Aa

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- a adjective (called the indefinite article and changing to an before most vowel sounds) 1 one (but not any special one), Can you lend me a book? 2 each; per, We can see it once a day or once an hour.
- a-1 prefix 1 on; to; towards (as in afoot, ashore, aside). 2 in the process of (as in a-hunting).
- a-² prefix (an- is used before a vowel sound) not; without (as in asymmetrical, anarchy). [from Greek a- = not]
- aardvark (say ahd-vahk) noun an
 African animal with a pig-like body
 and a tubular snout, feeding on
 termites. [from Afrikaans aarde =
 earth, + vark = pig]
- ab- prefix (changing to abs- before c
 and t) away; from (as in abduct,
 abnormal, abstract). [from Latin ab =
 away]
- aback adverb taken aback surprised.
- abacus (say ab-uh-kuhs) noun (plural abacuses) a frame used for counting with beads sliding on wires. [Latin from Greek from Hebrew]
- **abalone** (*say* ab-uh-**loh**-nee) *noun* an edible mollusc with a shell lined with mother-of-pearl.
- abandon¹ verb 1 give up. 2 leave a person, thing, or place without intending to return, Abandon ship! abandonment noun
- **abandon²** noun a casual and careless manner, dancing with great abandon.
- **abase** *verb* (**abased**, **abasing**) humiliate. **abashed** *adjective* embarrassed.
- abate verb (abated, abating) make or become less; die down, *The storm* had abated. abatement noun
- **abattoir** (say **ab**-uh-twah) noun a place where animals are killed for food. [French]
- **abbess** *noun* the head of an abbey of nuns.
- **abbey** noun (plural abbeys) 1 a monastery or convent. 2 a church that was once part of a monastery, Westminster Abbey.
- **abbot** *noun* the head of an abbey of monks.
- **abbreviate** *verb* (**abbreviated**, **abbreviating**) shorten something.
- **abbreviation** *noun* **1** a shortened form of a word or words, such as *maths*, *TV*, *USA*. **2** abbreviating something.
- ABC noun 1 a name for the alphabet, We know our ABC. 2 Australian Broadcasting Corporation.
- abdicate verb (abdicated, abdicating) resign from a throne; give up an important responsibility. abdication noun
- abdomen (say ab-duh-muhn) noun

 1 the lower front part of a person's or animal's body, containing the stomach, intestines, and other digestive organs. 2 the rear section of an insect's body. abdominal (say ab-dom-uh-nuhl) adjective
- abduct verb take a person away
 illegally; kidnap. abduction noun,
 abductor noun [from ab-, + Latin
 ductum = led]
- **aberration** (*say* ab-uh-**ray**-shuhn) *noun* a deviation from what is normal.

- **abet** *verb* (abetted, abetting) help or encourage someone to commit a crime. abetter or abettor *noun*
- **abeyance** (*say* uh-**bay**-uhns) *noun* in **abeyance** suspended or postponed.
- abhor verb (abhorred, abhorring)
 detest. abhorrence noun, abhorrent
 adjective [from Latin abhorrere =
 shrink in fear]
- abide verb (abided (in sense 1 abode),
 abiding) 1 (old use) remain; dwell.
 2 bear; tolerate, I can't abide flies.
 abide by keep a promise; act in accordance with a rule or decision.
- ability noun (plural abilities) 1 being
- able to do something. 2 cleverness; talent.
- abiotic adjective not having life.
- abject (say ab-jekt) adjective
 1 wretched; miserable, living in abject poverty.
 2 humble, an abject apology.
 [from ab-, + Latin -jectum = thrown]
- ablaze adjective blazing; on fire.
- able adjective 1 having the power or skill or opportunity to do something.2 skilful; clever. ably adverb
- **ablution** *noun* ceremonial washing of the hands or sacred vessels.
- **ablutions** plural noun (informal) washing yourself, perform your ablutions.
- **abnormal** *adjective* not normal; unusual. **abnormality** *noun*, **abnormally** *adverb*
- **aboard** *adverb* & *preposition* on or into a ship or aircraft or train.
- **abode**¹ *noun* (*old use*) the place where someone lives.
- **abode²** past tense & past participle of abide.
- **abolish** *verb* put an end to. **abolition** (*say* ab-uh-**lish**-uhn) *noun*
- **abominable** *adjective* very bad; detestable. **abominably** *adverb*
- abominate verb (abominated, abominating) detest. abomination
- aboriginal adjective 1 inhabiting or existing in a land from the earliest times. 2 (Aboriginal) of Australian Aboriginal people.
- aboriginal² noun 1 an aboriginal inhabitant of a place. 2 (Aboriginal) a person belonging to one of the indigenous peoples of Australia. 3 (informal) (Aboriginal) any of the numerous Australian Aboriginal languages.
- **Aboriginality** *noun* **1** the quality of being Aboriginal. **2** Aboriginal culture.
- aborigine (say ab-uh-rij-uh-nee) noun (plural aborigines) 1 an original inhabitant of a place. 2 (Aborigine) an aboriginal inhabitant of Australia. [from Latin ab origine = from the beginning]
- **abort** *verb* put an end to something before it has been completed, *They aborted the space flight because of problems*.
- **abortion** *noun* removal of a foetus from the womb before it has developed enough to survive.
- **abortive** *adjective* unsuccessful, *an abortive attempt*.
- abound verb 1 be plentiful or abundant, Fish abound in the river.2 have something in great quantities, The river abounds in fish.
- about¹ preposition 1 near in amount or size or time; approximately, It costs about \$5; Come about two o'clock. 2 on the subject of; in connection with, Tell me about your holiday. 3 all round; in various parts of, They ran about the yard.

- **about²** adverb **1** approximately. **2** in various directions, *They were running about.* **3** not far away, *He is somewhere about.*
 - be about to be going to do something.
- **about-face** *noun* (also **about-turn**) a reversal of previous actions or opinions.
- above¹ preposition 1 higher than.2 more than.
- **above**² *adverb* **1** at or to a higher place. **2** earlier in a book or article, *mentioned above*.
- **above board**¹ *adjective* legitimate, honest, and open.
- **above board**² *adverb* in a legitimate, honest, and open way.
- **abrade** *verb* (**abraded**, **abrading**) scrape or wear something away by rubbing it. **abrasion** *noun*
- abrasive¹ adjective 1 that abrades things. 2 harsh, an abrasive manner.
- **abrasive**² *noun* a rough substance used for rubbing or polishing things.
- **abreast** *adverb* **1** side by side. **2** keeping up with something.
- abridge verb (abridged, abridging) shorten, especially by using fewer words, an abridged edition. abridgement noun [from Old French abregier = shorten]
- **abroad** *adverb* in or to another country.
- **abrupt** *adjective* **1** sudden; hasty. **2** brief and rude. **abruptly** *adverb*, **abruptness** *noun* [from *ab*-, + Latin *ruptum* = broken]
- **ABS** *abbreviation* **1** anti-lock braking system. **2** Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- abs- prefix see ab-
- **abscess** (*say* **ab**-suhs) *noun* (*plural* **abscesses**) an inflamed place where pus has formed in the body.
- **abscond** verb go away secretly, The cashier had absconded with the money.
- **abseil** (*say* **ab**-sayl) *verb* descend a rock face using a doubled rope that is fixed at a higher point.
- **absence** *noun* **1** being away; the period of this. **2** a lack of something.
- absent¹ (say ab-suhnt) adjective not here; not present, absent from school.
- $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{absent^2} \ (say \ \text{ab-sent}) \ verb \ \textbf{absent} \\ \textbf{yourself} \ \text{stay} \ \text{away}. \end{array}$
- absentee noun a person who is absent.absenteeism nounabsent-minded adjective having your
- mind on other things; forgetful.
- **absolute** *adjective* **1** complete. **2** not restricted. [same origin as *absolve*]
- **absolutely** *adverb* **1** completely. **2** (*informal*) yes, I agree.
- **absolute majority** *noun* a majority over all rivals combined; more than half.
- **absolution** *noun* a priest's formal declaration that people's sins are forgiven.
- **absolve** *verb* (**absolved**, **absolving**)

