

The following words can be either nouns or verbs. When functioning as a noun, the first syllable is stressed; when as a verb, the second. You can listen to the pronunciation by clicking on the arrow in the center column. (If you would like to practice pronouncing the words/sentences, record yourself and send the recordings to me via WhatsApp.)

NOUNS		VERBS
<b>increase</b> "There's been an increase in the number of students."		<b>increase</b> "Numbers are increasing."
<b>decrease</b> "We've seen a decrease in the bird population."		<b>decrease</b> "Numbers are decreasing every year."
<b>desert</b> "They went travelling in the Sahara desert."		<b>desert</b> "The soldiers deserted their post."
<b>refuse</b> "The refuse collectors are on strike."		<b>refuse</b> "He refused permission."
<b>import</b> "This is a cheap import."		<b>import</b> "They import their oil from the UK."
<b>export</b> "Oil is one of their biggest exports."		<b>export</b> "We need to export more."
<b>discount</b> "Is there a discount on this?"		<b>discount</b> "They discounted the theories."
<b>refund</b> "I'd like a refund please."		<b>refund</b> "We'll refund you 50%."
<b>permit</b> "Do you need a permit to fish here?"		<b>permit</b> "They won't permit her to leave the country."
<b>conflict</b> "They're reporting armed conflict in the area."		<b>conflict</b> "His opinion conflicted with hers."
<b>contest</b> "She entered a beauty contest."		<b>contest</b> "They contested the results."
<b>insult</b> "Your offer is so low it's an insult."		<b>insult</b> "Don't insult me!"
<b>rebel</b> "He was a rebel when he was younger."		<b>rebel</b> "He rebelled against authority."
<b>protest</b> "There's a student protest today."		<b>protest</b> "They're protesting against cuts."
<b>rewrite</b> "That's a rewrite of an old song."		<b>rewrite</b> "That's a rewrite of an old song."
<b>update</b> "We've got some updates for you."		<b>update</b> "We're updating our files."

<b>upgrade</b> "They got an upgrade on the flight."	<b>upgrade</b> "It's time to upgrade our computer."
<b>invite</b> "I received an invite to her party."	<b>invite</b> "They invited us to their house."
<b>misprint</b> "There's a misprint in the book."	<b>misprint</b> "He misprinted the word."
<b>insert</b> "Put a couple of inserts in this text."	<b>insert</b> "He inserted a few words into her paragraph."
<b>survey</b> "Let's do a customer survey to find out."	<b>survey</b> "They surveyed over 1000 people."
<b>contrast</b> "There's a big contrast between you two."	<b>contrast</b> "He contrasted the two pictures."
<b>detail</b> "It's just a minor detail."	<b>detail</b> "The story details their struggle with poverty."
<b>escort</b> "You'll need an escort to get through security.*"	<b>escort</b> "He escorted her out of the door."
<b>perfume</b> "He bought a bottle of perfume for her birthday."	<b>perfume</b> "The roses perfumed the room."
<b>upset</b> "The victory was an upset in the championships."	<b>upset</b> "He upset her with his cruel remarks."
<b>compound</b> "They lived in a compound."	<b>compound</b> "The policy is just compounding problems."
<b>reject</b> "This is one of the rejects from the factory."	<b>reject</b> "He rejected her advice."
<b>contract</b> "Have you signed the contract?"	<b>contract</b> "The economy is contracting."
<b>conduct</b> "The conduct of the student was unacceptable."	<b>conduct</b> "They're conducting an enquiry."
<b>subject</b> "What subjects do you study?"	<b>subject</b> "She was subjected to harsh criticism."
<b>object</b> "He treats her like an object."	<b>object</b> "She objected to the proposals."
<b>present</b> "He gave her a present."	<b>present</b> "He's going to present his findings."
<b>project</b> "They're working on a project."	<b>project</b> "He projects himself well."