B1 English vocabulary list

Every word with its meaning and an example sentence, topic by topic
virtuousenglishacademy.com/vocabulary/b1

These are the 1,000 words our B1 vocabulary pages teach, in 25 topics. Each topic is a page on the site with pronunciation, audio and flashcards.

Do not learn the list from top to bottom. Take one topic, cover the meaning column, and say what each word means. Then read the example sentence out loud.

Mark the words you did not know and learn about ten a day. The free Word Trainer on the site brings each word back just before you would forget it.

Ambitions & Success

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
accomplish	To succeed in doing or completing something.	If you work hard, you can accomplish all your goals this year.
achieve	To reach a goal through effort.	She worked hard to achieve her dream.
ambition	A strong wish to succeed or do something important.	His ambition is to become a doctor.
succeed	To achieve what you were trying to do.	You will succeed if you never give up.
aim	A goal or purpose you want to reach.	Her main aim is to pass the exam.
achievement	Something important you succeed in doing.	Winning the prize was a great achievement.
determined	Having a firm decision to do something.	He is determined to finish the race.
motivation	The reason or drive that makes you want to act.	Money is not her only motivation.
improvement	The act of becoming or making something better.	There is a big improvement in your work.
improve	To make or become better.	I want to improve my English skills.
develop	To grow or make something grow gradually.	She wants to develop her own business.
fulfil	To achieve or complete something you wanted or promised.	He worked hard to fulfil his dream.
potential	The ability to develop and succeed in the future.	The young player has great potential.
challenge	Something difficult that tests your ability.	Learning a language is a real challenge.
effort	The energy and work you put into doing something.	She put a lot of effort into the project.
dedication	The hard work and commitment you give to a goal.	His dedication to the team is amazing.
persevere	To keep trying despite difficulties.	You must persevere even when it is hard.
overcome	To succeed in dealing with a problem.	She managed to overcome her fear.
excel	To be extremely good at something.	He continues to excel at sport.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
aspire	To have a strong wish to achieve something.	Many students aspire to study abroad.
target	A result you aim to reach.	We reached our sales target this month.
milestone	An important stage or event in progress.	Her first job was an important milestone.
reward	Something good you get for effort or achievement.	Hard work brings its own reward.
confidence	The feeling of being sure about your abilities.	Practice gives you more confidence.
focus	To give your full attention to one thing.	Try to focus on your studies.
commitment	A promise or firm decision to do something.	Marriage is a big commitment.
strive	To try very hard to achieve something.	We strive to be the best.
triumph	A great success or victory.	The team celebrated their triumph.
prosper	To become successful, especially in money.	The small business began to prosper.
advance	To move forward or make progress.	He hopes to advance in his career.
breakthrough	An important success after difficulty.	The scientists made a major breakthrough.
capable	Having the ability to do something.	She is capable of great things.
successful	Achieving what you wanted; doing well.	He is a very successful businessman.
inspire	To make someone want to do something good.	Good teachers inspire their students.
opportunity	A chance to do something.	This job is a great opportunity.
encourage	To give someone confidence to do something.	My parents encourage me to study.
determine	To decide something firmly.	Hard work will determine your success.
dream	Something you hope to achieve one day.	Her dream is to travel the world.
accomplishment	Something achieved successfully.	Finishing the marathon was a real accomplishment.
reach	To succeed in getting to a goal or level.	He worked hard to reach the top.

Opinions & Arguments

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
opinion	What you think or believe about something.	In my opinion, the film was too long.
argument	A set of reasons given to support an opinion.	They had a long argument about politics.
viewpoint	A particular way of thinking about something.	I understand your viewpoint, but I disagree.
debate	A formal discussion of opposing opinions.	There was a heated debate in class.
believe	To think that something is true.	I believe that honesty is important.
convince	To make someone believe that something is true.	She tried to convince me to stay.
persuade	To make someone agree to do or believe something.	I will persuade him to join the club.
claim	To say that something is true without proof.	Some people claim the test is unfair.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
admit	To agree that something is true, often unwillingly.	He had to admit that he was wrong.
deny	To say that something is not true.	She will deny taking the money.
point	A single idea or fact in a discussion.	That is a very good point.
reason	The cause or explanation for something.	Give me one reason to believe you.
consider	To think carefully about something.	Please consider my idea carefully.
assume	To think something is true without checking.	Do not assume that I agree.
doubt	A feeling of not being sure about something.	I have no doubt about her honesty.
agreement	A situation where people share the same opinion.	After hours of talks, they reached an agreement.
disagreement	A situation where people have different opinions.	There was a disagreement about the plan.
objection	A reason for disagreeing with something.	She raised an objection to the proposal.
defend	To argue in support of something.	He stood up to defend his opinion.
criticise	To say what is wrong with someone or something.	It is easy to criticise other people.
praise	To say that someone or something is good.	The teacher gave him a lot of praise.
object	To say that you disagree with something.	Many people object to the new rule.
state	To say something clearly and formally.	Please state your reasons clearly.
discussion	A conversation in which people share ideas.	We had an interesting discussion about art.
conclude	To decide something after thinking about it.	From this, we can conclude that he lied.
conclusion	A decision reached after thinking.	What is your conclusion about the case?
perspective	A particular way of seeing something.	Try to see it from my perspective.
accept	To agree to receive or believe something.	I accept that I made a mistake.
reject	To refuse to accept something.	They decided to reject the offer.
valid	Based on good reasons; acceptable.	That is a valid argument.
obvious	Easy to see or understand.	It is obvious that he is tired.
clearly	In a way that is easy to see or understand.	She clearly explained her point of view.
however	Used to introduce a contrasting idea.	I like it; however, it is too expensive.
although	Used to say that a fact is true despite another.	Although it rained, we enjoyed the trip.
therefore	For that reason; as a result.	He was ill; therefore, he stayed at home.
furthermore	In addition to what has been said.	The plan is risky; furthermore, it is costly.
emphasise	To give special importance to something.	I must emphasise how important this is.
justify	To give a good reason for something.	How can you justify your decision?
assumption	Something believed true without proof.	Your assumption is completely wrong.
comment	A remark giving an opinion.	Would you like to make a comment?

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

Work & Career

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
profession	A job that needs special training or education.	Teaching is a respected profession.
employment	The state of having a paid job.	He is looking for full-time employment.
qualification	An official record that you have passed a course.	You need a qualification for this job.
candidate	A person applying for a job or position.	She was the best candidate for the role.
application	A formal request, for example for a job.	I sent my application yesterday.
recruit	To find and hire new workers.	The company wants to recruit new staff.
workplace	The place where you do your job.	The workplace is friendly and modern.
resign	To officially leave a job.	He decided to resign from his job.
dismiss	To remove someone from their job.	The manager had to dismiss two workers.
supervisor	A person who watches over and directs workers.	My supervisor checks my work.
teamwork	Working well together as a group.	Good teamwork is essential here.
responsibility	A duty you are expected to deal with.	She has a lot of responsibility at work.
duty	Something you must do as part of your job.	It is my duty to help customers.
workload	The amount of work a person has to do.	His workload is very heavy this week.
professional	Relating to a job that needs special training.	She is very professional at work.
ability	The skill or power to do something.	He has the ability to lead a team.
talent	A natural skill for doing something well.	She has a real talent for design.
expertise	Special skill or knowledge in an area.	His expertise in law is well known.
vacancy	A job that is available for someone to take.	There is a vacancy in the sales team.
negotiate	To discuss something to reach an agreement.	They will negotiate a new contract.
reputation	The opinion people have of someone or something.	The firm has an excellent reputation.
workforce	All the people who work for a company or country.	The factory has a large workforce.
internship	A period of work to gain experience, often unpaid.	She did an internship at a bank.
freelance	Working for different companies rather than one.	He works freelance from home.
trainee	A person learning how to do a job.	The trainee is learning quickly.
industry	The businesses that make a particular product.	He works in the music industry.
executive	A senior person who manages a business.	She is a senior executive.
promote	To give someone a more important job.	They decided to promote him to manager.
perform	To do a task or job.	He must perform well to keep his job.
productive	Producing a lot; getting a lot done.	I feel very productive in the mornings.
efficient	Working well without wasting time or effort.	The new system is more efficient.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
leadership	The ability to lead a group of people.	Good leadership inspires the team.
career path	The series of jobs leading towards a goal.	She planned her career path carefully.
pension	Money paid regularly to a person after they retire.	He will receive a pension when he retires.
unemployed	Not having a job.	He has been unemployed for months.
apprentice	A young person learning a skilled trade at work.	The apprentice works with an expert.
commute	To travel regularly between home and work.	I commute to work by train.
appraisal	A review of how well someone does their job.	She had a good appraisal this year.
occupation	A person's job.	Please write your occupation here.
skilled	Having the training and ability to do something well.	He is a highly skilled worker.

