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Oxford
**AMERICAN
WORDPOWER
DICTIONARY**

For learners of English

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Preface

This dictionary has been written specifically for the use of learners of American English at the intermediate to upper-intermediate level. Everyone who has worked on the text of this dictionary is a current or former teacher of English to speakers of other languages. The editorial team's experience in the classroom has enabled us to produce a practical reference tool with many features which will help students develop their ability to understand and use English with confidence. The clear, easy-to-understand definitions are written in simple language using core English vocabulary. The realistic examples, which show how words are really used in today's English, are based on our analysis of a multi-million-word corpus of American English. Many useful notes help learners avoid common mistakes, recognize word families, and distinguish between commonly-confused words.

I am extremely grateful to Margaret Deuter, Miranda Steel, and Jane Taylor for their contributions to this project, and to Michael Ashby and Sharon Goldstein for the treatment of phonetics. Thanks also go to Lisa Isenman, Bob Karper, Ed McCorduck, and Diane Elisabeth Pecorari for their hard work over a long period of time. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the work of the large team that made the production of this book possible.

Ruth Urbom
March 1998

The information in this dictionary

FINDING AND SPELLING WORDS

☆ **pow·er¹** /'paʊər/ *noun* [C,U] the ability to do sth: *The ambassador promised to do everything in her power to make sure the hostages were not harmed.* ◦ *He has great powers of observation.*

star showing **important words**

☆ **cat·a·log¹** (also **catalogue**) /'kætɪ·lɔːg; -lɑːg/ *noun* [C] **1** a book that contains information

another possible spelling given in parentheses

glim·mer¹ /'glɪmər/ *noun* [C] **1** a weak unsteady light **2** a weak sign of sth: *a glimmer of hope*
glim·mer² /'glɪmər/ *verb* [I] to give out a weak unsteady light

Words with the **same spelling** have different numbers.

la·dy·bug /'leɪdɪbʌg/ *noun* [C] a small insect that is red or orange with black spots

Dots show how to divide words into syllables.

WORDS AND PHRASES RELATED TO THE MAIN WORD

IDM **a breath of fresh air** ⇨ BREATH
In the air probably going to happen soon: *A feeling of change was in the air.*
in the open air ⇨ OPEN¹

idioms

(The arrow ⇨ shows that the meaning of the idiom is explained at the word following the arrow.)

PHRV **take after sb** to look or behave like an older member of your family
take sth apart to separate sth into the different parts it is made of
take sth away to cause a feeling, etc. to disap-

phrasal verbs

(Look at page A14 for an explanation of how to use them.)

☆ **ea·ger** /'iːgər/ *adj.* full of desire or interest: *He is eager to meet you.* ◦ *eager for success* – **ea·ger·ly** *adv.* – **ea·ger·ness** *noun* [U]

derivatives of the main word (words with the same spelling but a different part of speech; or the main word plus an ending such as *-ly, -ness*, etc.)

MEANING

swarm¹ /swɔːm/ *noun* [C] **1** a large group of insects, especially bees, moving around together **2** a large number of people together

The **meaning** of words and phrases is given in simple English using words that are easy to understand. If there is more than one meaning, all the meanings are listed after numbers.

☆ **be-low**¹ /bɪ'loʊ/ *prep.* at or to a lower position or level than sb/sth: *Do not write below this line.* ◦ *It hurts here – just below my knee.* ◦ *The temperature fell below freezing.* ◦ *Her test score was below average.* ◦ *He drives way below the*

☆ **glass-es** /'glæsəz/ (*also eyeglasses*) *noun* [plural] two pieces of glass in a frame that a

chunk /tʃʌŋk/ *noun* [C] a large or thick piece of sth: *chunks of ice floating in the lake* ◦ (*figurative*) *A big chunk of my income goes toward paying bills.*

GRAMMAR

slurp /slɜ:p/ *verb* [I,T] (*informal*) to drink noisily: *I hate the way he slurps when he drinks coffee.* – **slurp** *noun* [C]
slush /slʌʃ/ *noun* 1 [U] snow that has partly

☆ **e-mo-tion** /i'moʊʃn/ *noun* 1 [C] a strong feeling such as love, anger, fear, jealousy, etc. 2 [U] strength of feeling: *His voice was filled with emotion.*

ruck-us /'rʌkəs/ *noun* [sing.] (*informal*) a noisy argument or disturbance

pre-mis-es /'preməsəz/ *noun* [plural] (*formal*) a building and the land that surrounds it:

☆ **to-ma-to** /tə'meɪtəʊ/ *noun* [C] (*pl. to-ma-toes*) a soft red fruit that is often eaten raw in

☆ **hide**¹ /haɪd/ *verb* (*p.t. hid* /hɪd/; *p.p. hid-den* /'hɪdn/) 1 [T] to put or keep sb/sth in a place where he/she/it cannot be seen: *Where should I hide the money?* ◦ *The scar is partially hidden by hair.* ◦ *The trees hid the house from view.* 2 [I] to be or get in a place where you cannot be seen or found: *Quick, run and hide!* ◦ *Tammy was hiding under the bed.* 3 [T] **hide**

☆ **take** /teɪk/ *verb* [T] (*p.t. took* /tʊk/; *p.p. tak-en* /'teɪkən/) 1 to carry sb/sth or to go with sb

The **example sentences** help you to understand the word and show how it is used in English.

a word which has the **same meaning**

a **figurative** use of the word (= not using a word in its true sense, but in an imaginative way in order to give a special effect)

the **part of speech** of a word (whether it is a noun, verb, etc.)

