kind of crescent.*

cube (n) /kjuːb/ a solid or hollow figure with six equal square sides *Cut the meat into cubes.*

cylinder (n) /ˈsɪlɪndə(r)/ a solid or hollow figure with round ends and long straight sides *To calculate the volume of a cylinder, multiply the area of the circular base by the height.*

ellipse (n) /ɪˈlɪps/ a regular oval shape, like a circle that has been squeezed on two sides *Ellipses vary in shapes from very broad and flat to almost circular.*

galactic (adj) /gəˈlæktɪk/ relating to a galaxy *A galactic year is the time the galaxy takes to rotate once completely.*

get the green light (idiom) /get ðə ˌɡriːn ˈlaɪt/ to be given permission for a project, etc. to start or continue *After her presentation, she got the green light from the directors to go ahead with the plan.*

getting on a bit (idiom) /ˌgetɪŋ ˈɒn ə bɪt/ becoming old *My cat's getting on a bit now and he can't climb trees like he used to.*

go down with something (idiom) /ɡəʊ ˈdaʊn wɪð ˌsʌmθɪŋ/ to have or catch an illness *I don't feel well – I think I'm going down with something.*

a golden opportunity (idiom) /ə ˌɡəʊldən ˌɒpəˈtjuːnəti/ a special or wonderful chance to do or achieve sth *Businesses have a golden opportunity to expand into new markets.*

golden years (idiom) /ˌɡəʊldən ˌjɪəz/ the time of life after retirement *If you're looking to spend your golden years in the sun, come to us for property advice.*

gravitational (adj) /ˌɡrævɪˈteɪʃənl/ connected with or caused by the force of gravity *The Sun's gravitational pull keeps our planet orbiting the Earth.*

a grey area (idiom) /ə ˈɡreɪ ˌeəriə/ an area of a subject or situation that is not clear or does not fit into a particular group and is therefore difficult to define or deal with *Exactly what can be called an offensive weapon is still a grey area.*

hard of hearing (adj) /ˌhɑːd əv ˈhɪəriŋ/ unable to hear very well *His sight is still good, but recently he's become rather hard of hearing.*

holiday entitlement (n) /ˈhɒlədeɪ ɪnˌtaɪtmənt/ the amount of holiday that you have the right to take *Your holiday entitlement is twenty-five days a year.*

human resources (n) /ˌhjuːmən rɪˈsɔːsɪz, -ˈzɔːsɪz/ the department in a company that deals with employing and training people *She works in human resources.*

in reduced circumstances (idiom) /ɪn rɪˌdjuːst ˈsɜːkəmstənsɪz, -stɑːnsɪz/ the state of being poorer than you were before *They're so proud and insist on referring to themselves as 'in reduced circumstances'.*

(be) in the red (idiom) /ɪn ðə ˈred/ to owe money to your bank because you have spent more than you have in your account *My account is \$100 in the red.*

job application (n) /ˌdʒɒb ˌæplɪˌkeɪʃn/ a letter and / or completed form detailing your qualifications, skills and experience that you send to a prospective employer in connection with a specific post *You should get your job application in in good time.*

light at the end of the tunnel (idiom) /ˌlaɪt ət ðɪ ˌend əv ðə ˈtʌnl/ sth that shows you are nearly at the end of a long and difficult time or situation *Reorganizing the department was a huge task, but we can now see light at the end of the tunnel.*

lozenge (n) /ˈlɒzɪndʒ/ a figure with four sides in the shape of a diamond that has two opposite angles more than ninety degrees and the other two less than ninety degrees *The lozenge shape on playing cards is more usually called a diamond.*

lunar (adj) /ˈluːnə(r)/ connected with the moon *The lunar module was the first manned vehicle outside Earth's atmosphere.*

meet an untimely end (idiom) /miːt ən ʌnˌtaɪmlɪ ˈend/ to finish or die sooner than is normal or expected *A surprising twist comes when the hero's wife meets an untimely end.*

(be) no end (to sth) in sight (idiom) /ɪn ˌnəʊ ˌend ɪn ˈsaɪt/ a situation which is impossible for anyone to find or see *There's no end to this conflict in sight.*

of advanced years (idiom) /əv ədˌvɑːnst ˌjɪəz/ used in polite expressions to describe sb as 'very old' *He was a man of advanced years.*

of limited means (adj) /əv ˌlɪmɪtɪd ˈmiːnz/ not having very much money *The charity supports local elderly people of limited means.*