 1 clear a person of blame or guilt.

 2 release from a promise or obligation. [from *ab*-, + Latin *solvere* = set free]
- absorb verb 1 soak up; take in.
 2 receive something and reduce its effects, The buffers absorbed most of the shock. 3 take up a person's attention or time. absorbent adjective, absorption noun
- **absorbing** *adjective* intensely interesting; engrossing, *an absorbing book.*
- **abstain** *verb* keep yourself from doing something (e.g. from voting); refrain. **abstainer** *noun*, **abstention** *noun*

- **abstemious** (*say* uhb-**stee**-mee-uhs) *adjective* eating or drinking only small amounts; not greedy. **abstemiously** *adverb*, **abstemiousness** *noun*
- **abstinence** *noun* abstaining, especially from alcohol. **abstinent** *adjective*
- abstract¹ (say ab-strakt) adjective
 1 concerned with ideas, not with
 objects, Truth is abstract. 2 (of a
 painting or sculpture) showing the
 artist's ideas or feelings, not showing
 a recognisable person or thing.
- **abstract**² *noun* a summary. [from *abs*-, + Latin *tractum* = pulled]
- **abstracted** *adjective* with your mind on other things; not paying attention.
- **abstract noun** *noun* a noun denoting an idea, quality, state, or action.
- **abstruse** (*say* uhb-**stroos**) *adjective* hard to understand; obscure.
- **absurd** *adjective* ridiculous; foolish. **absurdity** *noun*, **absurdly** *adverb* [from Latin *absurdus* = out of tune]
- abundance noun plenty.
- abundant *adjective* plentiful. abundantly *adverb*
- abuse¹ (say uh-byooz) verb (abused, abusing) 1 use badly or wrongly; misuse. 2 ill-treat. 3 say unpleasant things to a person or thing.
- **abuse²** (say uh-**byoos**) noun 1 a misuse. 2 ill-treatment. 3 words abusing a person or thing; insults. **abusive** adjective [from ab- + use]
- abut verb (abutted, abutting) end against something, Their shed abuts against ours. abutment noun
- **abysmal** (*say* uh-**biz**-muhl) *adjective* extremely bad, *abysmal ignorance*.
- abyss (say uh-bis) noun (plural abysses) an extremely deep pit.
- AC abbreviation 1 (also ac) alternating current. 2 Companion of the Order of Australia.
- ac- prefix see ad-.
- **acacia** (*say* uh-**kay**-shuh) *noun* any tree or shrub of the genus *Acacia*, to which wattles belong.
- academic adjective 1 of a school or college or university. 2 scholarly.3 theoretical; having no practical application.
- academy noun (plural academies) 1 a school or college, especially for specialised training. 2 a society of scholars, The Australian Academy of Science.
- a cappella (say ah kuh-pel-uh) adverb & adjective (of choral music) sung without instrumental accompaniment.
- accede (say ak-seed) verb 1 agree to what is asked or suggested, accede to a request. 2 take office; become king or queen, accede to the throne. [from ac-, + Latin cedere = go]
- accelerate verb (accelerated, accelerating) 1 make or become quicker. 2 happen or cause to happen earlier or more quickly. acceleration noun [from ac-, + Latin celer = swift]
- accelerator *noun* something that speeds things up; the pedal that a driver presses to make a motor vehicle go faster.
- accent¹ (say ak-sent) noun 1 the way a person pronounces words, She has a French accent. 2 emphasis; pronouncing part of a word more strongly than the rest, In 'action', the accent is on 'ac-'. 3 a mark placed over a letter to show its pronunciation, e.g. in café.
- **accent2** (*say* ak-**sent**) *verb* pronounce part of a word more strongly than the other parts; emphasise.

- accentuate (say ak-sen-choo-ayt) verb (accentuated, accentuating) emphasise; accent. accentuation noun
- accept verb 1 take a thing that is offered or presented. 2 say yes to an offer or invitation. acceptance noun

Usage Do not confuse *accept* with *except*.

- acceptable adjective worth accepting; pleasing. acceptability noun, acceptably adverb
- access¹ (say ak-ses) noun a way in; a way to reach something.
- access² *verb* find information that has been stored in a computer.

Usage Do not confuse *access* with *excess*.

- **accessible** *adjective* able to be reached. **accessibility** *noun*, **accessibly** *adverb*
- accession noun 1 reaching a rank or position. 2 an addition, recent accessions to the library.
- accessory (say uhk-ses-uh-ree) noun (plural accessories) 1 an extra thing that goes with something. 2 a person who helps another with a crime.
- accident noun an unexpected happening, especially one causing injury or damage.
- **by accident** by chance; without its being arranged in advance. [from *ac*-, + Latin *cadens* = falling]
- **accidental** *adjective* happening or done by accident. **accidentally** *adverb*
- acclaim¹ verb praise enthusiastically
 and publicly. acclamation noun [from
 ac-, + Latin clamare = to shout]
- **acclaim²** *noun* enthusiastic and public praise.
- acclimatise *verb* (acclimatised, acclimatising) make or become used to a new climate or new conditions. acclimatisation *noun*
- accolade (say ak-uh-layd) noun
 1 praise. 2 the ceremonial conferring of a knighthood by tapping a person on the shoulders with a sword.
- accommodate verb (accommodated, accommodating) 1 provide room or lodging for somebody. 2 help by providing something, We can accommodate you with skis.
- **accommodation** *noun* somewhere to live; lodgings.
- **accompanist** *noun* a person who plays a musical accompaniment.
- accompany verb (accompanied, accompanying) 1 go somewhere with somebody. 2 be present with something, Thunder accompanied the storm. 3 play music that supports a singer or another player. accompaniment noun
- **accomplice** (*say* uh-**kum**-pluhs) *noun* a person who helps another in a crime or wrongdoing.
- **accomplish** *verb* do something successfully. **accomplishment** *noun*
- **accomplished** *adjective* skilled. **accord** *noun* 1 agreement; consent.
- accord noun 1 agreement; consent.
 2 a formal agreement or treaty.
 of your own accord voluntarily; without being asked or compelled.
- accord² verb 1 be consistent with something. 2 (formal) give, He was accorded this privilege.
- accordance noun in accordance with in agreement with, This is done in accordance with the rules.
- according adverb according to 1 as stated by, According to him, she's a genius. 2 in a way that suits, Price the apples according to their size.

