

# Contents

To the student

4

## Aspects of vocabulary learning

- i Strategies for learning
- ii Types of meaning *polysemy, synonymy, collocation, connotation, register*
- iii Making the most of your dictionary
- iv Collocation *the real thing, the genuine article*
- v Polysemy *fair, flat, drill*
- vi Metaphor *be on the ball, all the world's a stage*
- vii Register *garments, clothes, clobber*
- viii Connotation and cultural associations *cowboys, black cats*

## Word formation

- 1 Abbreviations and acronyms *ID, FAQ, o.n.o.*
- 2 Prefixes: creating new meanings *over-, cross-, e-*
- 3 Suffixes: productive suffixes and word classes *-free, -proof, -esque*
- 4 Word-building and word-blending *biodegradable, cybercafé, guesstimate*
- 5 Global contact and language enrichment *loan word, roster, intelligentsia*
- 6 Similar but different: words easily confused *series/serial, moist/damp*

## Work and study

- 7 At work: colleagues and routines *flexi-time, freelance, job-share*
- 8 At work: career and promotion *drive, perks, glass ceiling*
- 9 Business 1 *telemarketing, niche market, entrepreneurship*
- 10 Business 2 *submit a tender, default on a payment*
- 11 Cramming for success: study and academic work *rote-learning, assignment, deadline*
- 12 Education: debates and issues *elitism, league tables, the three Rs*

## People and relationships

- 13 Talking about yourself *diligent, shrewd, sagacious*
- 14 Relationships: positive aspects *infatuated, amiable, kindred spirits*
- 15 Relationships: problems *disloyal, unsupportive, family feud*
- 16 Passions: reactions and emotions *conciliate, rapture, blissful*
- 17 Feelings: antipathies and aversions *abhorrence, loathing, fickle*
- 18 Observing others: appearance and mannerisms *lanky, grimace, pout*
- 19 Observing others: character traits *impulsive, diffident, gullible*
- 20 Birth and death: from cradle to grave *Caesarean section, obituaries, mourning*

## Leisure and lifestyle

- 21 Free time: relaxation and leisure *time-consuming, dabbler, shopaholic*
- 22 All the rage: clothes and fashion *frumpy, dressed to kill, without frills*
- 23 Homestyles, lifestyles *granny flat, minimalism, household word*
- 24 Socialising and networking *housewarming, hobnob, clique*
- 25 The performance arts: reviews and critiques *hackneyed, typecast, rendition*
- 26 The plastic arts *philistinism, impenetrable, tongue-in-cheek*
- 27 Talking about books *chronicle, memoirs, compulsive reading*
- 28 We are what we eat *wholesome, GM, unsavoury*
- 29 Dinner's on me: entertaining and eating out *sweet tooth, calorie-conscious, teetotal*

## Travel

- 30 On the road: traffic and driving *hit-and-run, road rage, tailback*
- 31 Travel and accommodation *deluxe, charter, half-board*
- 32 Tourism *back to nature, eco-tourism, discerning*

## The environment

- 33 Describing the world *paddy field, prairies, migrant*
- 34 Weather and climate *clammy, sweltering, snowed under*
- 35 Buildings in metaphors *glass ceiling, tower of strength, key to success*
- 36 Trees, plants and metaphors *nip in the bud, germinate, shrivel*
- 37 Animals and birds *rodent, herbivore, fur trade*
- 38 Environment and conservation *endangered, fossil fuels, pristine*

## Society and institutions

- 39 Here to help: service encounters *obliging, shoddy, on hold*
- 40 Authorities: customs and police *sniffer dog, on-the-spot fine, drug squad*
- 41 World views: ways of thinking *bigot, assumption, tenet*
- 42 Festivals in their cultural context *renewal, commemorate, raucous*
- 43 Talking about languages *Germanic, syntax, pictograms*
- 44 History *usurp power, feudal, serf*
- 45 Poverty: the haves and the have nots *malnutrition, GDP, destitute*
- 46 British politics *lobbyist, petition, grievance*
- 47 The language of law *impeach, embezzle, overturn a verdict*
- 48 War and peace *deterrent, hostilities, biological warfare*
- 49 Economy and finance *debt, sanctions, devaluation*
- 50 Personal finance: balancing your books *strapped for cash, broke, golden handshake*