countable and uncountable nouns

These letter tell you whether the noun can be counted [C] or not [U].

a **singular noun**

a **plural noun**

irregular plural form

transitive and intransitive verbs

These letters tell you whether a verb is transitive [T] (= followed by an object) or intransitive [I] (= never followed by an object).

irregular forms of verbs

hum¹ /hʌm/ *verb* (**hum-ming**; **hummed**) **1** [I]
to make a continuous low noise like the noise

☆ **good**¹ /gʊd/ *adj.* (**bet-ter** /'betər/, **best** /best/) **1**
of a high quality or standard: *a good book,*

☆ **hap-py** /'hæpi/ *adj.* (**hap-pi-er**; **hap-pi-est**) **1**
feeling, showing or giving pleasure or satis-

☆ **scis-sors** /'sɪzəz/ *noun* [plural] a tool for cutting things that consists of two flat sharp blades that are joined together
☛ Scissors is a plural noun: *These scissors are blunt.* We CANNOT say "a scissors"; we must use the word pair: *I need a new pair of scissors.*

The **last letter** of the word is doubled before you add *-ing* or *-ed*.

the **comparative** and **superlative** forms (regular forms are not given)

a note giving **grammatical information**

USING WORDS

☆ **blame**¹ /bleɪm/ *verb* [T] **1** **blame sb (for sth); blame sth on sb** to think or say that a certain

how a word is used in a sentence (**sb** = somebody; **sth** = something)

de-pend-ent² /dɪ'pendənt/ *adj.* **dependent** (on sb/sth) needing sb/sth to support you:

the particular **preposition** that is used after a word

☆ **a-wake**¹ /ə'weɪk/ *adj.* (not before a noun) not sleeping: *I was awake most of the night, worrying.* ◦ *The kids are always wide (= completely) awake at 6 o'clock in the morning.* ◦ *They were so tired that they couldn't stay awake.* ☛ The opposite is asleep.

The adjective cannot be used before a noun; it must always follow a verb like *be*, *seem*, etc.

lone /ləʊn/ *adj.* (only before a noun) without any other people; alone: *a lone swimmer*

The adjective can only be used before a noun.

beast /bi:st/ *noun* [C] **1** (*formal*) an animal, especially a large one: *a wild beast* **2** (*informal*) an unpleasant or cruel person

words used in particular situations

Words may be labeled *formal* (used in formal, written English), *informal* (used in informal conversation and not usually written in essays, etc.) or *slang* (very informal and often used especially by younger people).

Aa

A, a /eɪ/ *noun* [C] (*pl. A's; a's* /eɪz/) **1** the first letter of the English alphabet: "Andy" begins with (an) "A." **2** the highest grade given for a test or piece of work: I got an "A" on my essay.

IDM **earn/get straight A's** ⇨ STRAIGHT¹

☆ **a**² /ə/; *strong form* /eɪ/ (also **an** /ən/; *strong form* /æn/) *indefinite article* ⇨ The form **an** is used before a vowel sound. **1** one: I'll have a cup of coffee. ◦ an apple and a pear **2** (used when you are talking about sth in general, not one particular example of it): A lion is a dangerous animal. **3** (used with sb's name to show that the speaker does not know the person): There's a Ms. Mills here to see you. **4** (used for showing that sb/sth is a member of a group, class or profession): She's a Muslim. ◦ Their car's a Volvo. ◦ She's a senator. **5** (used with some expressions of quantity): a lot of money ◦ a few cars **6** (used with prices, rates, measurements) each: They cost 50¢ a pound. ◦ He was traveling at about 80 miles an hour.

a-back /ə'bæk/ *adv.*

IDM **be taken aback** to be surprised or shocked: I was completely taken aback when I saw the bill from the auto mechanic.

☆ **a-ban-don** /ə'bændən/ *verb* [T] **1** to leave sb/sth that you are responsible for, usually permanently: an abandoned car **2** to stop doing sth without finishing it or without achieving what you wanted to do: The search for the missing sailors was abandoned after two days. — **a-ban-don-ment** *noun* [U]

a-bashed /ə'bæʃt/ *adj.* ashamed and embarrassed because of having done sth bad

ab-bey /'æbi/ *noun* [C] a building where monks or nuns live or used to live

abbr. (also **abbrev.**) = ABBREVIATION

ab-bre-vi-ate /ə'brɪviət/ *verb* [T] **1** to make a word or phrase shorter by leaving out some letters **2** to make a story, a piece of writing or speech shorter: the abbreviated version of the story

ab-bre-vi-a-tion /ə'brɪvi'eɪʃn/ *noun* [C] a short form of a word or phrase: In this dictionary, "sth" is the abbreviation for "something."

ab-di-cate /'æbdɪkeɪt/ *verb* **1** [I] to give up being king or queen: The queen abdicated and her son became king. **2** [T] to give sth up, especially power or a position: to abdicate responsibility (= to refuse to be responsible for sth) — **ab-di-ca-tion** /,æbdɪ'keɪʃn/ *noun* [C,U]

ab-do-men /'æbdəmən/ *noun* [C] a part of the body between the chest and the legs, in which the stomach is contained — **ab-dom-i-nal** /æb'dɑːml; əb-/ *adj.*

ab-duct /əb'dʌkt; æb-/ *verb* [T] to take hold of

sb and take him/her away illegally: He has been abducted by a terrorist group. — **ab-duc-tion** /-dʌkʃn/ *noun* [C,U]

a-bet /ə'bet/ *verb* [T] **a-bet-ting; a-bet-ted**

IDM **aid and abet** ⇨ AID²

ab-hor /əb'hɔː; æb-/ *verb* [T] (**ab-hor-ring; ab-horred**) (*formal*) to hate sth very much: All civilized people abhor the use of torture. — **ab-hor-rence** /-'hɔːrəns; -'hɑːrəns/ *noun* [U] — **ab-hor-rent** /-'hɔːrənt; -'hɑːrənt/ *adj.*

a-bide /ə'baɪd/ *verb* (*formal*)

IDM **can't/couldn't abide sb/sth/doing sth** to dislike sth very much: I can't abide getting up early.