- **accordingly** *adverb* 1 in the way that is required, *It's a formal occasion, so please dress accordingly.* 2 therefore.
- accordion noun a portable musical instrument like a large concertina with bellows, metal reeds, and keys or buttons. accordionist noun
- **accost** *verb* approach and speak to a person.
- account¹ noun 1 a statement of money owed, spent, or received; a bill. 2 an arrangement to keep money in a bank or firm. 3 a description; a report.
- on account of because of. on no account certainly not. take into account consider.
- **account²** *verb* **account for** make it clear why something happens.
- accountable *adjective* responsible; having to explain why you have done something. accountability *noun*
- **accountant** *noun* a keeper or inspector of financial accounts. **accountancy** *noun*
- **accounting** *noun* keeping financial accounts.
- accredited adjective officially recognised, our accredited agent.
- $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{accrue} \ (say \ \text{uh-kroo}) \ verb \ (\textbf{accrued}, \\ \textbf{accruing}) \ \text{accumulate.} \ \textbf{accrual} \ noun \end{array}$
- accumulate verb (accumulated, accumulating) 1 collect; pile up. 2 grow numerous; increase. accumulation noun [from ac-, + Latin cumulus = heap]
- accumulator noun a storage battery.
- **accurate** *adjective* correct; exact. accuracy *noun*, accurately *adverb*
- accuse *verb* (accused, accusing) claim that someone has done something wrong; blame. accusation *noun*, accuser *noun*
- accustom verb make a person become
 used to something. [from ac- +
 custom]
- **accustomed** *adjective* customary; usual.
- ace noun 1 a playing card with one spot. 2 a very skilful person or thing.
- acetylene (say uh-set-uh-leen) noun a gas that burns with a bright flame, used in cutting and welding metal.
- ache¹ noun 1 a dull continuous pain.2 mental distress.
- **ache²** *verb* (**ached**, **aching**) have an ache.
- achieve verb (achieved, achieving) succeed in doing or producing something; accomplish. achievable adjective, achievement noun [from Old French a chief = to a head]
- acid¹ noun a chemical substance that contains hydrogen and neutralises alkalis. acidic adjective, acidity noun
- acid² adjective 1 sharp-tasting; sour.2 looking or sounding bitter, an acid reply. acidly adverb
- acid rain noun rain made acid by mixing with waste gases from industrial processes such as power generation.
- acid test noun a severe or conclusive
- acknowledge verb (acknowledged, acknowledging) 1 admit that something is true. 2 state that you have received or noticed something, Acknowledge this letter. 3 express thanks or appreciation for something
- acknowledgement noun (also acknowledgment) 1 acceptance of the truth or existence of something. 2 a letter confirming receipt of something. 3 the expression of gratitude or appreciation for something.

- acknowledgement of country noun (Australian) a formal recognition of the traditional Aboriginal owners of the land.
- acme (say ak-mee) noun the highest
 degree of something, the acme of
 perfection. [from Greek akme =
 highest point]
- **acne** (*say* **ak**-nee) *noun* inflamed red pimples on the face and neck.
- acorn noun the seed of the oak tree.
- acoustic (say uh-koo-stik) adjective
 1 of sound or hearing. 2 (of a musical
 instrument) not electronic, an
 acoustic guitar. acoustically adverb
 [from Greek akouein = hear]
- acoustics plural noun 1 the qualities of a room or building that make it good or bad for carrying sound. 2 the properties of sound.
- acquaint verb tell somebody about something, Acquaint him with the facts
- be acquainted with know slightly.
- **acquaintance** *noun* **1** a person you know slightly. **2** being acquainted.
- acquiesce (say ak-wee-es) verb (acquiesced, acquiescing) agree to something. acquiescence noun, acquiescent adjective
- acquire verb (acquired, acquiring)
 obtain. acquisition noun [from ac-, +
 Latin quaerere = seek]
- **acquisitive** (*say* uh-**kwiz**-uh-tiv) *adjective* eager to acquire things.
- acquit *verb* (acquitted, acquitting) decide that somebody is not guilty. acquittal *noun*
- acre (say ay-kuh) noun an area of land measuring 0.405 hectares. acreage noun
- acrid adjective bitter, an acrid smell.
- ak-ruh-moh-nee-uhs) adjective (of a
- person's manner or words) sharp and bad-tempered or bitter. acrimony (say ak-ruh-muh-nee) noun
- acrobat noun a person who performs spectacular gymnastic stunts for entertainment. acrobatic adjective, acrobatics plural noun [from Greek akrobatos = walking on tiptoe]
- acronym (say ak-ruh-nim) noun a word or name formed from the initial letters of other words, ASEAN is an acronym of Association of South East Asian Nations. [from Greek akros = top, + onyma = name]
- across preposition & adverb 1 from one side to the other, Swim across the river. Are you across yet? 2 on the opposite side, the house across the street.
- across the board applying to all.

 acrostic noun a word puzzle or poem in which the first or last letters of
- each line form a word or words.

 acrylic (say uh-kril-ik) noun a kind of fibre, plastic, or resin made from an organic acid.
- act¹ noun 1 an action. 2 a law passed by a parliament. 3 one of the main divisions of a play or opera. 4 a short performance in a program of entertainment, a juggling act. 5 (informal) a pretence, She is only putting on an act.
- act² verb 1 do something; behave; perform actions. 2 perform a part in a play or film. 3 function; have an effect. 4 pretend. [from Latin actum = done]
- **acting** *adjective* serving temporarily, especially as a substitute, *the acting principal*.
- action noun 1 doing something.
 2 something done. 3 a battle; fighting, He was killed in action. 4 a lawsuit. 5 a series of events in a story or play. 6 exciting activity, an

