

## 5 I can use a dictionary productively 🎧

Dictionaries include a wide range of information that will help you to expand your vocabulary, and use words more effectively when you speak and write.

| Dictionary entries*                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Important information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|------|------|---------|------|------|--------------------------------|-----|------|----------|-------|----------|----------------------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|------|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>reflect</b> 〰 /rɪ'flekt/ verb</p> <p><b>1</b> [VN] [usually passive] ~ <b>sb/sth (in sth)</b> to show the image of sb/sth on the surface of sth such as a mirror, water or glass: <i>His face was reflected in the mirror.</i></p> <p><b>4</b> ~ <b>(on/upon sth)</b> to think carefully and deeply about sth: [V] <i>Before I decide I need time to reflect.</i> ◇ <i>She was left to reflect on the implications of her decision.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The key (〰) tells you that <b>reflect</b> is in the Oxford 3000 and is an important word.</li><li>The numbers tell you that <b>reflect</b> has different meanings.</li><li>The information in bold tells you that <b>reflect</b> can be followed by different prepositions.</li></ul> |                                |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>count</b> 〰 /kaʊnt/ verb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>SAY NUMBERS 1</b> [V] ~ <b>(from sth) (to/up to sth)</b> to say numbers in the correct order: <i>Billy can't count yet.</i> ◇ <i>She can count up to 10 in Italian.</i></li><li><b>FIND TOTAL 2</b> ~ <b>(sth)(up)</b> to calculate the total number of people, things, etc. in a particular group: [VN] <i>The diet is based on counting calories.</i> ◇ [V <b>wh-</b>] <i>She began to count up how many guests they had to invite.</i></li><li><b>INCLUDE 3</b> [VN] to include sb/sth when you calculate a total: <i>We have invited 50 people, <b>not counting</b> the children.</i></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The words in blue give a general idea of the different meanings of <b>count</b>.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>absorb</b> 〰 /əb'sɔ:b/ verb [VN]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>LIQUID/GAS 1</b> to take in a liquid, gas or other substance from the surface or space around: <i>Plants absorb oxygen.</i> ◇ <i>This cream is easily <b>absorbed into</b> the skin.</i></li><li><b>INFORMATION 3</b> to take sth into the mind and learn or understand it<br/><b>[SYN TAKE IN]:</b> <i>It's a lot of information to absorb all at once.</i></li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dictionaries often provide synonyms (<b>take in</b> is a synonym for one meaning of <b>absorb</b>) and opposites: these help you expand your vocabulary.</li></ul>                                                                                                                    |                                |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>favour</b> 〰 /'feɪvə(r)/ noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>HELP 1</b> [C] a thing that you do to help sb: <i>Could you <b>do me a favour</b> and pick up Sam from school today?</i> ◇ <i>Can I <b>ask a favour</b>?</i> ◇ <i>I'm going <b>as a favour</b> to Ann, not because I want to.</i> ◇ <i>I'll ask Steve to take it. <b>He owes me a favour.</b></i></li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The phrases in bold show common phrasal structures and/or collocations; they will help you to use <b>favour</b> naturally in different contexts.</li></ul>                                                                                                                            |                                |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>propose</b> 〰 /prə'pəʊz/ verb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>SUGGEST PLAN 1</b> (<b>formal</b>) to suggest a plan, an idea, etc. for people to think about and decide on: [VN] <i>The government proposed changes to the voting system.</i> ◇ [VN <b>that</b>] <i>It was <b>proposed that</b> the president be elected for a period of two years.</i> ◇ [V <b>-ing</b>] <i>He proposed changing the name of the company.</i></li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>propose</b> is a <b>formal</b> word and more common in written English.</li><li>It is followed by a noun, a <b>that</b> clause, or an <b>-ing</b> form, so you cannot say: <i>He <del>proposed us to go</del>.</i></li></ul>                                                       |                                |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>circumstance</b> 〰 /sɜ:kəm'stæns/ noun</p> <p><b>1</b> [C, usually pl.] the conditions and facts that are connected with and affect a situation, an event or an action: <i>The company reserves the right to cancel this agreement in certain circumstances.</i> ◇ <i>changing social and political circumstances</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>circumstance</b> is usually used in the plural (<b>circumstances</b>).</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>VOCABULARY BUILDING</b></p> <p><b>actions expressing emotions</b></p> <table><tr><th>action</th><th>part of the body</th><th>you are ...</th></tr><tr><td>hang</td><td>head</td><td>ashamed</td></tr><tr><td>lick</td><td>lips</td><td>anticipating sth good, nervous</td></tr><tr><td>nod</td><td>head</td><td>agreeing</td></tr><tr><td>raise</td><td>eyebrows</td><td>inquiring, surprised</td></tr><tr><td>shrug</td><td>shoulders</td><td>doubtful, indifferent</td></tr><tr><td>stamp</td><td>foot</td><td>angry</td></tr></table>                                                                                                                                  | action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | part of the body               | you are ... | hang | head | ashamed | lick | lips | anticipating sth good, nervous | nod | head | agreeing | raise | eyebrows | inquiring, surprised | shrug | shoulders | doubtful, indifferent | stamp | foot | angry | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The <i>Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary</i> has a number of features to increase your vocabulary or help you choose the right word in different situations. This list of actions is included beside the entry for <b>body</b>.</li></ul> |
| action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | part of the body                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | you are ...                    |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| hang                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | head                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | ashamed                        |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| lick                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | lips                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | anticipating sth good, nervous |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| nod                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | head                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | agreeing                       |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| raise                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | eyebrows                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | inquiring, surprised           |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| shrug                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | shoulders                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | doubtful, indifferent          |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| stamp                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | foot                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | angry                          |             |      |      |         |      |      |                                |     |      |          |       |          |                      |       |           |                       |       |      |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