PHRV **abide by sth** to obey a law, etc.; to do what you have agreed or decided: You must abide by the rules of the game.

☆ **a-bil-i-ty** /ə'bɪləti/ *noun* [C,U] (*pl. a-bil-i-ties*) the mental or physical power or skill that makes it possible to do sth: A person of his ability will have no difficulty getting a job.

a-blaze /ə'bleɪz/ *adj.* (not before a noun) burning strongly; completely on fire: Within ten minutes, the whole house was ablaze.

☆ **a-ble** /'eɪbl/ *adj.* **1** **be able to do sth** (used as a modal verb) to have the ability, power, opportunity, time, etc. to do sth: Will you be able to come to a meeting next week? ◦ I was able to solve the problem quickly.

⇨ In the passive **can/could** are used, not **be able**: The arrangement can't be changed.

2 (*formal*) intelligent; doing your job well: an able politician — **a-bly** /'eɪbli/ *adv.*

able-bodied /'eɪbl'badɪd/ *adj.* strong and healthy: All the able-bodied young men from our town were drafted into the army.

ab-nor-mal /æb'nɔːrml/ *adj.* different from what is normal or usual, in a way that worries you or that is unpleasant: I don't want to have any children. Is that abnormal? ◦ abnormal weather conditions — **ab-nor-mal-i-ty** /,æbnɔːr'mæləti; ,æbnɔːr-/ *noun* [C,U] (*pl. ab-nor-mal-i-ties*) — **ab-nor-mal-ly** *adv.*

a-board /ə'bɔːrd/ *adv., prep.* on or into a train, ship or aircraft: We went aboard the ship. ◦ Welcome aboard Flight 397 to Caracas.

a-bol-ish /ə'baɪʃ/ *verb* [T] to put an end to or stop a law or system officially: When was capital punishment abolished here? — **ab-o-li-tion** /,æbə'lɪʃn/ *noun* [U]: the abolition of slavery in the U.S.

a-bom-i-na-ble /ə'bɒməneɪbl/ *adj.* (*formal*) very bad; very unpleasant: abominable behavior

ab-o-rig-i-nal /,æbə'rɪdʒənəl/ *adj.* **1** of or belonging to the original inhabitants of a place:

tʃ	dʒ	v	θ	ð	s	z	ʃ
chin	June	van	thin	then	so	zoo	she

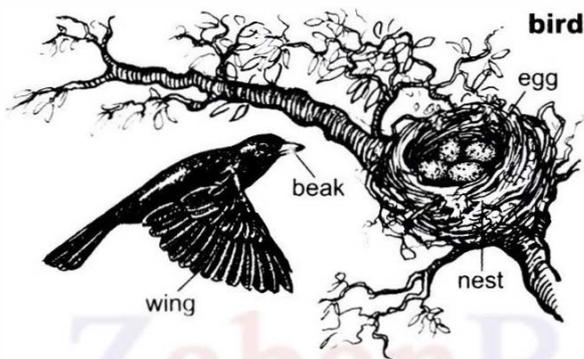
bi-og-ra-phy /baɪ'agrəfi/ *noun* [C,U] (*pl. bi-og-ra-phies*) the story of a person's life written by sb else: *a biography of Lincoln* • Look at **autobiography**.

bi-o-log-i-cal /,baɪə'lɒdʒɪkl/ *adj.* **1** connected with the scientific study of animals, plants and other living things: *biological research* **2** involving the use of living things to destroy or damage other living things: *biological weapons*

bi-ol-o-gist /baɪ'ələdʒɪst/ *noun* [C] a person who is an expert in biology

☆ **bi-ol-o-gy** /baɪ'ələdʒi/ *noun* [U] the scientific study of living things

birch /bɜ:tʃ/ *noun* [C,U] a type of tree with a smooth trunk and thin branches



☆ **bird** /bɜ:d/ *noun* [C] a creature with feathers and wings that can (usually) fly

• Birds fly and sing. They build nests and lay eggs.

IDM kill two birds with one stone ⇨ KILL¹

☆ **birth** /bɜ:θ/ *noun* **1** [C,U] being born; coming out of a mother's body: *a difficult birth* • *The baby weighed six pounds at birth* (= when it was born). • *She's been deaf since birth.* • *What's your date of birth?* (= the date on which you were born) **2** [U] your nationality or your place of birth: *She lives in the U.S., but she's German by birth.* **3** [sing.] the beginning of sth: *the birth of an idea*

IDM give birth (to sb/sth) to produce a baby: *She gave birth to her second child at home.*

'birth certificate *noun* [C] an official piece of paper that states the date and place of a person's birth

'birth control *noun* [U] ways of controlling or limiting the number of children you have
 • Look at **contraception**.