- action-packed holiday. 7 the mechanism of an instrument. out of action not functioning. take action do something.
- activate *verb* (activated, activating) start something working. activation *noun*, activator *noun*
- active adjective 1 doing things; moving about; taking part in activities.
 2 functioning; in operation, an active volcano. 3 radioactive. 4 (of a form of a verb) used when the subject of the verb is performing the action. In 'Tom washed the car' the verb is active; in 'The car was washed by Tom' the verb is passive. (Compare passive.) actively adverb, activeness noun
- **activist** *noun* a person who believes in vigorous action, especially in politics.
- activity noun (plural activities) 1 an action or occupation, outdoor activities. 2 being active or lively.
- actor noun a performer in a play or film.
- actress noun a female actor.
- actual *adjective* real. actuality *noun*, actually *adverb*
- actuate *verb* (actuated, actuating) activate. actuation *noun*
- acumen (say ak-yuh-muhn) noun sharpness of mind. [Latin, = a point]
- acupuncture (say ak-yuh-pungk-chuh) noun pricking parts of the body with needles to relieve pain or cure disease. acupuncturist noun [from Latin acu = with a needle, + puncture]
- acute adjective 1 sharp; strong, acute pain. 2 having a sharp mind. 3 (of an illness) coming quickly to a crisis, acute appendicitis. acutely adverb, acuteness noun
- **acute accent** *noun* a mark over a vowel, as over *e* in *café*.
- **acute angle** *noun* an angle of less than
- AD abbreviation Anno Domini (Latin = in the year of Our Lord), used in dates counted from the birth of Jesus Christ, The Roman Emperor Nero died in AD 68.
- ad- prefix (changing to ac-, af-, ag-, al-, an-, ap-, ar-, as-, at- before certain consonants) to; towards (as in adapt, admit). [from Latin ad = to]
- adage (say ad-ij) noun a short saying; a proverb.
- adagio (say uh-dah-zhee-oh) adverb & adjective (in music) in slow time. [Italian]
- **adamant** (*say* **ad**-uh-muhnt) *adjective* firm and not giving way to requests.
- **Adam's apple** *noun* the lump at the front of a man's neck.
- adapt verb make or become suitable
 for a new purpose or situation.
 adaptable adjective [from ad-, + Latin
 aptus = fitted]
- adaptation noun 1 the process of adapting or being adapted. 2 a thing that has been adapted. 3 the process by which an organism or species becomes suited to its environment, Living in groups is an adaptation to increase the efficiency of hunting.
- **adaptor** *noun* a device to connect pieces of electrical or other equipment.
- **ADD** abbreviation attention deficit disorder.
- add verb 1 put one thing with another.2 make another remark.add to increase.
 - add up 1 make or find a total.2 (*informal*) make sense; seem reasonable.
- add up to amount to.

Aa

- abandon¹ verb 1 abdicate, cancel, chuck in (informal), discontinue, drop, forgo, give up, quit, resign, scrap, surrender, throw in (informal), waive, yield. 2 (abandon a person) desert, ditch (informal), forsake, jilt, leave, leave in the lurch, run out on (informal), walk out on (informal); (abandon a place) evacuate, leave, quit, vacate.
- **abate** *verb* decrease, die down, ease, moderate, subside, weaken.
- **abbey** *noun* **1** convent, friary, monastery, nunnery, priory, religious house.
- **abbreviate** *verb* abridge, contract, cut, reduce, shorten, truncate.
- **abbreviation** *noun* **1** acronym, contraction, shortening.
- **abdicate** *verb* quit, resign, stand down, step down; see also RENOUNCE.
- **abdomen** *noun* **1** belly, gut (*informal*), insides (*informal*), intestines, paunch, stomach, tummy (*informal*).
- **abduct** *verb* carry off, kidnap, seize, snatch (*informal*).
- **aberration** *noun* abnormality, anomaly, deviation, peculiarity, variation.
- **abet** *verb* aid, assist, encourage, help, incite, support.
- abhor verb abominate, detest, hate, loathe, recoil from, shrink from. abhorrent adjective abominable, detestable, disgusting, hateful, horrid, loathsome, odious, repugnant, repulsive, revolting.
- **abide** *verb* **1** dwell, live, remain, reside, stay. **2** bear, endure, put up with, stand, stomach, suffer, take, tolerate.
- abide by accept, adhere to, agree to, comply with, conform to, follow, keep to, obey, observe, stick to,
- **abiding** *adjective* endless, enduring, eternal, everlasting, lasting, permanent, steadfast, unending.
- ability noun 1 capability, capacity, potential, power, strength.
 2 aptitude, capability, capacity, cleverness, competence, expertise, facility, flair, genius, gift, knack, know-how, potential, proficiency, prowess, skill, talent.
- able adjective 1 allowed, authorised, available, eligible, fit, free, permitted. 2 accomplished, adept, adroit, capable, clever, competent, gifted, intelligent, proficient, qualified, skilful, talented.
- abnormal adjective anomalous, atypical, bizarre, curious, deviant, eccentric, exceptional, extraordinary, freakish, irregular, odd, peculiar, rare, singular, strange, uncommon, unconventional, unnatural, unusual, weird.
- **abnormality** *noun* anomaly, deformity, irregularity, malformation, peculiarity.
- abolish verb cancel, do away with, eliminate, end, eradicate, extinguish, get rid of, put an end to, remove, stamp out, wipe out.
 abolition noun cancellation,

- elimination, ending, eradication, removal.
- abominable adjective abhorrent, appalling, atrocious, base, contemptible, despicable, detestable, disgusting, execrable, foul, hateful, heinous, horrible, loathsome, obnoxious, odious, repugnant, repulsive, terrible, vile.
- **abominate** *verb* abhor, detest, hate, loathe.
- **aboriginal**¹ *adjective* 1 earliest, first, indigenous, native, original.
- **aboriginal**² *noun* 1 aborigine, indigene, local, original inhabitant.
- **aborigine** noun 1 see ABORIGINAL². **abortion** noun (when spontaneous) miscarriage, (when induced)

termination.

- **abortive** *adjective* failed, fruitless, futile, ineffective, unsuccessful, vain.
- abound *verb* 1 be abundant, be plentiful, flourish, proliferate, thrive.2 be full, overflow, swarm, teem.
- **about**¹ preposition 1 around, close to, near. 2 concerning, connected with, dealing with, involving, on, regarding, relating to.
- about² adverb 1 almost, approximately, around, more or less, nearly, roughly. 3 around, hereabouts, near, nearby. be about to be going to, be on the brink of, be on the point of, be on the verge of, be ready to.
- **above** 1 preposition 1 higher than, on top of, over, superior to. 2 beyond, exceeding, greater than, higher than, more than, over.
- **above²** *adverb* **1** on high, overhead, upstairs. **2** before, earlier, previously.
- **above board**¹ *adjective* clean, fair, honest, honourable, legal, legitimate, open, straight.
- **above board**² *adverb* cleanly, fairly, honestly, honourably, legally, legitimately, openly.
- **abrade** *verb* corrode, erode, scrape, wear, wear away, wear down. abrasion *noun* graze, lesion, scrape, scratch.
- **abridge** *verb* abbreviate, condense, cut, edit, reduce, shorten, trim.
- abroad adverb overseas.
- **abrupt** *adjective* 1 hasty, precipitate, quick, rapid, sharp, sudden, swift, unexpected. 2 blunt, brisk, brusque, curt, gruff, impolite, rude, short.
- **abscond** *verb* bolt, disappear, escape, flee, make off, nick off (*Australian informal*), run off, shoot through (*Australian informal*).
- **absence** noun 1 absenteeism, non-attendance, truancy. 2 dearth, deficiency, lack, want.
- absent¹ adjective away, elsewhere, missing, off.
- **absent-minded** *adjective* abstracted, daydreaming, distracted, dreamy, forgetful, inattentive, oblivious, preoccupied, scatterbrained, scatty (*informal*), vague.
- absolute adjective 1 complete, downright, out-and-out, outright, perfect, positive, pure, sheer, thorough, total, unmitigated, unqualified, utter. 2 autocratic, complete, omnipotent, sovereign, supreme, total, unconditional, unlimited, unqualified, unrestricted.
- **absolution** *noun* forgiveness, pardon, remission.

