

# Contents

Introduction	vi
Using this book	1
Phonetic symbols	3

## Effective vocabulary learning

- 1 Learning vocabulary – general advice: What do you need to learn? What does learning new word mean? Can you learn just by reading or listening to English? How are you going to plan your learning?
- 2 Learning vocabulary – aids to learning *bubble diagram, word fork*
- 3 Organising a vocabulary notebook *tree diagram, word-class*
- 4 The names of English language words *adjective, syllable, collocation*
- 5 Using your dictionary *usage, synonym, pronunciation*
- 6 Revising vocabulary *active and receptive vocabulary, fix in your memory*
- 7 Guessing and explaining meaning *context, clues, it's a bit like*

## Word formation

- 8 Suffixes *-er, -or, -ness*
- 9 Prefixes *in-, ex-, mis-*
- 10 Roots *-spect-, -port-, -vert-*
- 11 Abstract nouns *excitement, generosity, wisdom*
- 12 Compound adjectives *air-conditioned, off-peak, sugar-free*
- 13 Compound nouns (1) noun + noun *baby-sitter, sunglasses, junk mail*
- 14 Compound nouns (2) verb + preposition *cutback, turnover, outlook*
- 15 Words from other languages *ballerina, yoghurt, judo*
- 16 Abbreviations and acronyms *UN, ID, fridge*
- 17 New words in English *video jockey, surfing the net, shopaholic*

## Words and pronunciation

- 18 Words commonly mispronounced *doubt, hiccough, sword*
- 19 Onomatopoeic words *clink, tinkle, splash*
- 20 Homonyms *wait, weight; row /raʊ/ and row /rəʊ/*

## Connecting and linking words

- 21 Time *as soon as, while, afterwards*
- 22 Condition *unless, provided that, no matter*
- 23 Cause, reason, purpose and result *gave rise to, with the aim of*
- 24 Concession and contrast *although, admittedly, on the other hand*
- 25 Addition *in addition, likewise, as well as*
- 26 Text-referring words *situation, aspect, issue*
- 27 Discourse markers in speech *well, let me see, hang on*
- 28 Discourse markers in writing *firstly, in conclusion*

## Countables and uncountables

- 29 Uncountable nouns *travel, luggage, knowledge*
- 30 Words that only occur in the plural *headquarters, binoculars, scissors*



- 31 Countable and uncountable nouns with different meanings *a glass, glass; a hair, hair*
- 32 Collective nouns *crowd, flock, range*
- 33 Making uncountable nouns countable *a bit of advice, a flash of lightning, some spots of rain*
- 34 Containers and contents *a tube of toothpaste, a jar of jam, a box of matches*

## Topics

- 35 Countries, nationalities and languages *Brazil, Japanese, Arabic*
- 36 The weather *drought, stifling, chilly*
- 37 Describing people: appearance *wavy hair, freckles, plump*
- 38 Describing people: character *down-to-earth, broad-minded, eccentric*
- 39 Relationships *colleague, acquaintance, to fancy someone*
- 40 At home *bungalow, attic, table mat*
- 41 Everyday problems *power cut, to leak, stained*
- 42 Global problems *to erupt, injured, earthquake*
- 43 Education *degree, tutorial, to pass an exam*
- 44 Work *union representative, redundant, shift work*
- 45 Sport *billiards, high jump, fencing*
- 46 The arts *sculpture, novel, performance*
- 47 Music *track, hit, backing*
- 48 Food *aubergine, spicy, bake*
- 49 The environment *island, glacier, polluted*
- 50 Towns *art gallery, traffic jam, population*
- 51 The natural world *nest, hedgehog, harvest*
- 52 Clothes *cardigan, collar, striped*
- 53 Health and medicine *sore throat, prescribe, tablets*
- 54 Travel *ferry, overtake, supersonic*
- 55 Holidays *timeshare, sightseeing, breath-taking*
- 56 Numbers and shapes *triangle, sphere, odd and even*
- 57 Science and technology *mobile phone, microwave, genetic engineering*
- 58 Computers and the Internet *modem, surf the Web*
- 59 The press and the media *tabloid, aerial, soap opera*
- 60 Politics and public institutions *independence, House of Commons, elect*
- 61 Crime *burglary, blackmail, verdict*
- 62 Money – buying, selling and paying *earn, current account, overdrawn*

## Feelings and actions

- 63 Belief and opinion *maintain, point of view, intellectual*
- 64 Pleasant and unpleasant feelings *grateful, frustration, worrying*
- 65 Like, dislike and desire *adore, loathe, devoted*
- 66 Speaking *whisper, grumble, guiltily*
- 67 The six senses *glance, fragrant, telepathy*
- 68 What your body does *yawn, snore, chew*

## Basic concepts

- 69 Number, quantity, degree and intensity *considerable, a great deal, dozens of*
- 70 Time *for the time being, temporary, to last*
- 71 Distances and dimensions *length, faraway, stretch*



- 72 Obligation, need, possibility and probability *compulsory, exempt, shortage*
- 73 Sound and light *racket, twinkle, sombre*
- 74 Possession, giving and lending *estate, property, allocate*
- 75 Movement and speed *flutter, crawl, rate*
- 76 Texture, brightness, weight and density *prickly, dazzling, hollow*
- 77 Success, failure and difficulty *manage, compromise, cope*

## Idiomatic expressions

- 78 Idioms and fixed expressions – general *under the weather, to have seen better days*
- 79 Everyday expressions *come to think of it, that's that, as far as I'm concerned*
- 80 Similes *as good as gold, like a red rag to a bull*
- 81 Binomials *rough and ready, peace and quiet, sooner or later*
- 82 Idioms describing people *quick off the mark, round the bend, a lazy-bones*
- 83 Idioms describing feelings or mood *in high spirits, in a black mood, scared stiff*
- 84 Idioms describing problematic situations *to take a back seat, the tide has turned, to bury the hatchet*
- 85 Idioms connected with praise and criticism *knock spots off, on the ball, pick holes in*
- 86 Idioms connected with using language *talk shop, a talking-point, long-winded*
- 87 Miscellaneous idioms *to pay through the nose, to have something on the brain*
- 88 Proverbs *Don't put all your eggs in one basket*

## Phrasal verbs and verb-based expressions

- 89 Expressions with do and make *do housework, do up, make a mistake, make up*
- 90 Expressions with bring and take *bring down, bring to light, take after, take for granted*
- 91 Expressions with get *get by, get out of bed on the wrong side*
- 92 Expressions with set and put *set off, set one's heart on, put up with, put two and two together*
- 93 Expressions with come and go *come across, come to an end, go off, as far as it goes*
- 94 Miscellaneous expressions *run out of, see your way to, break someone's heart*

## Varieties of English

- 95 Formal and informal words (1) *offspring, children, kids*
- 96 Formal and informal words (2) *slang, wally, cool*
- 97 US English *semester, panty-hose, wash up*
- 98 Other Englishes *loch, Aussie, pad*
- 99 Headline English *axe, hit, vow*
- 100 The language of signs and notices *refrain, admission*

Answer key	204
Index	281
Acknowledgements	309