

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>reflect 0→ /rɪ'flekt/ verb</p> <p>1 [VN] [usually passive] ~ sb/sth (in sth) 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>4 ~ (on/upon sth) 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"> The key (0→) tells you that reflect is in the Oxford 3000 and is an important word. The numbers tell you that reflect has different meanings. The information in bold tells you that reflect can be followed by different prepositions. 																					
<p>count 0→ /kaunt/ verb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAY NUMBERS 1 [V] ~ (from sth) (to/up to sth) to say numbers in the correct order: <i>Billy can't count yet.</i> ◇ <i>She can count up to 10 in Italian.</i> FIND TOTAL 2 ~ (sth)(up) to calculate the total number of people, things, etc. in a particular group: [VN] <i>The diet is based on counting calories.</i> ◇ [V wh-] <i>She began to count up how many guests they had to invite.</i> INCLUDE 3 [VN] to include sb/sth when you calculate a total: <i>We have invited 50 people, not counting the children.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The words in blue give a general idea of the different meanings of count. 																					
<p>absorb 0→ /əb'sɔ:b/ verb [VN]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LIQUID/GAS 1 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 absorbed into the skin.</i> INFORMATION 3 to take sth into the mind and learn or understand it <p>SYN TAKE IN: <i>It's a lot of information to absorb all at once.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dictionaries often provide synonyms (take in is a synonym for one meaning of absorb) and opposites: these help you expand your vocabulary. 																					
<p>favour 0→ /'feɪvə(r)/ noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HELP 1 [C] a thing that you do to help sb: <i>Could you do me a favour and pick up Sam from school today?</i> ◇ <i>Can I ask a favour?</i> ◇ <i>I'm going as a favour to Ann, not because I want to.</i> ◇ <i>I'll ask Steve to take it. He owes me a favour.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The phrases in bold show common phrasal structures and/or collocations; they will help you to use favour naturally in different contexts. 																					
<p>propose 0→ /prə'pəʊz/ verb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SUGGEST PLAN 1 (<i>formal</i>) 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 that] <i>It was proposed that the president be elected for a period of two years.</i> ◇ [V -ing] <i>He proposed changing the name of the company.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> propose is a <i>formal</i> word and more common in written English. It is followed by a noun, a that clause, or an -ing form, so you cannot say: <i>He proposed us to go.</i> 																					
<p>circumstance 0→ /'sɜ:kəmstəns/ noun</p> <p>1 [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"> circumstance is usually used in the plural (circumstances). 																					
<p>VOCABULARY BUILDING</p> <p>actions expressing emotions</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>action</th> <th>part of the body</th> <th>you are ...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <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> </tbody> </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"> 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 <i>body</i>.
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