Money & Finance

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
savings	Money you keep instead of spending.	She keeps her savings in the bank.
invest	To put money into something to make a profit.	He decided to invest in property.
investment	Money put into something to earn more money.	Property can be a good investment.
loan	Money borrowed that must be paid back.	They took out a loan for the car.
debt	Money that you owe to someone.	He is trying to pay off his debt.
interest	The extra money paid for borrowing or saving.	The bank pays interest on savings.
income	The money a person receives, for example from work.	Their monthly income is quite high.
expense	Money spent on something.	Rent is our biggest expense.
profit	The money gained after costs are paid.	The shop made a good profit.
loss	The money lost when you spend more than you earn.	The company reported a loss this year.
tax	Money people must pay to the government.	Everyone must pay tax on their income.
wealth	A large amount of money and possessions.	He gained great wealth from business.
wealthy	Having a lot of money; rich.	She comes from a wealthy family.
poverty	The state of being very poor.	Many families live in poverty.
currency	The money used in a particular country.	The euro is a common currency.
exchange	To give one thing and get another in return.	I need to exchange some money.
fee	Money paid for a service or to enter somewhere.	The bank charges a small fee.
fortune	A very large amount of money.	He made a fortune in business.
economy	The system of money and trade in a country.	The economy is growing slowly.
economic	Relating to money, trade and industry.	The country faces economic problems.
financial	Relating to money.	She gave me some financial advice.
purchase	To buy something.	They made an expensive purchase.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
amount	How much there is of something.	A large amount of money was spent.
mortgage	A loan used to buy a house.	They pay a monthly mortgage.
insurance	An agreement to be paid if something bad happens.	Car insurance is expensive.
bankrupt	Unable to pay what you owe.	The company went bankrupt.
donate	To give money or goods to help others.	She likes to donate to charity.
charity	An organisation that helps people in need.	They gave money to charity.
fund	An amount of money saved for a purpose.	We need to fund the new project.
worth	The value of something.	The painting is worth a fortune.
inflation	A general rise in prices over time.	Inflation makes prices rise.
earnings	The money a person earns from work.	Her earnings have doubled.
transaction	An act of buying or selling.	The transaction was completed online.
deposit	Money put into a bank account.	I made a deposit at the bank.
withdraw	To take money out of a bank account.	She went to withdraw some cash.
valuable	Worth a lot of money.	This ring is very valuable.
broke	Having no money.	I am broke until payday.
balance	The amount of money in an account.	Check the balance in your account.
asset	Something valuable that a person or company owns.	The house is their main asset.
expenditure	The total amount of money spent.	We must reduce our expenditure.

Society & Community

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
citizen	A person who legally belongs to a country.	Every citizen has the right to vote.
community	A group of people living in the same area.	Our community is very friendly.
population	The number of people living in a place.	The population of the city is growing.
government	The group of people who rule a country.	The government raised taxes.
public	Relating to all the people in a society.	The park is open to the public.
society	People living together in an organised group.	Education benefits the whole society.
culture	The way of life and customs of a group of people.	I am interested in Japanese culture.
custom	A traditional way of behaving in a society.	Shaking hands is a common custom.
generation	All the people born around the same time.	The younger generation loves technology.
equality	The state of everyone being treated the same.	We believe in equality for all.
freedom	The right to act and speak as you wish.	Freedom of speech is important.
rights	Things you are legally or morally allowed to have.	Workers fought for their rights.
welfare	Help given by the state to people in need.	The state supports people’s welfare.
homeless	Having nowhere to live.	The charity helps homeless people.
minister	A senior member of a government.	The prime minister gave a speech.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
vote	To choose someone or something in an election.	Citizens vote every four years.
election	An event where people vote to choose leaders.	The election will be held in May.
politics	The activities of governing a country.	He is very interested in politics.
policy	A plan of action agreed by a group or government.	The new policy helps families.
leader	A person who guides or is in charge of others.	The country needs a strong leader.
immigrant	A person who comes to live in another country.	The immigrant found a new job quickly.
refugee	A person forced to leave their country for safety.	The refugee fled from the war.
discrimination	Unfair treatment of people because of who they are.	Discrimination at work is illegal.
protest	To show strong disagreement in public.	Thousands joined the protest.
campaign	A planned set of actions to achieve a goal.	They started a campaign for clean water.
democracy	A system where people vote to choose the government.	Voting is part of democracy.
authority	The power to make decisions and give orders.	The local authority manages the schools.
diversity	The state of having many different kinds of people.	The city is famous for its diversity.
inequality	An unfair difference between groups of people.	There is too much inequality in the world.
taxpayer	A person who pays taxes.	Every taxpayer funds public services.
council	A group that governs a town or area.	The city council made a decision.
unemployment	The state of not having enough jobs for people.	Unemployment fell last year.
racism	Unfair treatment of people because of their race.	Racism has no place in our society.
nation	A country and its people.	The whole nation celebrated.
global	Relating to the whole world.	Climate change is a global issue.
majority	The larger number or part of a group.	The majority voted yes.
minority	A smaller group within a larger one.	A small minority disagreed.
urban	Relating to a town or city.	Urban areas are very crowded.
rural	Relating to the countryside.	Life in rural areas is quieter.
donation	Something given to help a person or cause.	They made a generous donation.

Crime & Law

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
crime	An action that is against the law.	The city is trying to reduce crime.
criminal	A person who has committed a crime.	The criminal was sent to prison.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
law	A rule made by a government that everyone must obey.	Stealing is against the law.
legal	Allowed by law.	It is not legal to drive without a licence.
illegal	Not allowed by law.	It is illegal to park here.
court	A place where legal cases are decided.	The case went to court.
judge	The official who controls a court and decides cases.	The judge listened to both sides.
jury	A group of people who decide if someone is guilty.	The jury found him guilty.
lawyer	A person whose job is to advise people about the law.	She hired a good lawyer.
evidence	Facts that show whether something is true.	There was no evidence against him.
witness	A person who saw a crime and describes it in court.	A witness saw the accident.
guilty	Having done something wrong or against the law.	He felt guilty about the lie.
innocent	Not guilty of a crime.	The court found her innocent.
arrest	To take someone to a police station for a crime.	The police will arrest the thief.
prison	A place where criminals are kept as punishment.	He spent five years in prison.
punishment	Something bad done to a person for breaking a rule.	The punishment was very harsh.
suspect	A person thought to have committed a crime.	The police questioned the suspect.
victim	A person harmed by a crime or accident.	The victim called for help.
robbery	The crime of stealing from a person or place.	There was a robbery at the bank.
theft	The crime of stealing.	He was arrested for theft.
burglar	A person who breaks into a building to steal.	A burglar broke into the house.
murder	The crime of killing someone on purpose.	The murder shocked the town.
steal	To take something that is not yours.	It is wrong to steal.
accuse	To say that someone has done something wrong.	Do not accuse me without any proof.
trial	A legal process to decide if someone is guilty.	The trial lasted two weeks.
sentence	The punishment given by a court.	He received a long sentence.
justice	Fair treatment according to the law.	The family wanted justice.
offence	An action that breaks a law.	Speeding is a serious offence.
prove	To show that something is true.	Can you prove that you are innocent?
convict	To officially decide that someone is guilty.	The court will convict the criminal.
commit	To do something wrong or illegal.	He did not commit the crime.
investigate	To try to find out the truth about something.	The police will investigate the case.
smuggle	To move goods illegally into or out of a country.	They tried to smuggle gold.
fraud	The crime of cheating people to get money.	He was charged with fraud.
threaten	To say you will harm someone.	Robbers often threaten their victims.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
violence	Behaviour that is meant to hurt people.	The film contains a lot of violence.
weapon	An object used to hurt or kill people.	The police found a weapon.
security	Protection against danger or crime.	Airport security is very strict.
escape	To get away from a place or situation.	The prisoner tried to escape.
release	To set someone free.	They will release him next month.