## The media

- 51 The media: print *agony aunt, flyer, pamphlet*
- 52 The media: Internet and e-mail *chat room, browse, cookie*
- 53 Advertising *rock-bottom prices, state-of-the-art, trailers*
- 54 The news: gathering and delivering *column inch, sound bite, hot off the press*

## Health

- 55 Health and illness 1 *go down with, hepatitis, typhoid*
- 56 Health and illness 2 *aches and pains, nauseous, acupuncture*
- 57 Health and illness 3 *side effects, jaundiced view, prognosis*
- 58 Diet, sport and fitness *cholesterol, cardiovascular, move the goalposts*

## Technology

- 59 Aspects of industrialisation *low-tech, subsidies, lame duck*
- 60 Technology and its impact *PDA, biotechnology, ergonomics*
- 61 Future visions *virtual reality, e-commerce, gene therapy*

## Basic concepts

- 62 Space: expanse and confinement *rambling, poky, labyrinth*
- 63 Time: sequence and duration *donkey's years, over the hill, fleeting*
- 64 Motion: nuances of pace and movement *hobble, trudge, stream*
- 65 Manner: behaviour and body language *mind your Ps and Qs, etiquette, twitch*

- 66 Sound: from noise to silence *noiseless, deafening, wail*
- 67 Weight and density *unwieldy, congeal, impervious*
- 68 Colour: range and intensity *ginger, pastel, grey cells*
- 69 Speed *pop, scuttle, rocket*
- 70 Cause and effect *generate, spark off, bring about*
- 71 Comparison and contrast *affinity, disparate, discrete*
- 72 Difficulties, dilemmas and hitches *glitch, gruelling, in a fix*
- 73 Modality: expressing facts, opinions, desires *the odds are, expedient, compulsory*
- 74 Number: statistics and assessing quantity *IQ, aggregate, round down*

### **Functional vocabulary**

- 75 Permission and prohibition *acquiesce, veto, outlaw*
- 76 Complaining and protesting *grouse, whinge, find fault*
- 77 Apologising, forgiving and reconciliation *alibi, remorse, exonerate*
- 78 Complimenting and praising *laud, flatter, obsequious*
- 79 Promises and bets *vow, pledge, have a flutter*
- 80 Reminiscences and regrets *the good old days, look back, lament*
- 81 Agreement, disagreement and compromise *tally, rift, concession*
- 82 Academic writing 1 *infer, distort, append*
- 83 Academic writing 2 *reiterate, epitomise, allude*
- 84 Writing: style and format *doodle, block capitals, bullet*
- 85 Lexical strategies for speaking *thingummy, umpteen, a touch of*
- 86 Speech: style and articulation *shriek, lisp, slur*
- 87 Vague language expressions *smattering, more or less, or whatever*

### **Idioms and phrasal verbs**

- 88 Types of idiom *have second thoughts, in the dark, stumbling block*
- 89 Idioms for situations *up and running, a complete shambles, as clear as mud*
- 90 Idioms that comment on people 1 *soft spot, the brains behind, on cloud nine*
- 91 Idioms that comment on people 2 *a rough diamond, a dark horse, at loggerheads*
- 92 Idioms that comment on stories and reports *out of the blue, famous last words, small world*
- 93 Phrasal verbs 1 *stand back from, stand in for, stand up for*
- 94 Phrasal verbs 2 *slog away, pelt down, bottle out*
- 95 Phrasal verbs 3 *miss out on, branch out, bubble over with*

### **Aspects of variation**

- 96 Divided by a common language: American and British English *kitty-corner, deplane, faucet*
- 97 Other Englishes: diversity and variety *craic, beaut, shroff*
- 98 Language and gender *spokesperson, butch, effeminate*
- 99 Language of age and social class *oik, wireless, luncheon*
- 100 Newspaper headline language *crackdown, louts, besiege*

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