'birth date *noun* [C] the date on which sb was born

☆ **birth-day** /'bɜ:θdeɪ/ *noun* [C] the day in each year that is the same date as the one when you were born: *My birthday's (on) November 15.* • *my eighteenth birthday* • *a birthday present* • *a birthday card*

• An **anniversary** is not the same as a **birthday**. An anniversary is the day in each year that is the same date as an important

past event: *our wedding anniversary* • *the fiftieth anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic* (= exactly fifty years after it happened).

When it is a person's birthday we say **Happy Birthday!** If we know the person well, we send a **special card** to him/her or give him/her a present. Your **eighteenth birthday** is an **important occasion** when you legally become an adult.

birth-mark /'bɜ:θmɑ:k/ *noun* [C] a permanent mark on your body, that you are born with

birth-place /'bɜ:θpleɪs/ *noun* **1** [C] the house or area where a person was born **2** [sing.] the place where sth began: *in Greece, the birth-place of the Olympic Games*

birth-rate /'bɜ:θreɪt/ *noun* [C] the number of babies born in a particular group of people during a particular period of time: *The birth-rate is falling/rising.*

bis-cuit /'bɪskət/ *noun* [C] **1** a small plain cake that is usually not sweet. Biscuits are often eaten warm, with butter. **2** (*BrE*) = **COOKIE**

bi-sex-u-al /,baɪ'sɛkʃuəl/ *adj.* sexually attracted to both men and women

bish-op /'bɪʃəp/ *noun* [C] **1** a senior person in the Christian church, who is in charge of the churches in a city or a district: *the Bishop of Joliet, Illinois* • Look at **archbishop**. **2** one of the pieces used in the game of chess
 • picture at **chess**.

bi-son /'baɪsn; -zn/ *noun* [C] (*pl. bi-son*) a large wild animal that looks like a cow with a very large head, curved horns and thick fur on its head and neck: *a herd of bison* • This type of animal is often called a **buffalo**.

☆ **bit¹** /bɪt/ *noun* [C] **1** a small piece or amount of sth: *There were bits of broken glass all over the floor.* • *I think these strawberries need a little bit more sugar.* • *Could you give me a bit of advice?* **2** (*technical*) the smallest unit of information that is stored in a computer's memory, represented by the numbers 0 or 1

IDM a bit **1** slightly: *I'll be a bit late tonight.* **2** a short time or distance: *Could you move forward a bit?* • It is more common to say a **little** or a **little bit**.

bit by bit slowly or a little at a time

a bit of a (used to say that sth is really larger, worse, etc. than you want to say it is): *I have a little bit of a problem...* • *It was a bit of a surprise to see him standing in the doorway!*

quite a bit ⇨ **QUITE**

to bits into small pieces: *Two cars were blown to bits by the explosion.*

bit² *p.t.* of **BITE¹**

bitch¹ /bɪtʃ/ *noun* [C] **1** (*slang*) a very unpleasant woman: *She's a real bitch.* • *You bitch!* (= used to insult a woman) **2** (*formal* or *old-fashioned*) a female dog

bitch² /bɪtʃ/ *verb* [I] (*slang*) **bitch** (about sth)

Dd

D, d /di/ *noun* [C] (pl. **D's**; **d's** /diz/) **1** the fourth letter of the English alphabet: "David" begins with (a) "D." **2** a grade that is given for a test or piece of work that is not very good. A "D" is the lowest grade with which you can pass: *I got a "D" on my essay.*

D (also **D.**) *abbr.* = DEMOCRAT

D.A. (also **DA**) /,di 'ei/ *abbr.* = DISTRICT ATTORNEY

dab¹ /dæb/ *verb* (**dab·bing**; **dabbed**) [I,T] to touch sth lightly, usually several times: *He dabbed the cut with a cotton ball.*

PHRV **dab sth on/off (sth)** to put sth on or to remove sth with a light stroke or strokes: *to dab some antiseptic on a wound*

dab² /dæb/ *noun* [C] **1** a light touch: *She gave her eyes a dab with a handkerchief.* **2** a small quantity of sth that is put on a surface: *a dab of paint, perfume, etc.*

dab·ble /'dæbl/ *verb* [I] to become involved in sth in a manner that is not very serious: *to dabble in politics*

☆ **dad** /dæd/ *noun* [C] (*informal*) father: *Is that your dad?* ◦ *Come on, Dad!*

☆ **dad·dy** /'dædi/ *noun* (pl. **dad·dies**) (*informal*) (used by children) father: *I want my daddy!* ◦ *Give Daddy a kiss.*

daf·fo·dil /'dæfədi/ *noun* [C] a tall yellow flower that grows early in the spring

dag·ger /'dægər/ *noun* [C] a type of knife with a point and two sharp edges used as a weapon, especially in former times: *He plunged a dagger into her heart.*

☆ **dai·ly**¹ /'deɪli/ *adj., adv.* done, made or happening every day: *a daily routine, delivery, newspaper, etc.* ◦ *Our airline flies to Japan daily.*

dai·ly² /'deɪli/ *noun* [C] (pl. **dai·lies**) a newspaper that is published every day, or every day except Saturday and Sunday

dai·ry /'deəri/ *noun* [C] (pl. **dai·ries**) a company which buys milk from farms and puts it into containers for sale, and makes butter, cheese, etc.: *dairy products such as butter, cheese and ice cream*

dairy cattle *noun* [plural] cows which are kept for their milk, not their meat

dairy farm *noun* [C] a farm that produces mainly milk and milk products

dai·sy /'deɪzi/ *noun* [C] (pl. **dai·sies**) a small white flower with a yellow center, which usually grows wild on grass, or a larger flower grown in gardens

dam /dæm/ *noun* [C] a wall built across a river to hold back the water and form a lake (reservoir) behind it