- **absolve** *verb* **1** acquit, clear, exonerate, forgive, pardon, vindicate. **2** discharge, excuse, exempt, free, release, set free.
- absorb verb 1 (absorb liquid) draw up, mop up, soak up, suck up, take up; (absorb information) assimilate, digest, take in. 3 captivate, capture, engage, engross, interest, monopolise, occupy, preoccupy.
- **absorbing** *adjective* captivating, engrossing, fascinating, gripping, interesting, riveting.
- **abstain** *verb* (*abstain from*) avoid, decline, desist from, do without, forgo, go without, refrain from.
- **abstinence** *noun* non-indulgence, self-denial, sobriety, teetotalism, temperance.
- abstract¹ adjective 1 academic, conceptual, intangible, intellectual, theoretical.
- **abstract²** *noun* outline, precis, resumé, summary, synopsis.
- absurd adjective comic, crazy, farcical, foolish, funny, illogical, inane, laughable, ludicrous, mad, nonsensical, outrageous, preposterous, ridiculous, senseless, silly, strange, stupid, unreasonable, zany.
- abundance noun heaps (informal), lashings (informal), loads (informal), lots (informal), oodles (informal), plenty, stacks (informal), tons (informal), wealth.
- **abundant** *adjective* ample, bountiful, copious, generous, lavish, liberal, overflowing, plentiful, profuse, teeming.
- abuse 1 verb 1 exploit, misuse.
 2 assault, damage, harm, hurt, ill-treat, maltreat, mistreat, molest.
 3 attack, be rude to, curse, denigrate, disparage, insult, revile, slander, swear at.
- abuse² noun 2 assault, exploitation, ill-treatment, maltreatment, mistreatment. 3 calumny, curses, denigration, insults, invective, obscenities, revilement, slander, swearing, vilification, vituperation. abusive adjective derogatory, disparaging, foul-mouthed, impolite, insulting, obscene, offensive, pejorative, rude, scornful, scurrilous, slanderous.
- **abyss** *noun* bottomless pit, chasm, hole.
- academic adjective 1 educational, pedagogic, scholastic. 2 bookish, erudite, highbrow, intellectual, learned, scholarly, studious.

 3 abstract, hypothetical, speculative, theoretical
- accelerate verb 1 go faster, quicken, speed up, step on it (informal).2 expedite, hasten, speed up, step up.
- accent¹ noun 1 brogue, dialect, intonation, pronunciation.
 2 emphasis, prominence, stress.
- accent² verb accentuate, emphasise,
 stress.
- **accentuate** *verb* accent, draw attention to, emphasise, highlight, stress, underline.
- **accept** *verb* **1** get, receive, take. **2** agree to, consent to, go along with, put up with, reconcile yourself to, resign yourself to, take, tolerate, welcome.
- **acceptable** *adjective* adequate, admissible, appropriate, passable, pleasing, proper, satisfactory, seemly, suitable, tolerable.

- **access**¹ *noun* admission, admittance, approach, entrance, entry, way in.
- access² verb obtain, retrieve.
- **accessible** *adjective* attainable, available, handy, obtainable, retrievable.
- accessory noun 1 attachment, extension, extra, fitting. 2 abetter, accomplice, assistant, associate, confederate, partner.
- accident noun calamity, catastrophe, disaster, misadventure, misfortune, mishap; (a car accident) collision, crash, pile-up (informal), prang (informal), smash.
- accidental adjective chance, coincidental, fluky, fortuitous, inadvertent, serendipitous, unexpected, unforeseen, unintentional, unplanned.
- **acclaim**¹ *verb* applaud, cheer, clap, hail, praise, salute, welcome.
- **acclaim²** *noun* acclamation, applause, approval, commendation, ovation, praise, welcome.
- **acclimatise** *verb* adapt, adjust, become accustomed, become inured, get used.
- accolade noun 1 acclaim, compliment, honour, praise, tribute.
- accommodate *verb* 1 billet, board, house, put up, take in. 2 furnish, grant, provide, supply.
- **accommodation** *noun* billet, digs (*informal*), home, house, housing, lodgings, premises, quarters, residence.
- accompany verb 1 attend, be with, chaperone, escort, go with, partner, tag along with, travel with. 3 back up, play with, support.
- **accompaniment** *noun* background, backing, support.
- **accomplice** *noun* abetter, accessory, assistant, collaborator, helper, partner, sidekick (*informal*).
- accomplish verb achieve, attain, bring off, carry out, complete, do, effect, execute, finish, fulfil, perform, succeed in.
 - **accomplishment** *noun* ability, achievement, attainment, deed, exploit, feat, gift, skill, talent.
- accomplished adjective able, adept, brilliant, consummate, experienced, expert, gifted, proficient, skilful, skilled, talented.
- accord¹ noun 2 agreement, compact, pact, treaty.
 of your own accord off your own bat, of your own free will, of your own
- of your own free will, of your own volition, spontaneously, unasked, voluntarily, willingly.
- accord² verb 1 agree, be consistent, coincide, concur, correspond, harmonise, tally.
- **accordingly** *adverb* **2** consequently, hence, so, therefore, thus.
- **accost** *verb* bail up (*Australian*), buttonhole, confront, hail, stop, waylay.
- account¹ noun 1 bill, invoice, receipt, statement. 3 chronicle, description, explanation, history, log, narrative, record, report, story, tale. take into account allow for, consider, take into consideration.
- **account²** *verb* **account for** excuse, explain, give grounds for, justify.
- **accountable** *adjective* answerable, liable, responsible.
- **accumulate** *verb* **1** acquire, amass, collect, gather, hoard, pile up, stockpile, store up. **2** accrue, build

- up, grow, increase, multiply, pile up. accumulation *noun* build-up, collection, heap, hoard, mass, pile, stack, stockpile, store.
- accurate adjective careful, correct, exact, factual, faithful, meticulous, perfect, precise, right, spot on (informal), true.
 - accuracy noun correctness, exactitude, exactness, faithfulness, fidelity, meticulousness, precision, truth.
- **accuse** *verb* blame, charge, denounce, impeach, incriminate, indict, point the finger at (*informal*). **accusation** *noun* allegation, charge,
- accustom verb (accustom to) acclimatise to, adjust to, familiarise with, habituate to, inure to, make used to.

imputation, indictment.