Environment & Nature

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
recycle	To treat used things so they can be used again.	We recycle paper and glass.
recycling	The process of using materials again.	Recycling helps the planet.
rubbish	Waste material that is thrown away.	Please put the rubbish in the bin.
energy	The power used to make machines work.	Solar energy is clean.
greenhouse	Relating to gases that trap heat around the earth.	Greenhouse gases warm the planet.
global warming	The gradual heating of the earth's climate.	Global warming is a serious threat.
atmosphere	The layer of gases around the earth.	Pollution harms the atmosphere.
species	A group of animals or plants of the same kind.	Many species are in danger.
extinct	No longer existing as a species.	Some animals are now extinct.
endangered	In danger of no longer existing.	Pandas are an endangered species.
conservation	The protection of nature and natural things.	Conservation protects nature.
protect	To keep something safe from harm.	We must protect the forests.
damage	Harm done to something.	Pollution can damage the sea.
disaster	A sudden event that causes great harm.	The flood was a natural disaster.
flood	A large amount of water covering land that is usually dry.	The river caused a terrible flood.
drought	A long period with little or no rain.	The drought destroyed the crops.
earthquake	A sudden violent shaking of the ground.	The earthquake damaged many homes.
pollute	To make air, water or land dirty and harmful.	Factories pollute the rivers.
fuel	A material burned to produce heat or power.	Cars burn a lot of fuel.
coal	A hard black material burned for energy.	Coal is a dirty fuel.
solar	Relating to energy from the sun.	They installed solar panels.
renewable	Able to be replaced naturally and not used up.	Wind is a renewable energy source.
resource	A useful supply of something, such as water or oil.	Water is a precious resource.
sustainable	Able to continue without harming the environment.	We need sustainable farming.
habitat	The natural home of an animal or plant.	The forest is a habitat for birds.
nature	The natural world of plants, animals and land.	I love walking in nature.
natural	Existing in nature and not made by people.	Oil is a natural resource.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
crop	Plants grown by farmers for food.	The farmers grew a good crop.
harvest	The gathering of crops when they are ready.	The harvest was very good this year.
landscape	The appearance of an area of the countryside.	The mountain landscape is beautiful.
ocean	A very large area of sea.	Plastic is filling the ocean.
temperature	How hot or cold something is.	The temperature is rising.
ecosystem	All the living things in an area and their surroundings.	Bees are vital to the ecosystem.
emission	Gas or other substance sent into the air.	Carbon emission causes global warming.
carbon	A chemical element found in coal and living things.	Cars produce carbon dioxide.
preserve	To keep something safe and unchanged.	We should preserve the rainforest.
plastic	A light material that does not break down easily.	Plastic harms sea animals.
litter	Rubbish left in public places.	Do not drop litter in the park.
organic	Grown without artificial chemicals.	She buys organic vegetables.
environmental	Relating to the natural world.	He is an environmental activist.

Science & Research

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
experiment	A test done to discover or prove something.	The students did a science experiment.
discovery	The act of finding something for the first time.	It was an amazing scientific discovery.
discover	To find something not known before.	Scientists discover new things every day.
theory	An idea used to explain how or why something happens.	He explained his theory clearly.
laboratory	A room where scientific work is done.	They work in a modern laboratory.
scientist	A person who studies science.	The scientist studied the results.
chemical	A substance used in or made by chemistry.	This chemical is dangerous.
biology	The study of living things.	Biology is the study of living things.
physics	The study of matter, energy and forces.	Physics explains how the world works.
chemistry	The study of substances and how they change.	We mixed liquids in chemistry.
atom	The smallest part of a chemical element.	An atom is incredibly small.
cell	The smallest unit of a living thing.	Every living thing has at least one cell.
gene	A part of a cell that controls how a living thing grows.	A gene carries genetic information.
element	A basic substance that cannot be broken down.	Oxygen is a common element.
gravity	The force that pulls objects towards the earth.	Gravity pulls objects down.
molecule	The smallest unit of a substance made of atoms.	A water molecule has three atoms.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
observe	To watch something carefully.	Scientists observe the stars.
measure	To find the size or amount of something.	We measure the temperature daily.
analyse	To examine something in detail to understand it.	They analyse the data carefully.
analysis	A detailed study of something.	The analysis took several weeks.
result	What is caused or produced by something.	The result was very surprising.
method	A way of doing something.	We used a completely new method.
process	A series of actions to achieve a result.	Photosynthesis is a natural process.
microscope	An instrument that makes tiny things look bigger.	She looked through the microscope.
invention	Something new that someone has made.	The wheel was a great invention.
invent	To create something new for the first time.	Edison helped invent the light bulb.
hypothesis	An idea suggested as an explanation to be tested.	They tested the hypothesis.
sample	A small amount used to represent the whole.	They took a sample of the water.
evolution	The gradual development of living things over time.	Darwin studied evolution.
universe	All of space and everything in it.	The universe is enormous.
planet	A large object in space that moves around a star.	Mars is a red planet.
galaxy	A very large group of stars in space.	Our galaxy has billions of stars.
telescope	An instrument used to see distant objects.	He saw the moon through a telescope.
formula	A rule or fact written with symbols or numbers.	She wrote the formula on the board.
solve	To find the answer to a problem.	Maths helps you solve problems.
examine	To look at something carefully.	Doctors examine patients carefully.
substance	A particular kind of material.	Water is a clear substance.
reaction	A change that happens when substances meet.	The chemical reaction was fast.
researcher	A person who studies a subject to find new facts.	The researcher published her study.
scientific	Relating to science.	They used a scientific approach.

Technology & Innovation

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
technology	The use of science to make useful machines and tools.	Technology changes very quickly.
innovation	A new idea, method or invention.	The phone is full of innovation.
digital	Using electronic numbers to store information.	We live in a digital world.
robot	A machine that can do tasks automatically.	The factory uses a robot.
artificial	Made by people, not natural.	Artificial intelligence is growing fast.
machine	A device with moving parts that does work.	This machine makes coffee.
engine	A machine that turns fuel into movement.	The car engine is powerful.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
electronic	Using electricity and tiny parts to work.	He repairs electronic devices.
gadget	A small useful device or tool.	This gadget can open any bottle.
smartphone	A phone that works like a small computer.	My smartphone has a great camera.
system	A set of connected things that work together.	The new system works well.
program	A set of instructions that a computer follows.	She wrote a computer program.
code	The instructions written to make software work.	He is learning to write code.
technical	Relating to the skills of a particular subject.	I have a technical problem.
wireless	Working without wires or cables.	The wireless connection is fast.
function	The purpose or job something does.	This button has a useful function.
automatic	Working by itself without a person controlling it.	The doors are automatic.
modern	Relating to the present or recent times.	The office has modern equipment.
equipment	The tools and machines needed for a task.	The lab has new equipment.
tool	An object used to do a particular job.	A hammer is a useful tool.
monitor	A screen, or to watch something over time.	He bought a large monitor.
upgrade	To make something newer or better.	I want to upgrade my phone.
install	To put a program or machine in place to use it.	Please install the new software.
storage	Space where information or things are kept.	The phone has a lot of storage.
graphics	Pictures and images produced by a computer.	The game has amazing graphics.
virtual	Existing on a computer rather than in the real world.	They held a virtual meeting.
drone	A small aircraft controlled without a pilot on board.	The drone flew over the field.
satellite	A machine sent into space to send signals.	The satellite sends TV signals.
processor	The part of a computer that controls its work.	The new processor is faster.
advanced	Highly developed or modern.	This is an advanced computer.
design	To plan how something will look or work.	She studied product design.
operate	To control how a machine works.	Can you operate this machine?
switch	A device used to turn something on or off.	Switch off the lights, please.
remote	A device used to control a machine from a distance.	Where is the TV remote?
automation	The use of machines to do work instead of people.	Automation has changed factories.
feature	An important part of something.	This phone has a new feature.
camera	A device for taking photos or videos.	The camera takes clear photos.
sensor	A device that detects light, heat or movement.	The sensor detects movement.
manual	Done by hand rather than by machine.	Read the manual before you start.
innovative	Using new ideas and methods.	It is a very innovative product.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