☆ **dam·age**¹ /'dæmɪdʒ/ *noun* **1** [U] **damage (to sth)** harm or injury caused when sth is broken or spoiled: *The earthquake caused widespread damage.* ◦ *The driver suffered severe brain damage in the accident.* **2 damages** [plural] money that you can claim from sb if he/she damages sth of yours or hurts you: *The jury awarded him \$2 million in damages.*

☆ **dam·age**² /'dæmɪdʒ/ *verb* [T] to spoil or harm sth. e.g. by breaking it: *The roof was damaged by the storm.*

dam·ag·ing /'dæmədʒɪŋ/ *adj.* having a bad or harmful effect

dame /deɪm/ *noun* [C] (*old-fashioned, slang*) a woman ◦ Nowadays many people consider this word offensive because it does not show respect toward women.

damn¹ /dæm/ *verb* **1** [I,T] (*informal*) (used to show that you are angry or annoyed): *Damn that stupid driver!* ◦ *Damn! I left my wallet at home.*

☛ **Darn** is not as strong as **damn**.

2 [T] to describe sth as very bad: *The movie was damned by all the critics.* **3** [T] (used about God) to send sb to hell

damn² /dæm/ *noun*

IDM **not give a damn (about sb/sth)** (*informal*) to not care at all: *I don't give a damn what he thinks about me.*

☛ Some people find this expression offensive. Look also at **darn**².

damned¹ /dæmd/ (also **damn** /dæm/) *adj.* (only before a noun) (*informal*) (used for showing that you are angry or annoyed): *Some damned fool parked too close to me.*

☛ **Darned** is not as strong as **damned**.

damned² /dæmd/ (also **damn** /dæm/) *adv.* (*informal*) (used for emphasizing that sth is good or bad) very: *Don't be so damned dumb!* ◦ *You guys played pretty damn well today.*

☛ **Darned** is not as strong as **damned**.

damn·ing /'dæmɪŋ/ *adj.* very unfavorable; showing that sb/sth is bad or guilty: *The most damning evidence against her was a fingerprint on the weapon.*

☆ **damp** /dæmp/ *adj.* a little wet: *The grass is a little damp. Sit on the blanket.* ◦ *Wipe the surface with a damp cloth.* —**damp·ness** /'dæmpnəs/ *noun* [U]

damp·en /'dæmpən/ *verb* [T] **1** to make sth less strong or urgent: *Even the bad weather did not dampen their enthusiasm for the trip.*

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smooth or to make it fit sth): *We'll have to shave a little off the door to make it close.*

shave² /ʃeɪv/ *noun* [C, usually sing.] the act of shaving: *He hadn't had a shave yet.*

IDM a close call/shave ⇨ CLOSE¹

shav-er /ʃeɪvər/ (also **electric razor**) *noun* [C] an electric tool that is used for shaving hair

shawl /ʃɔːl/ *noun* [C] a large piece of cloth, made of wool, etc. that is worn by a woman around the shoulders or that is wrapped around a baby

☆ **she** /ʃi/ *pron.* (the subject of a verb) the female person or animal who has already been mentioned: *"What does your sister do?" "She's a dentist."* ◦ *I asked her a question, but she didn't answer.*

shear /ʃɪr/ *verb* [T] (p.t. **sheared**; p.p. **sheared** or **shorn**) to cut the wool off a sheep

shears /ʃɪrz/ *noun* [plural] a tool that is like a very large pair of scissors and that is used for cutting things, often outdoors

shed¹ /ʃed/ *noun* [C] a small building where things are stored: *Put the lawnmower back in the shed.* ◦ *a tool shed*

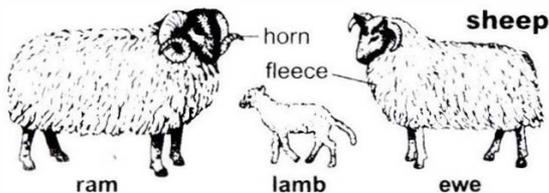
shed² /ʃed/ *verb* (pres. part. **shed-ding**; p.t., p.p. **shed**) **1** [I,T] to lose sth, such as hair or skin, because it falls off: *This snake sheds its skin every year.* ◦ *The cat shed all over my new jacket!* ◦ *Fall is coming and the trees are beginning to shed their leaves.* **2** [T] to get rid of or remove sth that is not wanted: *The town hopes to shed its image as a dull place.* ◦ *Companies in the area have shed thousands of jobs in the past year.*

IDM **shed blood** (formal) (usually passive) to kill or injure people: *A great deal of blood was shed during the war.*

shed light on sth to make sth clear and easy to understand

shed tears (formal) to cry: *It was a sad occasion and many tears were shed.*

she'd /ʃid/ short for SHE HAD, SHE WOULD



☆ **sheep** /ʃi:p/ *noun* [C] (pl. **sheep**) an animal with a coat of wool that is kept on farms and used for its wool or meat

☛ A male sheep is a **ram**, a female sheep is a **ewe** and a young sheep is a **lamb**. The noise that sheep make is written as **baa**. The meat from sheep is called **mutton**. Look at the note at **meat**.