- **accustomed** *adjective* customary, established, expected, familiar, fixed, habitual, normal, regular, set, usual.
- **ace** *noun* **2** champion, expert, master, star, winner.
- ache¹ noun 1 discomfort, hurt, pain, pang, soreness. 2 agony, anguish, distress, grief, misery, pain, sorrow, suffering.
- **ache**² *verb* be painful, be sore, hurt, pound, throb.
- achieve verb accomplish, attain, carry out, fulfil, reach, realise, succeed in. achievement noun accomplishment, attainment, deed, feat; see also SUCCESS.
- acid² adjective 1 acidic, sharp, sour, tangy, tart, vinegary. 2 acerbic, bitter, caustic, cutting, sarcastic, sharp, stinging.
- acknowledge verb 1 accept, admit, agree, allow, concede, confess, grant, recognise. 2 answer, reply to, respond to.

acknowledgement noun

- 1 acceptance, admission, confession.
 2 answer, reply, response.
 3 appreciation, credit, notice, recognition, reward, thanks.
- **acme** *noun* apex, climax, culmination, height, peak, pinnacle, summit, top, zenith.
- **acquaint** *verb* (*acquaint with*) advise of, enlighten about, familiarise with, fill in on (*informal*), inform of, make aware of, tell.
- **be acquainted with** be aware of, be familiar with, be versed in, know.
- **acquaintance** *noun* 1 associate, colleague, contact.
- **acquire** *verb* buy, collect, come by, gain, get, obtain, pick up, procure, purchase, secure.
- acquisition *noun* accession, possession, purchase.
- **acquit** *verb* absolve, clear, exonerate, let off, release, vindicate.
- **acrimonious** *adjective* bitter, cutting, embittered, hostile, nasty, spiteful, tart, virulent.
- **acrobat** *noun* gymnast, tightrope walker, trapeze artist.
- **across** *preposition* **1** over, through, throughout.
- act¹ noun 1 accomplishment, achievement, action, deed, exploit, feat, undertaking. 2 decree, edict, law, statute. 4 performance, routine, show, sketch, skit. 5 deception, front, hoax, pretence, sham, show.
- act² verb 1 behave, conduct yourself.
 2 appear, impersonate, perform, play, portray.
 3 function, have an

- effect, operate, work. **4** fake, feign, make believe, pretend, sham.
- **acting** *adjective* deputy, interim, provisional, substitute, temporary.
- action noun 1 activity, motion, operation, performance, practice, work. 2 act, deed, effort, endeavour, exploit, feat, move, step, undertaking. 3 battle, combat, conflict, fighting, warfare. 4 lawsuit, litigation, proceedings, prosecution. 5 activity, adventure, drama, events, excitement, happenings, incidents.
- **activate** *verb* actuate, set off, start, switch on, trigger, turn on.
- active adjective 1 busy, diligent, dynamic, energetic, full of beans (informal), hard-working, hyperactive, industrious, involved, lively, occupied, participating, sprightly, spry, strenuous, vigorous, vivacious. 2 functioning, operative, working.
- **activist** *noun* agitator, campaigner, crusader, firebrand, lobbyist, militant, protester, stirrer.
- activity noun 1 enterprise, hobby, occupation, pastime, project, pursuit, undertaking, venture. 2 action, bustle, exercise, exertion, hurly-burly, hustle, industry, liveliness, movement.
- actor noun actress, performer, player, star, thespian, trouper; (group of actors) cast, company, troupe.
- **actual** adjective authentic, confirmed, factual, genuine, real, true, verified. actually adverb genuinely, indeed, in fact, really, truly.
- acute adjective 1 excruciating, extreme, intense, keen, piercing, severe, sharp, shooting, stabbing.

 2 astute, canny, clever, discerning, discriminating, incisive, keen, penetrating, perceptive, sharp, shrewd, subtle.
- adamant adjective determined, firm, immovable, inflexible, intransigent, resolute, resolved, stubborn, unyielding.
- adapt verb adjust, alter, change, convert, edit, modify, remake, rewrite, transform; (adapt to) acclimatise to, accustom to, adjust to, become accustomed to, get used to. adaptable adjective accommodating, amenable, easygoing, flexible, malleable, versatile.
- add verb 1 affix, append, attach, combine, join, tack on. add to augment, enlarge, increase,
- swell.

 add up 1 calculate, compute, count, reckon, sum, total, tot up (informal),
- work out.

 add up to amount to, come to,
- add up to amount to, come to constitute, make, total.
- **addendum** *noun* appendix, postscript, supplement.
- addict noun (a TV addict) devotee, enthusiast, fan, fanatic, freak (informal), lover, nut (informal); (a drug addict) druggie (informal), junkie (informal), user (informal). addicted adjective dependent on, hooked on (informal).
- addiction *noun* dependence, habit, obsession.
- addition noun 1 calculation, computation, totalling, totting up (informal). 2 (an addition to a document) appendix, attachment, codicil, postscript, rider, supplement; (an addition to a building) annexe, extension, wing.
 additional adjective added, backup,

- extra, further, more, new, other, supplementary.
- address¹ noun 1 abode (old use),
 domicile, location, residence.
 3 discourse, lecture, oration, sermon,
 speech, talk.
- address² verb 2 lecture, speak to, talk to. 3 apply yourself to, attend to, devote yourself to, focus on, tackle, turn to.
- **adept** *adjective* accomplished, capable, competent, expert, masterful, masterly, proficient, skilful, skilled, talented.
- **adequate** *adjective* acceptable, all right, enough, fair, OK (*informal*), passable, satisfactory, sufficient, tolerable.
- **adhere** *verb* **1** attach, cling, hold fast, stick. **2** (*adhere to*) abide by, comply with, follow, keep to, stick to.
- adhesive¹ adjective adhering, gummed, sticking, sticky.
- adhesive² noun cement, fixative, glue, gum, paste.
- adjacent adjective 1 adjoining, bordering, contiguous, neighbouring, next-door.
- **adjoin** *verb* abut on, be adjacent to be next to, border on.
- **adjourn** *verb* **1** break off, defer, discontinue, interrupt, postpone, put off, suspend.
- adjudicate verb arbitrate, judge, referee, ûmpire. adjudicator noun arbitrator, judge, referee, umpire.
- adjust verb 1 arrange, regulate, set, tune. 2 adapt, alter, change, fit, modify, reshape, tailor. 3 acclimatise, adapt, become accustomed, get used to, reconcile yourself.
- ad lib¹ adverb extempore, impromptu, off the cuff, off the top of your head (informal).
- ad lib² verb extemporise, improvise, play it by ear (informal).
- administer verb 1 carry out, deal out, dispense, give, hand out, mete out, provide. 2 conduct, control, direct, govern, look after, manage, operate, oversee, run, supervise.
- administration noun 1 control, direction, management, running, supervision. 3 government, ministry, regime.
- administrator noun chief, controller, director, executive, governor, head, manager, superintendent.
- admirable adjective commendable, excellent, exemplary, honourable, laudable, praiseworthy, worthy.
- admire verb 2 appreciate, approve of, esteem, idolise, look up to, praise, regard highly, respect, revere, think highly of, venerate.
- admiration *noun* approval, commendation, praise, respect, veneration.
- admirer noun (a woman's admirer) beau, boyfriend, lover, suitor, sweetheart; (an actor's admirer) devotee, fan, follower, supporter.
- admission *noun* 1 access, admittance, entrance, entry. **3** acceptance, acknowledgement, confession, declaration, disclosure, statement.
- **admit** *verb* **1** allow in, let in, permit entry, take in. **2** accept, acknowledge, concede, confess, grant, own up.
- **admittance** *noun* access, admission, entrance, entry.
- **admonish** *verb* chide (*old use*), rebuke, reprimand, reproach,