\* These are adapted extracts from the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*.



- 1 Complete the sentences with the correct verb, and use the numbers in the dictionary entries to say which meaning is being used.

- There were about twelve on the bus, not counting (3) the teachers.
- 1 I think she'll have to go away and \_\_\_\_\_ on what we've said to her.
  - 2 There's no liquid at the bottom because the sponge \_\_\_\_\_ all the juice.
  - 3 From the list, I \_\_\_\_\_ fifteen who still haven't replied to the invitation.
  - 4 There was too much information to \_\_\_\_\_ in one session; I couldn't take it all in.
  - 5 In this game, you close your eyes and \_\_\_\_\_ up to 50, while we all hide.
  - 6 He was standing behind me, but I could see his face \_\_\_\_\_ in the water.

- 2 Complete the collocations.

- 1 She just looked at me and \_\_\_\_\_ her shoulders.
- 2 I'm sure Bob will do it. He \_\_\_\_\_ me a favour.
- 3 When I told him, he just \_\_\_\_\_ an eyebrow in mild surprise.
- 4 I only went to the party as a \_\_\_\_\_ to Anne.
- 5 He \_\_\_\_\_ his head, so I assume he agreed.
- 6 You can change the date in certain \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 The little boy \_\_\_\_\_ his foot in anger.

- 3 Cross out the grammar mistake in each sentence and write the correction at the end.

- 1 We could see our faces reflected on the water. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 She proposed to leave the children behind. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 You can take dogs into shops in certain circumstance. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 There were ten people there, no counting the two of us. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 He proposed us to take the car. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 I'll need to reflect in what he said. \_\_\_\_\_

- 4 Use the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* to complete these sentences. You will find the answers in the full dictionary entries for the words shown on page 20.

- 1 Complete the collocation in this sentence with a word that can also mean 'consider':

I \_\_\_\_\_ **myself** lucky to have a job that I really enjoy.

- 2 Complete the idiom in this sentence with the correct prepositions:

I'm \_\_\_\_\_ **favour** \_\_\_\_\_ equal pay.

- 3 Complete the idiom in this sentence:

**Under the** \_\_\_\_\_, I would prefer not to say anything.

- 4 Complete the idiom in this sentence:

The whole incident \_\_\_\_\_ **badly on everyone** involved.

- 5 ABOUT YOUR DICTIONARY Look up the meaning of these adjectives and the preposition which normally follows each one. Then, write a sentence example for each.

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| conducive _____ | example: _____ |
| fraught _____   | example: _____ |
| devoid _____    | example: _____ |
| immune _____    | example: _____ |



Remember to test yourself

EXPANDING YOUR VOCABULARY 21