Health & Wellbeing

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
disease	An illness that affects a person, animal or plant.	The disease spread quickly.
infection	An illness caused by germs entering the body.	He has an ear infection.
symptom	A sign that shows you have an illness.	A high fever is a symptom of flu.
operation	A medical procedure to treat part of the body.	She had an operation on her knee.
wellbeing	The state of being healthy and comfortable.	Exercise improves your wellbeing.
mental	Relating to the mind.	Mental health is very important.
physical	Relating to the body.	Physical activity keeps you fit.
specialist	A doctor who is expert in one area of medicine.	She saw a heart specialist.
prescription	A doctor's written order for medicine.	The doctor wrote a prescription.
vaccine	A substance that protects against a disease.	The vaccine prevents the disease.
allergy	A reaction of the body to a particular substance.	He has an allergy to nuts.
addiction	A strong need to keep doing something harmful.	Smoking is a dangerous addiction.
nutrition	The food needed for good health.	Good nutrition keeps you healthy.
heal	To become healthy again, or to make someone well.	The wound will heal in a week.
ill	Not healthy; unwell.	She felt ill after lunch.
unhealthy	Not good for your health.	Too much sugar is unhealthy.
recovery	The process of getting well again.	His recovery was slow but steady.
painful	Causing pain.	The injection was a little painful.
fracture	A break or crack in a bone.	He suffered a fracture in his arm.
clinic	A place where people go for medical treatment.	She works at a local clinic.
emergency	A sudden dangerous situation needing quick action.	Call this number in an emergency.
dose	The amount of medicine to take at one time.	Do not take more than one dose.
medical	Relating to medicine or the treatment of illness.	He needs urgent medical help.
therapy	Treatment to help a health problem.	She had therapy after the accident.
germ	A tiny living thing that can cause illness.	A single germ can make you ill.
bacteria	Very small living things that can cause disease.	Bacteria can cause illness.
pill	A small round piece of medicine to swallow.	Take one pill before bed.
sick	Feeling ill, or wanting to vomit.	He was sick all night.
hygiene	Keeping yourself and things clean to stay healthy.	Good hygiene prevents disease.
pulse	The regular beating of the heart felt in the body.	The nurse checked his pulse.
relaxation	The state of resting and being calm.	Relaxation reduces stress.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
calorie	A unit that measures the energy in food.	A calorie is a unit of energy.
cancer	A serious disease in which cells grow uncontrollably.	Smoking can cause cancer.
surgeon	A doctor who performs operations.	The surgeon performed the operation.
remedy	Something that cures an illness or solves a problem.	Honey is a natural remedy.
ward	A room in a hospital for several patients.	He stayed in the hospital ward.
bruise	A dark mark on the skin caused by a knock.	She had a bruise on her leg.
wellness	The state of being in good health.	The spa focuses on wellness.
diagnosis	The doctor's decision about what illness you have.	The diagnosis was good news.
antibiotic	A medicine that kills bacteria.	The doctor prescribed an antibiotic.

Education & Study

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
examination	A formal test of knowledge or ability.	The examination was very difficult.
graduate	A person who has completed a university degree.	She will graduate next summer.
scholarship	Money given to help a student study.	He won a scholarship to study abroad.
tuition	Teaching, or the money paid for it.	University tuition is expensive.
curriculum	The subjects taught in a school or course.	The curriculum includes science.
assignment	A task given to students to complete.	I must finish my assignment tonight.
semester	One of two periods the school year is divided into.	The semester ends in June.
certificate	An official document showing an achievement.	She received a certificate of English.
literacy	The ability to read and write.	Literacy means being able to read.
memorise	To learn something so you remember it exactly.	Try to memorise these words.
revision	The act of studying again before an exam.	I did a lot of revision before the test.
tutor	A teacher who works with one or a few students.	My tutor helps me with maths.
seminar	A meeting for study or discussion.	We attended a useful seminar.
educate	To teach someone over a period of time.	Schools educate young people.
academic	Relating to education and study.	She has strong academic skills.
topic	A subject that people study or discuss.	Today’s topic is the environment.
coursework	Work done during a course that counts towards a mark.	Coursework counts towards the grade.
qualified	Having passed the exams needed for a job.	She is a qualified teacher.
attend	To be present at an event or place.	Students must attend every class.
enrol	To officially join a course or school.	I want to enrol on a French course.
understand	To know what something means.	I do not understand this question.
instruction	Information about how to do something.	Follow each instruction carefully.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
vocabulary	All the words a person knows or uses.	He has a wide English vocabulary.
grammar	The rules for how words are used in a language.	English grammar can be tricky.
spelling	The correct order of letters in a word.	Her spelling has improved.
fluent	Able to speak a language easily and well.	She is fluent in three languages.
beginner	A person who is just starting to learn something.	She is still a beginner at chess.
intermediate	At a middle level between basic and advanced.	He is at intermediate level.
concept	A general idea about something.	The concept is hard to grasp.
practice	Doing something repeatedly to get better.	Practice makes perfect.
comprehension	The ability to understand something.	We did a reading comprehension.
headteacher	The teacher in charge of a school.	The headteacher gave a speech.
campus	The land and buildings of a university.	The university campus is huge.
module	One separate unit of a course.	I chose a module on history.
graduation	The ceremony of completing a course of study.	Her graduation was a proud day.
bachelor	A first university degree.	He has a bachelor’s degree.
expert	A person with special knowledge of a subject.	She is an expert in biology.
explanation	A statement that makes something clear.	The explanation was very clear.
educational	Providing education or useful knowledge.	It is an educational programme.
discipline	Training people to obey rules and behave well.	Learning needs discipline.