- reprove, scold, tell off (informal), tick off (informal).
- **ado** *noun* bother, commotion, fuss, kerfuffle (*informal*), to-do, trouble.
- **adolescence** *noun* puberty, teens, youth.
 - adolescent *adjective* teenage, youthful.
- **adolescent** *noun* minor, teen (*informal*), teenager, youngster, youth.
- **adopt** *verb* **2** accept, approve, assume, choose, embrace, endorse, espouse, ratify, take up, use.
- adore verb 1 cherish, dote on, idolise, love. 2 exalt, extol, glorify, hallow, honour, laud (formal), magnify (old use), praise, revere, venerate, worship.
 - adorable adjective appealing, cute (informal), darling, dear, delightful, irresistible, likeable, lovable, lovely, sweet (informal).
- **adorn** *verb* array, deck out, decorate, festoon, ornament.
- adult noun grown-up.
 adult adjective developed, full-sized,
 fully grown, grown-up, mature.
- **adulterate** *verb* contaminate, dilute, pollute, water down, weaken.
- **adultery** *noun* infidelity, unfaithfulness.
- advance¹ noun 1 breakthrough, development, headway, improvement, progress. 2 addition, gain, increase, rise. 3 loan, prepayment.
 - in advance ahead, beforehand, up front.
- advance² verb 1 approach, go ahead, go forward, go on, make headway, move forward, proceed, progress.
 2 lend, prepay.
- **advanced** *adjective* **2** complicated, difficult, hard, higher. **3** avant-garde, innovative, modern, new, progressive, revolutionary, sophisticated, up to date.
- **advantage** *noun* 1 asset, benefit, blessing, bonus, boon, gain, help, plus.
- advantageous adjective beneficial, favourable, good, helpful, profitable, useful, valuable.
- take advantage of capitalise on, cash in on, exploit, make the most of, make use of, use.
- **advent** *noun* **2** appearance, arrival, coming, dawn.
- adventure noun 1 deed, feat, escapade, experience, exploit, incident, trial. 2 danger, excitement, risk, thrill, uncertainty.
- **adventurous** *adjective* bold, brave, daring, enterprising, intrepid, venturesome.
- **adversary** *noun* enemy, foe, opponent, rival.
- adverse adjective bad, detrimental, harmful, ill, injurious, unfavourable, untoward
- **adversity** *noun* affliction, calamity, catastrophe, disaster, distress, hardship, misfortune, trouble.
- advertise verb 1 announce, make known, proclaim, publicise.
 2 market, plug (informal), promote, push (informal), tout.
- advertisement noun ad (informal), advert (informal), announcement, blurb, commercial, notice, plug (informal), promotion, publicity, trailer.
- **advice** *noun* 1 counsel, guidance, opinion, recommendation,

Guide to dictionary entries

Headword: the word being defined in the entry. Entries are arranged in alphabetical order of headwords.

Plural: the plural form of the headword.

Raised numbers: distinguish words with the same spelling that have separate entries for different parts of speech or unrelated meanings.

Compound: a word formed from the headword plus one or more other words.

Derivative: a word derived from the headword whose meaning can be worked out from the meaning of the headword.

Verb forms: the first form is the past tense, the second the past participle, and the third the present participle.

Phrase: listed and defined under the entry for the main word in the phrase.

Verb forms: the first form is the past tense and past participle; the second is the present participle. amnesia (say am-nee-zee-uh) noun loss of memory. [from Greek a-= without, + -mnesis = memory]

formal¹ adjective strictly following the accepted rules or customs; ceremonious. formally adverb

kilo noun (plural kilos) a kilogram.

kind noun a class of similar things or animals; a sort or type.

payment in kind payment in goods not in money.

Usage Correct use is this kind of thing or these kinds of things (not 'these kind of things').

kind² adjective friendly and helpful; considerate. kind-hearted adjective, kindness notin

kindy noan (Australian informal) kindergarten.

king noun 1 a man who is the ruler of a country through inheriting the position. 2 a person or thing regarded as supreme, the lion is the king of beasts. 3 the most important piece in chess. 4 a playing card with a picture of a king, kingly adjective

opt verb choose.
 opt out decide not to join in. [from
 Latin optare = wish for]

weapon noun something used to do harm in a battle or fight. weaponry

wear¹ verb (wore, worn, wearing)
1 have something on your body as clothes, ornaments, etc. 2-damage something by rubbing or using 11 often; become damaged in this way, The carpet has worn thin. 3 last while in use, It has worn well, wearable adjective, wearer noun wear off 1 be removed by wear or use. 2 become less intense.

wear on pass gradually, *The night wore on.*wear out 1 use or be used until it

becomes weak or useless. 2 exhaust.

wear² noun 1 clothes, formal wear.

2 damage resulting from ordinary use, wear and tear.

weary¹ adjective (wearier, weariest) 1 tired. 2 tiring, It's weary work. wearily adverb, weariness noun

weary² verb (wearied, wearying) tire. worn² past participle of wear¹. Pronunciation:

shows how to say the word. (See also p. vi.)

Etymology: the origin of the headword.

Definition: the meaning of the headword.

Usage note: a note explaining correct usage.

Usage label: indicates the word belongs to Australian English and is normally used informally. (See p. vi for more information on usage labels.)

Part of speech: describes the grammatical use of a word as a *noun*, *verb*, *adyec-tive*, etc.

Numbers: used for different senses of the headword.

Example: shows how the word is used and helps to clarify the meaning.

Adjective forms: the comparative and superlative forms of the headword.

Cross-reference: refers the reader to another entry for more information.

Guide to thesaurus entries

Headword: the word for which synonyms are given in the entry. Entries are arranged in alphabetical order of headwords.

Raised number:

identifies the particular headword in the dictionary section with the same raised number.

Cross-reference: refers the reader to another entry for a list of synonyms.

Plural: the form of the headword for which synonyms are given.

Phrase: a set phrase whose main word is the headword of the entry. Synonyms are offered for the whole phrase.

Part of speech: describes the grammatical use of a word as a noun, verb, adverb, adjective, etc.

Derivative: a word derived from the headword for which synonyms are offered. formal adjective (a formal occasion) ceremonial, official, solemn, stately; (a formal manner) ceremonious, conventional, dignified, pompous, prim, proper, punctilious, reserved, starchy, stiff, stilted, strait-laced.

kind noun brand, breed, category, class, classification, form, genre, genus, ilk (informal), make, nature, order, set, sort, species, strain, style, type, variety.

kind² adjective affectionate, altruistic, amiable, attentive, avuncular, benevolent, benign, big-hearted, caring, charitable, compassionate, considerate, fatherly, friendly, generous, genial, gentle, good, good-natured, gracious, helpful, hospitable, humane, kind-hearted, kindly, lenient, loving, merciful, motherly, neighbourly, nice, obliging, philanthropic, soft-hearted, sympathetic, tender-hearted, thoughtful, understanding, unselfish, warm-hearted, well-meaning.

king nown 1 monarch, ruler, sovereign; see also RY LER 1. kingly adjective regal, royal.

opt verb (opt for) choose, decide on, go for, pick, select, settle on, vote

weapon *noun* (*weapons*) armaments, arms, munitions, weaponry.

wear 1 verb 1 be attired in, clothe yourself in, don, dress in, have on, put on, sport. 2 abrade, corrode, eat away, erode, grind down, rub away, scuff, wear away, wear down.

