

Key to Dictionary Entries / Explanatory Chart

ar-du-ous /ˈɑːdjʊəs/ *adj* involving a lot of strength and effort: *an arduous journey through the mountains* — **arduously** *adv* — **arduousness** *n* [U]

am-ber /ˈæmbə/ *n* [U] 1 a yellowish brown colour 2 a yellowish brown substance used to make jewellery — **amber** *adj*

a-bode¹ /əˈbɔːd/ *n* [C] *formal or humorous* some one's home: *Welcome to my humble abode* | **of no fixed abode** (=having no permanent home) **abode**² the past tense of ABIDE

an-nu-al¹ /ˈænjʊəl/ *adj* 1 happening once a year *an annual conference* 2 based on or calculated over a period of one year: *Steel output reached an annual figure of one million tons.* — **annually** *adv*

ar-dour *BrE*, **ardor** *AmE* /ˈɑːdɔːr/ *n* [U] 1 very strong positive feelings: *They sang with real ardour* 2 *literary* strong feelings of love

a-bra-sive¹ /əˈbreɪsɪv/ *adj* 1 *seeming rude or unkind in the way you behave towards people because you say what you think very directly*: *a rather abrasive manner*

ar-cher /ˈɑːtʃə/ *n* [C] someone who shoots **ARROWS** (1) from a **BOW**² (1)

an-noy-ing /əˈnɔɪ-ɪŋ/ *adj* making you feel slightly angry. *an annoying habit of interrupting* | *The annoying thing is he's usually right* | *It's annoying that it's annoying that we didn't know about this before.* — **annoyingly** *adv* | *annoyingly small portions*

am-biv-a-lent /æmˈbɪvələnt/ *adj* not sure whether you want or like something or not: *Her feelings about getting married are distinctly ambivalent* — **ambivalence** *n* [U] — **ambivalently** *adv*

ad-her-e /ədˈhɪə/ *v* *formal* [I + to] to stick firmly to **adhere to sth phr v** [T] *formal* to continue to behave according to a particular rule, agreement, or belief: *adhere to your principles* | *adhere to the regulations*

after ef-fect /ˈɑːftəˈfekt/ *n* [C usually plural] an unpleasant effect that remains for a long time after the condition or event that caused it: *the after effects of his illness*

au-ber-gine /ˈɔːbəʒiːn/ *n* [C,U] *BrE* a large dark purple vegetable; **EGGPLANT** *AmE* — see picture on page 494

Pronunciation is shown in the International Phonetic Alphabet British and American pronunciations are shown

Word class – verb, noun, adjective, preposition, etc – is shown in *italics*

Words that are spelled the same but belong to different word classes are treated as homographs and have separate entries

If a word has more than one meaning, each meaning is shown by a number in dark type

If a word can be spelled in two different ways, both spellings are shown

Meanings are explained in clear, simple language, using the 2,000 word Longman Defining Vocabulary

Words that are not in the Defining Vocabulary are shown in small capital letters

Useful natural examples, all based on information from the Longman Corpus Network

Derived words, that can be understood if you know the word they are derived from, are shown after it

Phrasal verbs are listed directly after the entry for their main verb

Compound words are shown as headwords and their stress patterns are shown

Both British and American English words are shown

at-trib-u-ta-ble /əˈtrɪbjʊtəbəl/ *adj* [not before noun] likely to be caused by something [+ to] *Death was attributable to gunshot wounds*

ab-hor /əbˈhɔːr/ *v* **abhorred**, **abhorring** [T not in progressive] *formal* to hate a kind of behaviour or way of thinking, especially because you think it is morally wrong: *Some genuinely abhorred slavery, others were simply convinced by the economic arguments against it*

an-noyed /əˈnɔɪd/ *adj* slightly angry: *I'll be annoyed if we don't finish by eight* | [+ with] *She was annoyed with Duncan for forgetting to phone* | [+ about/by] *He was annoyed by her apparent indifference* | **be annoyed that** *Mr Davies was annoyed that the books were missing*

abandon² *n* [U] **with gay/wild abandon** in a careless or uncontrolled way without thinking or caring about what you are doing: *The kids had led pieces of wood on the fire with gay abandon*

ar-gu-ment /ˈɑːɡjʊmənt/ *n* 1 [C] a situation in which two or more people disagree, often angrily [+ with] *an argument with my husband* | [+ about/over] *The argument seemed to be about who was going to take the cat to the vet* | **have an argument** *They were having an argument about the children* | **get into an argument** *I got into an argument with the other driver* | **win/lose an argument** *He lost his argument with the doctor* | **heated argument** (=very angry argument)

ab-sorb /əbˈsɔːrb/ *v* [T] 1 ► **LIQUID** ◄ if something absorbs a liquid, it takes the liquid into itself from the surface or space around it: *Plants absorb nutrients from the soil* 2 ► **INFORMATION** ◄ to read or hear a large amount of new information and understand it: *I haven't really had time to absorb everything that he said* 3 ► **INTEREST** ◄ to interest someone very much: *be absorbed in* *Judith lay on the settee absorbed in her book* | **absorb sb's attention** *The video was totally absorbing the children's attention*

ap-pend /əˈpend/ *v* [T + to] *formal* to add something to a piece of writing

ante- /ˈænti/ *prefix* before to *antedate* (=be earlier than something) | *ante natal* (=before birth) -- compare **ANTI-**, **POST-**, **PRE-**

an-te¹ /ˈænti/ *n* **up/raise the ante** to increase your demands or try to get more things from a situation, even though this involves more risks – see also **PENNY ANTE**

a-rise /əˈraɪz/ *v* *past tense* **arose** /əˈrəʊz/ *past participle* **arisen** /əˈrɪzən/ [I]

Grammatical information is shown in square brackets, or in dark type before an example

Phrases and idioms are shown and their meaning is given

Words that are often used together are shown in dark type, and followed by an example or an explanation

Signposts in longer entries help you to find the meaning that you need

Information on what situations a word is used in, or where it comes from, is shown in *italics*

References to other words and phrases, and to pictures and usage notes, are given

Irregular verb forms, and irregular plurals of nouns are shown