sheep-ish /ʃi:pɪʃ/ *adj.* feeling ashamed or em-

barrassed because you have done sth silly: *a sheepish grin* — **sheep-ish-ly** *adv.*

sheer /ʃɪr/ *adj.* **1** (only before a noun) complete, absolute: involving nothing else except: *It's sheer stupidity to drink and drive.* ◦ *Her success is due to sheer hard work.* ◦ *The first thing you notice is the sheer size of the building.* **2** very steep; almost vertical: *Don't walk near the edge. It's a sheer drop to the ocean.*

☆ **sheet** /ʃi:t/ *noun* [C] **1** a large piece of material used on a bed. Sheets are used in pairs and you sleep between the top and bottom sheet. ☛ picture at **bed**. **2** a piece of paper: *a sheet of notebook paper* ◦ *Write each answer on a separate sheet.* ☛ Look at **balance sheet**. **3** a flat, thin piece of any material, especially glass or metal

sheik /ʃik; ʃeɪk/ *noun* [C] an Arab ruler

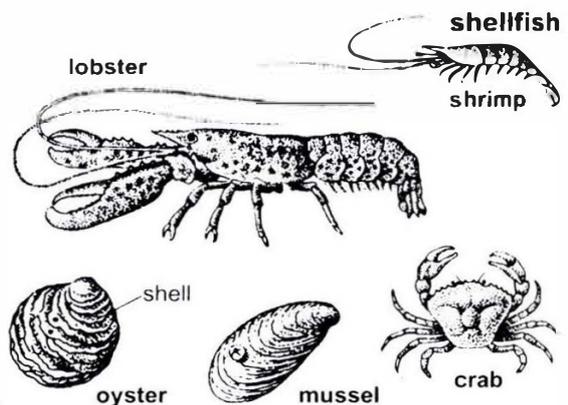
☆ **shelf** /ʃelf/ *noun* [C] (pl. **shelves** /ʃelvz/) a long flat piece of wood, glass, etc. that is fastened to a wall or in a cupboard, that you can stand things on: *I put up a shelf in the kitchen.* ◦ *a bookshelf*

☆ **shell**¹ /ʃel/ *noun* **1** [C,U] a hard covering that protects eggs, nuts and some animals: *a collection of seashells* ◦ *an empty shell* ◦ *a turtle's shell* **2** [C] a metal container filled with explosives that is fired by a large gun

shell² /ʃel/ *verb* [T] **1** to take the shell¹(1) off sth that can be eaten: *to shell peanuts* **2** to fire shells¹(2) at a place

PHRV **shell sth out** (informal) to pay more money for sth than you want to: *The bus didn't come, so I had to shell out \$10 for a cab ride home.*

she'll /ʃil/ short for SHE WILL.



shell-fish /ʃelɪʃ/ *noun* (pl. **shellfish**) [C,U] a type of animal that lives in water and has a shell, or these animals eaten as food

☆ **shel-ter**¹ /ʃeltər/ *noun* **1** [U] **shelter** (from sth) protection from danger or bad weather: *to give somebody food and shelter* ◦ *I took shelter under his umbrella.* **2** [C] a building or a structure that gives protection or cover, e.g. from danger, bad weather or attack: *a shelter for the homeless* ◦ *a picnic shelter* ◦ *a bomb shelter*

shel-ter² /ʃeltər/ *verb* **1** [I] **shelter** (from sth)

ər	ɪr	er	ar	or	ur	ʒ	h	ŋ
bird	near	hair	car	north	tour	vision	hat	sing

APPENDIX 1

Irregular Verbs

In this list you will find the infinitive form of the verb followed by the past tense and the past participle. Where two forms are given, look up the verb in the main part of the dictionary to see whether there is a difference in meaning.

Infinitive	Past Tense	Past Participle
arise	arose	arisen
awake	awoke	awoken
be	was/were	been
bear	bore	borne
beat	beat	beaten
become	became	become
befall	befell	befallen
begin	began	begun
bend	bent	bent
bet	bet	bet
bid	bid, bade	bid, bidden
bind	bound	bound
bite	bit	bitten
bleed	bled	bled
blow	blew	blown
break	broke	broken
breed	bred	bred
bring	brought	brought
broadcast	broadcast	broadcast
build	built	built
burn	burned, burnt	burned, burnt
burst	burst	burst
buy	bought	bought
cast	cast	cast
catch	caught	caught
choose	chose	chosen
cling	clung	clung
come	came	come
cost	cost	cost
creep	crept	crept
cut	cut	cut
deal	dealt	dealt
dig	dug	dug
dive	dived, dove	dived
do	did	done
draw	drew	drawn
dream	dreamed, dreamt	dreamed, dreamt

APPENDIX 2

Expressions using Numbers

The Numbers

1	one	1st	first
2	two	2nd	second
3	three	3rd	third
4	four	4th	fourth
5	five	5th	fifth
6	six	6th	sixth
7	seven	7th	seventh
8	eight	8th	eighth
9	nine	9th	ninth
10	ten	10th	tenth
11	eleven	11th	eleventh
12	twelve	12th	twelfth
13	thirteen	13th	thirteenth
14	fourteen	14th	fourteenth
15	fifteen	15th	fifteenth
16	sixteen	16th	sixteenth
17	seventeen	17th	seventeenth
18	eighteen	18th	eighteenth
19	nineteen	19th	nineteenth
20	twenty	20th	twentieth
21	twenty-one	21st	twenty-first
22	twenty-two	22nd	twenty-second
30	thirty	30th	thirtieth
40	forty	40th	fortieth
50	fifty	50th	fiftieth
60	sixty	60th	sixtieth
70	seventy	70th	seventieth
80	eighty	80th	eightieth
90	ninety	90th	ninetieth
100	a/one hundred	100th	hundredth
101	a/one hundred and one	101st	hundred and first
200	two hundred	200th	two hundredth
1,000	a/one thousand	1,000th	thousandth
10,000	ten thousand	10,000th	ten thousandth
100,000	a/one hundred thousand	100,000th	hundred thousandth
1,000,000	a/one million	1,000,000th	millionth