Emotions & Feelings

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
joy	A feeling of great happiness.	The news filled her with joy.
sorrow	A feeling of deep sadness.	He felt deep sorrow at the loss.
anger	A strong feeling of displeasure.	She could not hide her anger.
happiness	The feeling of being happy.	Money cannot buy happiness.
sadness	The feeling of being unhappy.	A feeling of sadness came over him.
excitement	A strong feeling of eagerness and interest.	The children screamed with excitement.
frustration	The feeling of being upset because you cannot succeed.	He sighed in frustration.
relief	The good feeling when worry or pain goes away.	It was a relief to finish the exam.
guilt	The unhappy feeling of having done something wrong.	She felt a sense of guilt.
pride	A feeling of pleasure in your achievements.	He spoke with pride about his work.
sympathy	The feeling of caring about someone's problems.	I have great sympathy for them.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
enthusiasm	Strong interest and excitement about something.	She works with real enthusiasm.
passion	A very strong feeling or interest.	Music is his greatest passion.
desire	A strong wish for something.	She has a strong desire to win.
hope	The feeling that something good may happen.	We still have hope for the future.
despair	The feeling of having lost all hope.	He was filled with despair.
comfort	A feeling of being relaxed and free from worry.	Her words gave me comfort.
tension	A feeling of worry that makes you unable to relax.	There was tension in the room.
emotional	Relating to feelings, or having strong feelings.	It was an emotional goodbye.
tense	Nervous and unable to relax.	He felt tense before the speech.
furious	Extremely angry.	She was furious about the delay.
terrified	Extremely frightened.	He was terrified of the dark.
amazed	Very surprised.	We were amazed by the view.
ashamed	Feeling bad because you did something wrong.	He felt ashamed of his behaviour.
confused	Unable to understand or think clearly.	I was confused by the directions.
eager	Very keen to do something.	She was eager to start.
peaceful	Calm and quiet.	The garden felt peaceful.
lively	Full of energy and enthusiasm.	It was a lively party.
hopeful	Feeling that something good will happen.	We are hopeful about the result.
hopeless	Feeling that there is no hope.	The situation seemed hopeless.
satisfied	Pleased because you have what you wanted.	She was satisfied with her work.
disgusted	Feeling strong dislike about something unpleasant.	He was disgusted by the mess.
overwhelmed	Feeling unable to cope with too much.	She felt overwhelmed by the work.
cheer	To shout with joy or to make someone happier.	The crowd began to cheer.
weep	To cry.	She began to weep with joy.
tremble	To shake, often from fear or cold.	His hands began to tremble.
sigh	To let out a long breath to show a feeling.	He gave a deep sigh.
affection	A gentle feeling of liking or love.	She showed great affection for the dog.
temper	A tendency to become angry easily.	He lost his temper quickly.
grief	Very deep sadness, especially after a death.	She was full of grief.

Personality & Character

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
outgoing	Friendly and enjoying meeting people.	She is friendly and outgoing.
sensitive	Easily affected by feelings or the feelings of others.	He is a sensitive person.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
tolerant	Willing to accept opinions or behaviour you dislike.	She is very tolerant of others.
stubborn	Refusing to change your mind.	He is too stubborn to change his mind.
modest	Not talking proudly about yourself.	Despite his success, he is modest.
arrogant	Believing you are better than others.	Nobody likes an arrogant person.
loyal	Faithful and always supporting someone.	A dog is a loyal friend.
independent	Able to do things without help from others.	She is very independent.
responsible	Reliable and able to be trusted.	He is a responsible adult.
optimistic	Expecting good things to happen.	She is optimistic about life.
pessimistic	Expecting bad things to happen.	He is pessimistic about the future.
creative	Good at producing new ideas or things.	She has a creative mind.
practical	Sensible and good at doing useful things.	He is a practical problem-solver.
flexible	Able to change easily to suit a situation.	My boss is quite flexible.
organised	Good at planning and keeping things in order.	She is very organised at work.
moody	Often changing between good and bad moods.	Teenagers can be moody.
nasty	Unkind and unpleasant.	He said something really nasty.
charming	Pleasant and attractive in a way that pleases people.	He has a charming smile.
aggressive	Behaving in an angry or threatening way.	The dog became aggressive.
easy-going	Relaxed and not easily worried.	He is relaxed and easy-going.
trustworthy	Able to be trusted.	She is a trustworthy friend.
thoughtful	Thinking about the needs of others.	It was a thoughtful gift.
helpful	Willing to help others.	The staff were very helpful.
humble	Not proud; modest.	He stayed humble after winning.
bossy	Always telling other people what to do.	My sister can be very bossy.
decisive	Able to make decisions quickly and firmly.	A leader must be decisive.
cautious	Careful to avoid risks.	Be cautious when crossing the road.
energetic	Having a lot of energy.	The children are very energetic.
respectful	Showing respect for others.	He is respectful to elders.
sociable	Enjoying being with other people.	She is a sociable person.
intelligent	Good at learning and understanding.	He is an intelligent student.
reserved	Not showing feelings or opinions easily.	He is rather reserved at first.
witty	Clever and amusing with words.	She made a witty remark.
courageous	Brave.	It was a courageous decision.
warm	Kind and friendly.	She has a warm personality.
diligent	Working hard and carefully.	He is a diligent worker.
trait	A particular quality of a person's character.	Kindness is her best trait.
manner	The way a person behaves towards others.	She has a very polite manner.
temperament	A person's usual nature or mood.	He has a calm temperament.
sincere	Honest and truly meaning what you say.	She gave a sincere apology.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

Relationships

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
acquaintance	A person you know a little but not well.	He is just an acquaintance, not a friend.
companion	A person who spends time with you.	The dog is a loyal companion.
fiancé	A man that a woman is going to marry.	She introduced her fiancé to us.
bond	A close connection between people.	There is a strong bond between them.
loyalty	The quality of being faithful to someone.	Friendship is built on loyalty.
affair	A secret romantic relationship.	The film is about a love affair.
romance	A loving relationship between two people.	Their romance began at university.
conflict	A serious disagreement.	They had a conflict over money.
reconcile	To become friendly again after an argument.	The couple decided to reconcile.
separate	To stop living together as a couple.	The parents decided to separate.
household	All the people who live together in one home.	There are five people in the household.
ancestor	A member of your family from long ago.	My ancestor was a famous soldier.
sibling	A brother or sister.	My only sibling is my brother.
spouse	A husband or wife.	Please bring your spouse to the party.
widow	A woman whose husband has died.	She has been a widow for ten years.
intimacy	A close, personal relationship.	Their intimacy grew over time.
betray	To hurt someone who trusts you.	He would never betray a friend.
admire	To respect and like someone very much.	I really admire my grandmother.
gossip	Talk about the private lives of other people.	They love to gossip about neighbours.
loneliness	The sad feeling of being alone.	Loneliness can affect anyone.
forgive	To stop being angry with someone for a wrong.	She decided to forgive him.
godmother	A woman who promises to help care for a child.	She is my little sister’s godmother.
newlywed	A person who has just got married.	The newlywed couple looked very happy.
honeymoon	A holiday taken by a couple after their wedding.	They went to Italy on honeymoon.
single	Not married or in a romantic relationship.	He has been single for years.
flatmate	A person you share a flat with.	My flatmate is very tidy.
companionship	The friendly feeling of being with others.	Pets offer real companionship.
rely	To depend on someone or something.	You can always rely on her.
engage	To agree to marry, or to take part in something.	They will engage to be married soon.
reunion	A meeting of people who have not met for a long time.	We had a big family reunion.
relate	To connect with or understand someone.	I can relate to your problem.
mutual	Shared by two or more people.	They have a mutual respect.
devoted	Very loving and loyal.	She is devoted to her family.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
split	To end a relationship.	The couple decided to split up.
faithful	Loyal and always true to someone.	He is a faithful partner.
propose	To ask someone to marry you.	He decided to propose to her.
guardian	A person legally responsible for a child.	Her aunt is her legal guardian.
befriend	To become a friend to someone.	She tried to befriend the new student.
soulmate	A person perfectly suited to you.	He says she is his soulmate.
appreciate	To value someone or something.	I really appreciate your help.