3 endure, last, stand up, survive.
wear off decrease, diminish, dwindle, fade, lessen, subside.
wear out 1 become shabby, become

wear out 1 become shabby, become threadbare, fray, wear thin. 2 drain, exhaust, fatigue, tire out, weary.

weary¹ adjective 1 all in (informal), beat (informal), dog-tired, done in (informal), drained, drowsy, exhausted, fagged out (informal), fatigued, jaded, knackered (informal), pooped (informal), sleepy, spent, tired, whacked (informal), worn out, zonked (informal).

weariness noun exhaustion, fatigue, languor, lassitude, lethargy, listlessness, tiredness.

Example: shows the context for which the following synonyms are suitable.

Synonyms: arranged in alphabetical order for each sense of the headword.

Verb plus preposition: synonyms are substitutable for the phrase.

Number: identifies the particular dictionary sense of the headword for which synonyms are given. Synonyms are not always offered for every dictionary sense, and in some cases a single list of synonyms is applicable to several senses.

Usage label: indicates a restricted use of a synonym. In the thesaurus the label is found in brackets after the synonym it qualifies. (See p. vi for more information on usage labels.)

Spelling

Many verbs ending in **-ise** (such as *realise*) and their corresponding nouns ending in **-isation** (such as *realisation*) may also be spelt with z instead of s. However, only **-ise** should be used in *advertise*, *advise*, *apprise*, *arise*, *chastise*, *comprise*, *compromise*, *demise*, *despise*, *devise*, *enfranchise*, *enterprise*, *excise*, *exercise*, *franchise*, *improvise*, *incise*, *merchandise*, *practise*, *promise*, *revise*, *rise*, *supervise*, *surmise*, *surprise*, *televise*, and in verbs ending in *-aise*, *-oise*, and *-uise*.

Pronunciation

A guide to pronunciation is given for any word that is difficult to pronounce, or difficult to recognise when read, or spelled the same as another word but pronounced differently. The pronunciation given represents standard Australian speech.

The sounds represented are as follows:

	r		
a	as in and, bat, cat	00	as in soon, boot, ooze
ah	as in calm, path, arm	oor	as in tour
air	as in fair, care, there	ow	as in cow, how, out
aw	as in law, for, sore	owuh	as in hour, power
ay	as in play, age, face	p	as in p eg
b	as in b ed	r	as in red
ch	as in chin, church, which	S	as in sit
d	as in day	sh	as in shop, fish, charade
e	as in bed, ten, egg	t	as in top
ee	as in meet, meat, each	th	as in thin, method, both
eer	as in beer, here, fear	th	as in this, either, those
er	as in her, bird	u	as in bun, up
f	as in f at	uh	as in above, correct, mother
g	as in get, wagon, dog	uu	as in book, look, pull
h	as in h at	uy	as in cry, light
i	as in pin, sit, is	uyuh	as in fire, wire, spire
j	as in jam, job, enjoy	v	as in van, river
k	as in king, cat, pique	W	as in was, wish
1	as in leg	X	as in Scottish loch
m	as in me	y	as in yard, yes, you
n	as in n ot	yoo	as in few, due, beauty, tune
ng	as in sing, thing, anxious	yoor	as in cure, pure, endure
O	as in got, top, on	Z	as in zoo, lazy, raise
oh	as in most, boat, go	zh	as in division, vision, measure
oi	as in join, voice, boy		

Note

- 1 The pronunciation is shown in brackets, usually directly after the headword e.g. galah (say guh-lah).
- 2 Words are broken up into syllables by means of hyphens, as an aid to correct pronunciation.
- 3 The main stress of a word of two or more syllables is indicated in bold type, like this.

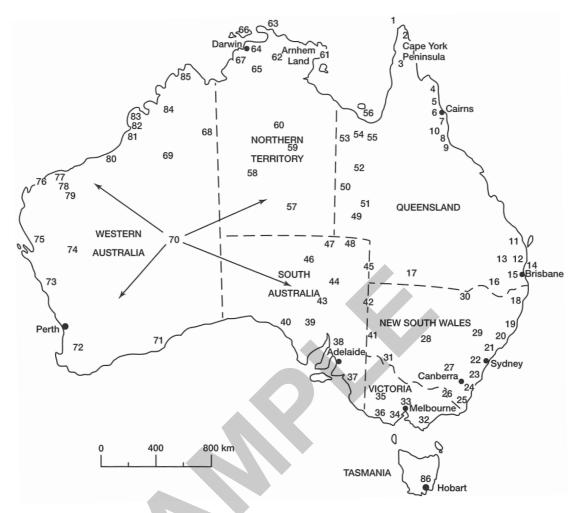
Usage labels

If the use of a word is restricted in any way this is indicated by a label printed in italics. Some words or senses may be restricted to a particular region or subject area, while others may be classed as *informal*, *formal*, *derogatory*, and so on. Words labelled *formal* are normally restricted to formal (especially written) English, whereas those labelled *informal* are normally used only in speaking or informal writing. Those marked *derogatory* are normally used to express a low opinion or to be deliberately insulting.

Proprietary terms

This dictionary includes some words which are, or are asserted to be, proprietary names or trademarks. Their inclusion does not imply that they have acquired for legal purposes a non-proprietary or general significance, nor is any other judgement implied concerning their legal status. In cases where the editor has some evidence that a word is used as a proprietary name or trademark this is indicated by the label *trademark*, but no judgement concerning the legal status of such words is made or implied thereby.

Locations of Australian Aboriginal languages



Adnyamathanha	43_	Guyani	43	Ngarrindjeri	37	Warungu	10
Arabana	46) '		Ngiyampaa	28	Wathaurong	34
Arrernte	57	Jingulu	60	Nhanta	73	Wemba Wemba	35
Awabakal	21			Noongar	72	Western Desert language	70
		Kalaaku	71	Nyangumarta	80	Wik-Mungkan	3
Bardi	83	Kala Lagaw Ya	1	Nyawaygi	9	Wiradjuri	27
Barngarla	39	Kalkatungu	52			Wirangu	40
Batjamal	67	Karajarri	81	Paakantyi	41	Woiwurrung	33
Bigambil	16	Kaurna	38	Panyjima	79	Wuna	64
Bundjalung	18	Kuku-Yalanji	5	Pintupi	70	Wunambal	85
				Pitjantjatjara	70		
Dhanggati	19	Lardil	56	Pitta Pitta	51	Yadhaykenu	2
Dharawal	23	Luritja	70			Yagara	15
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