

Opposites: verbs

Replace the verbs or verb phrases in bold in these sentences with a word from the box which has an opposite meaning in the context of the sentence. You will need to change the form of most of the verbs.

abandon accelerate ~~accept~~ agree defend demolish deny deteriorate fall forbid
ignore loosen lower retain retreat reward simplify withdraw

1. When our trip was cancelled, we **rejected** the travel company's offer of a partial refund. *accepted.*
2. She **admitted** that she had left the door unlocked when she left the house.
3. Aerial footage shows how quickly the floodwaters are **advancing**.
4. The company **refused** to let members of the public enter the building.
5. Many shopkeepers **attacked** the decision to make the street traffic-free.
6. The factory was **built** in 2004.
7. He **complicated** matters by rewriting the original proposal.
8. When the money ran out, they had to decide whether or not to **continue with** their research.
9. Relations between the two countries have **improved** considerably in the last few years.
10. **Punishing** young children in order to get them to work hard is, in my opinion, wrong.
11. He **raised** the overall standards of the company within two months of his appointment.
12. Smoking is **allowed** in most restaurant and cafés.
13. Prices **rose** sharply in the first three months of the year.
14. Before you do anything else, make sure you **tighten** the knots in the rope.
15. I went to the bank and **deposited** over £5,000.
16. He **lost** his position as head of the department.
17. By pushing the red button, the vehicle **slows down** rapidly.
18. Everyone **acknowledged** all the hard work I had done.