Communication

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
statement	Something said or written clearly.	He made a short statement.
inform	To tell someone about something.	Please inform me of any changes.
clarify	To make something clearer and easier to understand.	Could you clarify your question?
respond	To answer or react to something.	She did not respond to my email.
response	An answer or reaction.	I am still waiting for a response.
request	To ask for something politely.	He made a polite request.
demand	To ask for something firmly.	The workers made a demand for more pay.
remind	To help someone remember something.	Please remind me to call him.
warn	To tell someone about a possible danger.	I must warn you about the danger.
advise	To tell someone what you think they should do.	I advise you to rest more.
advice	An opinion about what someone should do.	She gave me some good advice.
recommend	To suggest that something is good.	I recommend this restaurant.
refuse	To say that you will not do something.	She may refuse to answer the question.
negotiation	Discussion aimed at reaching an agreement.	The negotiation lasted hours.
interrupt	To stop someone while they are speaking.	Please do not interrupt me.
remark	Something you say giving an opinion.	She made a funny remark.
phrase	A small group of words with meaning.	He used a strange phrase.
gesture	A movement of the body that shows meaning.	He made a friendly gesture.
language	A system of words used to communicate.	Body language says a lot.
interpreter	A person who changes spoken words into another language.	We needed an interpreter.
persuasion	The act of making someone agree to something.	It took some persuasion.
feedback	Comments about how well something was done.	Thank you for your feedback.
dialogue	A conversation between two or more people.	The two sides began a dialogue.
compliment	A polite remark that praises someone.	She gave me a nice compliment.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
criticism	Remarks saying what is wrong with something.	He could not accept criticism.
announcement	A public or formal statement about something.	There was an important announcement.
expression	A word or phrase, or a look showing feeling.	It is a common English expression.
messaging	Sending short written messages electronically.	Instant messaging is very popular.
correspond	To exchange letters or messages.	We correspond mainly by email.
mumble	To speak quietly and unclearly.	Do not mumble; speak clearly.
yell	To shout loudly.	He began to yell across the room.
address	To speak to a person or group.	She will address the meeting.
notify	To officially tell someone about something.	Please notify us of your arrival.
react	To behave in a certain way because of something.	How did he react to the news?
imply	To suggest something without saying it directly.	Are you trying to imply something?
summarise	To give the main points of something briefly.	Can you summarise the article?
verbal	Relating to spoken words.	We had a verbal agreement.
fluency	The ability to speak a language smoothly.	Her fluency in English is impressive.
spokesperson	A person who speaks officially for a group.	The spokesperson answered questions.
misunderstanding	A failure to understand something correctly.	It was just a misunderstanding.

Travel & Culture

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
accommodation	A place to stay, such as a hotel.	The hotel offers cheap accommodation.
sightseeing	Visiting interesting places as a tourist.	We went sightseeing in Rome.
souvenir	An object kept to remember a place or event.	I bought a souvenir for my mum.
itinerary	A plan of a journey, listing places and times.	Our itinerary includes three cities.
excursion	A short trip taken for pleasure.	We booked a day excursion.
landmark	A well-known building or place that is easy to recognise.	The tower is a famous landmark.
overseas	In or to a country across the sea.	She studied overseas for a year.
heritage	The traditions and history passed down over time.	The city is proud of its heritage.
tourism	The business of providing services for tourists.	Tourism is important to the economy.
customs	The place where bags are checked at a border.	We went through customs at the airport.
visa	An official mark allowing you to enter a country.	You need a visa to enter the country.
guide	A person who shows tourists around a place.	Our guide knew the city very well.
resort	A place where people go on holiday to relax.	We stayed at a beach resort.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
expedition	An organised journey with a particular purpose.	They went on an expedition to the Arctic.
nationality	The country a person legally belongs to.	What is your nationality?
foreign	Relating to a country that is not your own.	She enjoys learning foreign languages.
local	Belonging to the area where you are.	We ate at a local restaurant.
scenery	The natural features of an area seen by a viewer.	The mountain scenery is stunning.
check-in	The act of reporting your arrival at a hotel or airport.	Check-in opens two hours early.
cruise	A holiday on a ship that visits different places.	They went on a Mediterranean cruise.
wander	To walk around without a clear direction.	We love to wander through old towns.
exotic	Interesting and unusual because it is from far away.	They visited an exotic island.
monument	A structure built to remember a person or event.	The monument honours the soldiers.
tour	A journey visiting several places.	We took a guided tour of the museum.
brochure	A small book with information about a place or product.	The brochure shows the hotel rooms.
border	The line dividing two countries.	We crossed the border at night.
porter	A person who carries luggage at a hotel or station.	The porter carried our bags.
trip	A journey to a place and back.	We took a short trip to the coast.
adventure	An exciting and sometimes risky experience.	The holiday was a real adventure.
phrasebook	A book of useful phrases in a foreign language.	I used a phrasebook in France.
native	Belonging to a place by birth.	He is a native of Wales.
civilisation	A society with a developed culture and way of life.	The ancient civilisation was advanced.
traveller	A person who is travelling or often travels.	The traveller wrote a blog.
campsite	A place where people can camp in tents.	We stayed at a quiet campsite.
embassy	The offices of a country's officials in another country.	Visit the embassy if you lose your passport.
hostel	A cheap place to stay, often for young travellers.	We slept in a cheap hostel.
ruins	The remaining parts of old destroyed buildings.	We explored the ancient ruins.
compass	A device that shows direction.	A compass helps you find north.
package	A holiday with travel and hotel arranged together.	We booked a package holiday.
multicultural	Including people of many different cultures.	London is a multicultural city.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

Business & Trade

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
corporation	A large company or group of companies.	He works for a large corporation.
consumer	A person who buys goods or services.	The average consumer wants low prices.
product	Something that is made to be sold.	The new product sells well.
service	Work done for customers rather than goods sold.	The hotel offers great service.
marketing	The activity of promoting and selling products.	She works in marketing.
advertise	To tell the public about a product to sell it.	They advertise on television.
advertisement	A public notice promoting a product.	I saw the advertisement online.
logo	A symbol used by a company to identify itself.	The company has a famous logo.
supply	The amount of something available to buy.	There is a large supply of oil.
trade	The buying and selling of goods.	International trade is growing.
import	To bring goods into a country to sell.	They import fruit from Spain.
export	To send goods to another country to sell.	Oil is our biggest export.
retail	The selling of goods to the public in shops.	She works in retail.
wholesale	The selling of goods in large amounts at low prices.	They buy goods at wholesale prices.
goods	Things that are produced to be sold.	The lorry delivered the goods.
manufacture	To make goods in large amounts using machines.	They manufacture cars here.
deal	An agreement in business, especially about buying or selling.	They made a good business deal.
competition	Rivalry between companies for customers.	There is a lot of competition.
competitor	A company that competes with another.	Our main competitor lowered prices.
merchant	A person who buys and sells goods.	The merchant sold silk.
firm	A business or company.	She runs a small firm.
revenue	The money a company receives from its business.	The company’s revenue rose.
stock	The goods a shop has available to sell.	The shop is out of stock.
entrepreneur	A person who starts their own business.	She is a young entrepreneur.
warehouse	A large building where goods are stored.	The goods are kept in a warehouse.
expand	To make a business larger.	They plan to expand the business.
headquarters	The main office of a company.	The headquarters are in London.
launch	To start selling a new product.	They will launch a new phone.
invoice	A list showing money owed for goods or services.	Please send the invoice by email.
delivery	The act of taking goods to a place.	There is free delivery on all orders.
manufacturer	A company that makes goods.	The manufacturer offers a warranty.
shareholder	A person who owns part of a company.	Each shareholder receives a report.
tariff	A tax on goods coming into a country.	The government raised the tariff.
merger	The joining of two companies into one.	The two banks announced a merger.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
monopoly	Complete control of a market by one company.	The firm has a monopoly.
enterprise	A business or company, especially a new one.	It is a successful enterprise.
warranty	A promise to repair a product if it breaks.	The TV has a two-year warranty.
commerce	The buying and selling of goods on a large scale.	Online commerce is booming.
turnover	The total amount of money a business makes.	The shop has a high turnover.
commercial	Relating to buying and selling.	It was a commercial success.