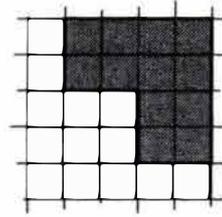
Examples:

528: *five hundred (and) twenty-eight* ○ 2,976: *two thousand, nine hundred (and) seventy-six*
 ○ 50,439: *fifty thousand, four hundred (and) thirty-nine*

Note A comma is used to separate the “thousands,” e.g. 25,000. For the use of the point (.) in decimals, look at the next section. In numbers such as 100 or 1,000, we can say “one hundred” or “a hundred,” “one thousand” or “a thousand.” In conversation it is more usual to say “a” unless we want to stress that it is *one* and not *two*, for example. 0 can be said as “zero,” “nothing” or “o.” In the following sections you will see the most usual way of saying it in each type of expression.

Area

	1 square inch (sq. in.)
144 square inches	= 1 square foot (sq. ft.)
9 square feet	= 1 square yard (sq. yd.)
4,840 square yards	= 1 acre
640 acres	= 1 square mile (sq. mi.)



Examples:

*They have a 200-acre farm.
The fire destroyed 40 square miles of forest.*

Capacity

3 teaspoons (tsp.)	= 1 tablespoon (tbs.)
16 tablespoons	= 8 ounces = 1 cup (c.)
2 cups	= 1 pint (pt.)
2 pints	= 1 quart (qt.)
4 quarts	= 1 gallon (gal.)



Examples:

*I bought a quart of milk at the grocery store.
The gas tank holds ten gallons.*

Time

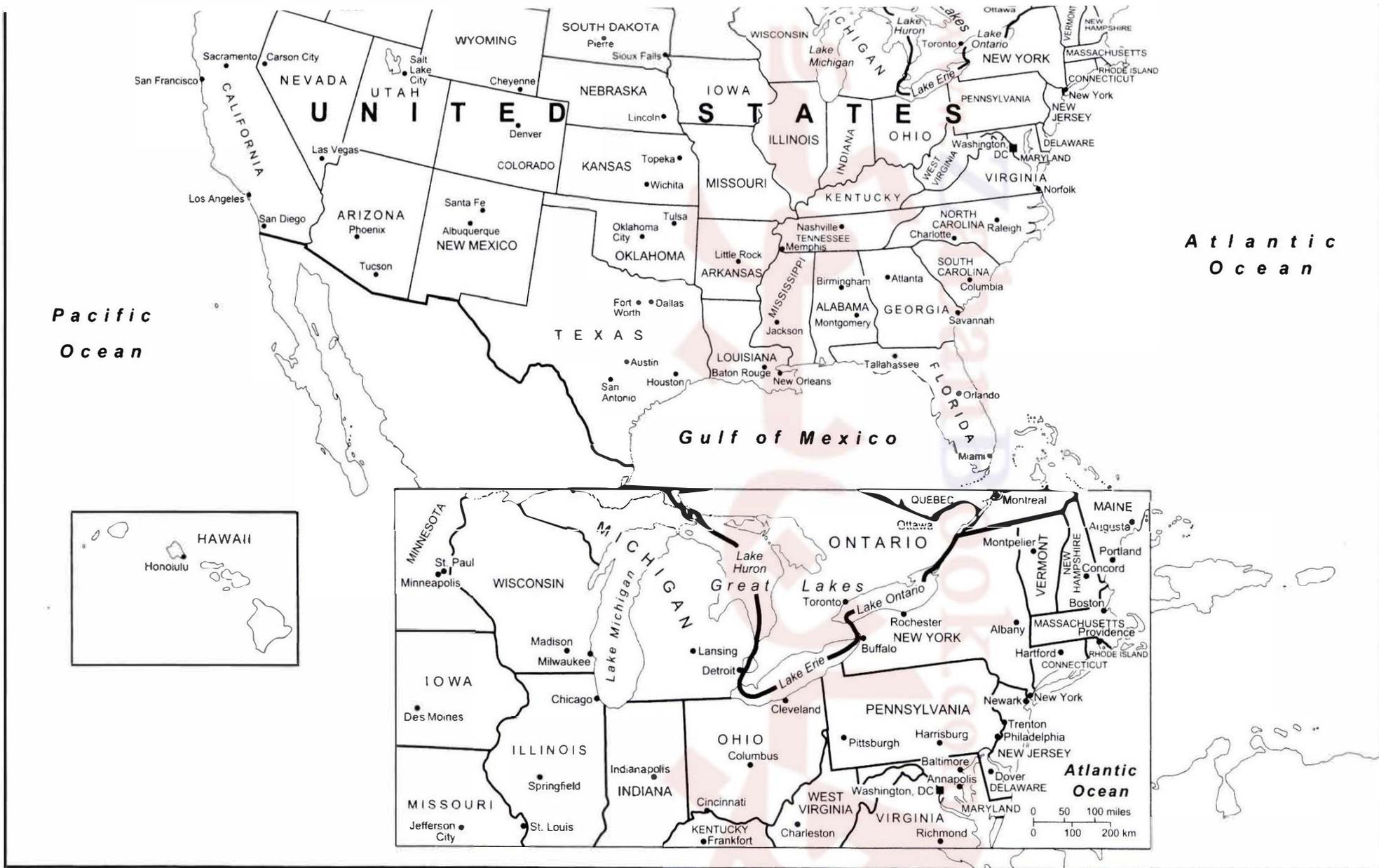
6:00	six (o'clock)
6:05	five after/past six or six o five
6:10	ten after/past six or six ten
6:15	quarter after/past six or six fifteen
6:20	twenty after/past six or six twenty
6:30	six thirty
6:35	twenty five to/of seven or six thirty-five
6:40	twenty to/of seven or six forty
6:45	(a) quarter to/of seven or six forty-five
6:50	ten to/of seven or six fifty
6:55	five to/of seven or six fifty-five
10:12	twelve minutes after/past ten or ten twelve
1:10	ten after/past one or one ten
7:56	four minutes to/of eight or seven fifty-six