(be) on the receiving end of (idiom) /ɪn ðə rɪˈsiːvɪŋ ˌend əv/ to be the person that an action, etc. is directed at, especially an unpleasant one *She found herself on the receiving end of a great deal of criticism.*

out of the blue (idiom) /aʊt əv ðə ˈbluː/ unexpectedly; without warning *The decision came out of the blue.*

pension scheme (n) /ˈpenʃn ˌskiːm/ a system in which you, and usually your employer, pay money regularly into a fund while you are employed and which then pays you money when you retire *I opted to leave the company pension scheme.*

planetary (adj) /ˈplænətri/ relating to a planet or planets *We saw a fascinating documentary about our planetary system.*

polygon (n) /ˈpɒlɪɡɒn/ a flat shape with at least three straight sides and angles, and usually five or more *Polygons are often studied in the first few years of school as an introduction to basic geometry and mathematics.*

a purple patch (idiom) /ə ˈpɜːpl ˌpætʃ/ a period of success or good luck *He was enjoying a purple patch and scored eleven goals in fourteen games.*

pyramid (n) /ˈpɪrəˌmɪd/ a solid shape with a square or triangular base and sloping sides that meet in a point at the top *I knocked over a pyramid of cans in the supermarket – it was so embarrassing.*

radius (n) /ˈreɪdɪəs/ a straight line between the centre of a circle and any point on its outer edge; the length of this line *Doctors wish to examine everyone living within a ten-mile radius of the factory.*

raise the white flag (idiom) /ˌreɪz ðə ˌwaɪt ˈflæɡ/ to show a sign that you accept defeat and wish to stop fighting *They raised the white flag and came out slowly with their hands in the air.*

ray (n) /reɪ/ a narrow line of light, heat or other energy *The windows were shining in the reflected rays of the setting sun.*

recruitment agency (n) /rɪˈkruːtmənt ˌeɪdʒənsi/ a business or organization that provides a service on behalf of other businesses or organizations to find new people to join a company, an organization, the armed forces, etc. *I was on the books with a recruitment agency and they found me this job.*

red tape (idiom) /red ˈteɪp/ official rules that seem more complicated than necessary and prevent things from being done quickly *You have to go through endless red tape to get a residence permit.*

redundancy payment (n) /rɪˈdʌndənsi ˌpeɪtmənt/ a sum of money paid when sb has to leave their job because there is no more work available for them *All members of staff are entitled to redundancy payments.*

ring (n) /rɪŋ/ a round mark or shape *The street plan of the city has evolved as a series of concentric rings.*

sick leave (n) /ˈsɪk liːv/ permission to be away from work because of illness; the period of time spent away from work *She's rarely taken sick leave in all the years she's been here.*

solar (adj) /ˈsəʊlə(r)/ of or connected with the sun *The solar system is made up of the sun and everything that orbits around it.*

spell the end (idiom) /spel ðɪ ˈend/ to have sth, usually sth bad, as a result; to mean sth, usually sth bad *This defeat spelled the end of his hopes of winning the title again.*

sphere (n) /sfɪə(r)/ a solid figure that is completely round, with every point on its surface at an equal distance from the centre *The concept of Earth being a sphere dates back to ancient Greek philosophy.*

spiral (n) /ˈspaɪrəl/ a shape or design, consisting of a continuous curved line that winds around a central point, with each curve further away from the centre *A spiral of smoke rose from the chimney.*

stellar (adj) /ˈstelə(r)/ connected with the stars *He studies stellar activity and magnetic fields.*

tangent (n) /ˈtændʒənt/ a straight line that touches the outside of a curve but does not cross it *The cart track branches off at a tangent.*

terrestrial (adj) /təˈrestriəl/ connected with the planet Earth *Does anything like terrestrial life exist on other planets?*

the beginning of the end /ðə bɪˌɡɪnɪŋ əv ðɪ ˈend/ the first sign of sth ending *The scandal was the beginning of the end of his career as a politician.*

the end is nigh /ði ˌend ɪz ˈnaɪ/ sth is about to finish or die *Many fans believe the end is nigh with the appointment of this new manager, but they may yet be surprised.*

the public sector (n) /ðə ˈpʌblɪk ˌsektə(r)/ the part of the economy of a country that is owned or controlled by the government *She described working in the public sector as the most rewarding way to contribute to society.*

underprivileged (adj) /ˌʌndə ˈprɪvələdʒd/ having less money and fewer opportunities than most people in society *The party aims to represent the interests of the underprivileged sections of society.*

visually impaired (adj) /vɪʒuəli ɪmˈpeəd/ partially blind; having a problem with sight *You can buy special phones which are designed specifically for visually impaired users.*

white-collar worker (n) /ˈwaɪt ˌkɒlə ˌwɜːkə(r)/ working in an office, rather than in a factory, etc.; connected with work in offices *White-collar workers tend to earn higher than average salaries.*

with flying colours (idiom) /wɪð ˌflaɪŋ ˈkɒləz/ very well; with a very high mark/grade *She passed the exam with flying colours.*

zero-hours contract (n) /zɪəʊəʊ ˌaʊəz ˈkɒntrækt/ a contract where the employer has no obligation to offer a fixed number of hours and the employee has no obligation to accept the work *Zero-hours contracts can be used to provide a flexible workforce for a temporary situation.*