Media & News

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
journalist	A person who writes news for newspapers or TV.	The journalist wrote a long article.
article	A piece of writing in a newspaper or magazine.	I read an interesting article.
report	A spoken or written account of news or facts.	The report covered the election.
press	Newspapers and the journalists who work for them.	The press asked many questions.
publication	A book, magazine or newspaper that has been printed.	It is a weekly publication.
editor	A person who prepares writing to be published.	The editor chose the front page.
column	A regular article in a newspaper by one writer.	She writes a weekly column.
publish	To produce and sell a book, paper or magazine.	They will publish the book in May.
coverage	The reporting of news about an event.	The match got wide coverage.
viewer	A person who watches television.	Every viewer can vote online.
subscription	An arrangement to receive something regularly for payment.	I cancelled my subscription.
publicity	Public attention given to someone or something.	The film got a lot of publicity.
reporter	A person who reports news.	A reporter covered the story.
source	A person or thing that provides information.	The story came from a reliable source.
fame	The state of being known by many people.	She found fame as a singer.
footage	Film of a particular event.	They showed footage of the storm.
bulletin	A short news report.	The news bulletin is at six.
live	Broadcast at the same time as it happens.	The concert was shown live.
blog	A personal website where someone writes regularly.	She writes a travel blog.
podcast	An audio programme you can download and listen to.	I listen to a daily podcast.
issue	One edition of a magazine, or an important subject.	The new issue comes out tomorrow.
scandal	An event that shocks people and causes talk.	The scandal shocked the country.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
rumour	Information passed around that may not be true.	There is a rumour about a merger.
influencer	A person who affects others' choices online.	She is a popular influencer.
censor	To remove parts of media considered unsuitable.	They tried to censor the film.
critic	A person who gives opinions about films, books or art.	The critic praised the play.
breaking news	Very recent and important news.	There was breaking news on TV.
tabloid	A newspaper with short stories and many pictures.	The tabloid printed the story.
advertising	The business of making advertisements.	Advertising influences shoppers.
investigation	A careful search for the truth about something.	The investigation took months.
popular	Liked by many people.	The show is very popular.
stream	To watch or listen to media over the internet.	We stream films at home.
trailer	A short advert for a film or programme.	The trailer looks exciting.
current	Happening or existing now.	We discussed current events.
propaganda	Information spread to influence people's opinions.	The leaflet was pure propaganda.
biased	Unfairly supporting one side.	The article seemed biased.
broadcaster	A person or company that sends out programmes.	She is a famous broadcaster.
circulation	The number of copies of a newspaper sold.	The paper has a huge circulation.
caption	Words written under a picture to explain it.	Write a caption for the photo.
newsletter	A short printed report sent regularly to members.	I subscribe to their newsletter.

Arts & Creativity

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
sculpture	A work of art made by shaping stone, metal or wood.	The sculpture is made of stone.
portrait	A painting or photograph of a person.	She painted a portrait of her father.
gallery	A place where works of art are shown.	The gallery shows modern art.
exhibition	A public show of art or other objects.	We visited an art exhibition.
masterpiece	A work of art of the very highest quality.	The painting is a masterpiece.
canvas	The strong cloth on which artists paint.	He painted on a large canvas.
creativity	The ability to produce new and original ideas.	Art encourages creativity.
imagination	The ability to form ideas and pictures in the mind.	Children have great imagination.
inspiration	Something that gives you ideas for creative work.	Nature is her inspiration.
exhibit	To show works of art to the public.	The museum will exhibit his work.
handicraft	Skilful work made by hand.	She sells handicraft at the market.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
watercolour	A painting made with paints mixed with water.	He prefers watercolour paintings.
abstract	Art that does not show things as they really look.	I really like abstract art.
performer	A person who acts, sings or plays for an audience.	The performer bowed to the crowd.
playwright	A person who writes plays.	Shakespeare was a famous playwright.
novel	A long written story about imaginary people.	She is writing her first novel.
poem	A piece of writing arranged in lines, often with rhythm.	He wrote a beautiful poem.
poetry	Poems considered as a form of literature.	She loves reading poetry.
author	A person who writes books or stories.	The author signed my book.
literature	Written works valued for their quality.	She studies English literature.
fiction	Stories about imaginary people and events.	I prefer fiction to history books.
plot	The main events of a story.	The film has an exciting plot.
compose	To write a piece of music.	He likes to compose music.
composer	A person who writes music.	Mozart was a great composer.
orchestra	A large group of musicians who play together.	The orchestra played beautifully.
melody	A tune, or the main line of a piece of music.	The song has a lovely melody.
rhythm	A regular pattern of sounds in music.	I love the rhythm of this song.
gifted	Having a great natural ability.	She is a gifted musician.
creation	Something that has been made.	The dress is her own creation.
decorative	Made to look attractive.	The vase is purely decorative.
mural	A large painting done directly on a wall.	A large mural covers the wall.
artwork	A piece of art such as a painting or drawing.	The artwork sold for millions.
rehearse	To practise a performance before showing it.	The actors rehearse every day.
rehearsal	A practice of a performance before the real event.	The final rehearsal went well.
easel	A frame that holds a painting while an artist works.	Her painting stood on an easel.
aesthetic	Relating to beauty and how things look.	The room has a simple aesthetic.
audition	A short performance to try for a role.	She passed the audition.
curator	A person in charge of a museum or gallery.	The curator arranged the paintings.
engrave	To cut words or designs into a hard surface.	They will engrave his name on it.
artistic	Having or showing skill in art.	She has great artistic talent.

Food & Lifestyle

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
cuisine	A style of cooking from a particular place.	I love Italian cuisine.
spice	A substance used to add flavour to food.	She added a little spice to the curry.
seasoning	Salt, pepper or herbs added to food for flavour.	The soup needs more seasoning.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
appetiser	A small dish eaten before the main meal.	We shared an appetiser.
vegan	A person who eats no animal products at all.	She follows a strict vegan diet.
nutritious	Containing substances that keep you healthy.	Vegetables are very nutritious.
tasty	Having a pleasant flavour.	The meal was really tasty.
bland	Having little flavour.	The soup was rather bland.
roast	To cook meat or vegetables in an oven.	We will roast a chicken for dinner.
grill	To cook food using direct heat from above.	I like to grill fish in summer.
bake	To cook food such as bread or cakes in an oven.	She loves to bake bread.
stir	To move food around with a spoon while cooking.	Stir the sauce gently.
chop	To cut food into small pieces.	Chop the onions finely.
slice	To cut something into thin flat pieces.	Slice the bread for the sandwiches.
leftovers	Food that remains after a meal.	We ate the leftovers for lunch.
takeaway	A meal cooked to be eaten away from the shop.	We ordered a takeaway last night.
buffet	A meal where people serve themselves from many dishes.	The hotel offers a breakfast buffet.
side dish	A smaller dish served with the main course.	Rice is a common side dish.
aroma	A pleasant smell, especially of food.	The aroma of coffee filled the room.
ripe	Ready to be eaten, said of fruit.	The bananas are not ripe yet.
rotten	Gone bad and no longer good to eat.	Throw away the rotten fruit.
steam	To cook food using hot vapour from boiling water.	Steam the vegetables for five minutes.
protein	A substance in food needed for growth and strength.	Eggs are full of protein.
carbohydrate	A substance in food that gives energy.	Bread is high in carbohydrate.
vitamin	A natural substance in food needed for health.	Oranges contain vitamin C.
cookery	The skill or activity of preparing food.	She takes a cookery class.
savoury	Having a salty or spicy taste rather than sweet.	I prefer savoury snacks to sweet ones.
diner	A person eating in a restaurant, or a small restaurant.	We ate at a small diner.
microwave	An oven that cooks food quickly using waves.	Heat the soup in the microwave.
frozen	Made very cold and hard to keep it fresh.	I bought some frozen peas.
dairy	Made from milk, such as cheese or butter.	He cannot eat dairy products.
crisps	Thin fried slices of potato eaten as a snack.	She ate a packet of crisps.
beverage	A drink.	Tea is a popular hot beverage.
utensil	A tool used in the kitchen.	A spoon is a kitchen utensil.
picnic	A meal eaten outdoors for pleasure.	We had a picnic in the park.
sour	Having a sharp taste like a lemon.	Lemons taste very sour.
raw	Not cooked.	Sushi is made with raw fish.
junk food	Food that is unhealthy but quick and easy to eat.	Junk food is bad for you.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
balanced	Containing the right amounts of different foods.	She eats a balanced diet.
homemade	Made at home rather than bought.	I love homemade cake.