Note If we need to make it clear in conversation that we are talking about the morning instead of the evening, we can say "in the morning" or "a.m." If we are talking about the time between noon and midnight we can say "in the afternoon," "in the evening," "at night," or "p.m." a.m. and p.m. are slightly more formal. A twenty-four hour clock is used in the armed forces and for airline schedules, etc.

Examples:

*Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Something woke me up at two o'clock in the morning.
Your plane departs at 17:30 (seventeen thirty).*

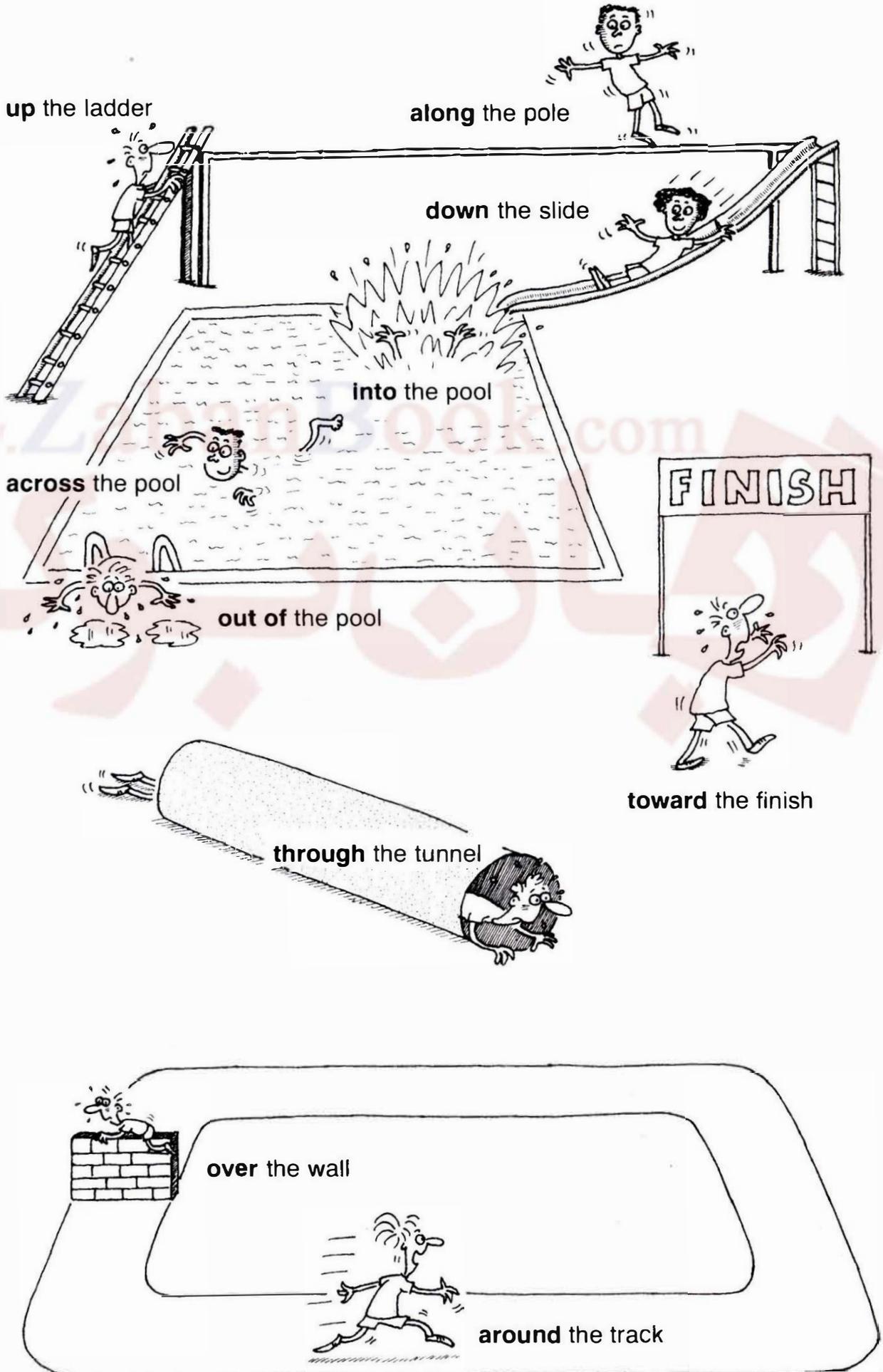


Atlantic Ocean

Pacific Ocean

Gulf of Mexico

Atlantic Ocean



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