Change & Development

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
change	To become or make different.	We need a change of plan.
development	The process of growing or becoming more advanced.	The development of the city was rapid.
growth	The process of increasing in size or amount.	The company saw rapid growth.
increase	To become or make larger in amount.	Prices continue to increase.
decrease	To become or make smaller in amount.	Sales began to decrease.
reduce	To make something smaller or less.	We must reduce waste.
transform	To change something completely.	Technology can transform our lives.
evolve	To develop gradually over time.	Languages evolve over time.
adapt	To change to suit a new situation.	Animals adapt to their environment.
adjust	To make a small change to something.	It took time to adjust to the new job.
modify	To change something slightly to improve it.	They had to modify the design.
replace	To put something new in place of something else.	Machines may replace some workers.
trend	A general direction in which things are changing.	There is a trend towards healthy food.
gradual	Happening slowly over a long time.	There was a gradual change in the weather.
sudden	Happening quickly and unexpectedly.	There was a sudden change of plan.
permanent	Lasting for a very long time or for ever.	He found a permanent job.
temporary	Lasting for only a short time.	It is only a temporary solution.
stable	Not likely to change or move.	The economy is now stable.
constant	Happening all the time; not changing.	There is constant change in technology.
decline	To become smaller, weaker or worse.	There was a decline in sales.
rise	To go up or increase.	There was a rise in temperature.
fall	To go down or decrease.	There was a sharp fall in prices.
renew	To make something new or fresh again.	I need to renew my passport.
reform	To improve something by changing it.	The government promised reform.
alter	To change something.	She had to alter the dress.
revolution	A very great and sudden change.	The industrial revolution changed everything.
phase	A stage in a process of change.	We are in the first phase of the plan.
transition	The process of changing from one state to another.	The transition was smooth.
swap	To exchange one thing for another.	Let’s swap seats.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
enhance	To improve the quality of something.	The app will enhance your photos.
minimise	To make something as small as possible.	Try to minimise the risk.
maximise	To make something as large as possible.	We want to maximise profit.
vary	To be different or to change.	Prices vary from shop to shop.
variation	A change or difference in amount or level.	There is some variation in quality.
fluctuate	To change often and irregularly.	Prices fluctuate every day.
consistent	Staying the same over time.	Her work is very consistent.
reverse	To change something to its opposite.	It is hard to reverse the damage.
boost	To increase or improve something.	Coffee gives me an energy boost.
ongoing	Continuing to happen.	It is an ongoing process.
drastic	Extreme and sudden in effect.	They made a drastic change.

Problems & Solutions

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
problem	A difficult situation that needs to be dealt with.	We have a serious problem.
solution	A way of solving a problem.	There is a simple solution.
resolve	To find a solution to a problem.	We need to resolve this issue.
difficulty	Something that is hard to do or deal with.	She had difficulty finding a job.
obstacle	Something that blocks your way or progress.	He overcame every obstacle.
trouble	Problems or difficulties.	The car gave us a lot of trouble.
crisis	A time of great danger or difficulty.	The country faces an economic crisis.
error	A mistake.	There is an error in the report.
fault	Responsibility for something wrong, or a weakness.	The accident was my fault.
fix	To repair or solve something.	Can you fix the broken tap?
repair	To mend something that is broken.	He will repair the bike tomorrow.
handle	To deal with a situation.	She can handle difficult customers.
cope	To deal successfully with a difficult situation.	He cannot cope with the stress.
manage	To succeed in dealing with something.	Somehow we must manage to finish.
avoid	To stay away from something or prevent it.	Try to avoid these mistakes.
prevent	To stop something from happening.	Exercise can prevent illness.
cause	To make something happen.	What was the cause of the fire?
effect	A result of something.	The medicine had a good effect.
consequence	A result of an action or situation.	Every action has a consequence.
risk	The chance that something bad may happen.	There is a high risk of failure.
danger	The possibility of harm.	The sign warns of danger.
threat	Something that could cause harm.	Pollution is a threat to health.
dilemma	A difficult choice between two options.	She faced a difficult dilemma.
struggle	To try hard to deal with something difficult.	They struggle to pay the rent.
tackle	To deal with a difficult problem.	We must tackle the problem now.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
alternative	Another choice or possibility.	Is there an alternative plan?
approach	A way of dealing with something.	We tried a new approach.
complication	Something that makes a situation more difficult.	There was an unexpected complication.
strategy	A plan for achieving a goal.	We need a clear strategy.
tactic	A particular method used to achieve something.	It was a clever tactic.
hazard	Something that could be dangerous.	The chemical is a fire hazard.
barrier	Something that prevents progress.	Language is a barrier for him.
improvise	To do something without preparation.	We had to improvise a solution.
complaint	A statement that you are unhappy about something.	The shop received a complaint.
compromise	An agreement where each side gives up something.	They reached a compromise.
identify	To recognise or name something.	First, identify the problem.
trigger	To cause something to start happening.	Stress can trigger a headache.
eliminate	To remove something completely.	We must eliminate the risk.
setback	A problem that delays or stops progress.	The team suffered a setback.
resolution	A firm decision, or the solving of a problem.	They found a quick resolution.

Describing Qualities

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
enormous	Extremely large.	The building is enormous.
tiny	Extremely small.	She lives in a tiny flat.
huge	Very big.	There was a huge crowd.
narrow	Small in width from one side to the other.	We walked down a narrow street.
wide	Large from one side to the other.	The river is very wide here.
shallow	Not deep.	The pool is shallow at this end.
deep	Going a long way down from the top.	The lake is extremely deep.
steep	Rising or falling sharply.	The path was very steep.
heavy	Weighing a lot.	This box is too heavy.
smooth	Having an even surface without bumps.	The table has a smooth surface.
rough	Having an uneven surface.	The road was rough and bumpy.
sharp	Having an edge or point that can cut.	Be careful; the knife is sharp.
blunt	Not sharp.	This pencil is blunt.
stiff	Firm and difficult to bend.	The new shoes feel stiff.
spacious	Having a lot of space.	The kitchen is bright and spacious.
crowded	Full of people or things.	The bus was very crowded.
empty	Having nothing inside.	The streets were empty at night.
ordinary	Normal and not special.	It was an ordinary day.
unusual	Different from what is normal.	He has an unusual name.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
common	Happening often or found in many places.	Smith is a common surname.
rare	Not happening or found often.	It is a very rare bird.
ancient	Very old; from long ago.	We visited an ancient temple.
typical	Having the usual features of a type.	It was a typical English summer.
attractive	Pleasant to look at.	It is an attractive design.
ugly	Unpleasant to look at.	The old factory was ugly.
complex	Made of many connected parts; not simple.	It is a complex problem.
simple	Easy to understand or do.	The instructions are simple.
complicated	Difficult to understand because of many parts.	The rules are complicated.
powerful	Having great strength or influence.	It is a powerful engine.
weak	Not strong.	He felt weak after the illness.
fragile	Easily broken or damaged.	The vase is very fragile.
precious	Very valuable or important.	Gold is a precious metal.
useful	Helpful for doing something.	It is a very useful tool.
useless	Not useful at all.	The broken phone is useless.
genuine	Real and not fake.	Is this a genuine diamond?
realistic	Sensible and based on what is possible.	The painting is very realistic.
clear	Easy to see, hear or understand.	The water was clear and clean.
vague	Not clear or exact.	His answer was rather vague.
accurate	Correct and exact.	The map is very accurate.
remarkable	Unusual in a way that is worth noticing.	She made remarkable progress.

Common Actions

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
gather	To bring or come together in one place.	People like to gather in the square.
spread	To open out or reach over a wider area.	The fire spread quickly.
drop	To let something fall.	Do not drop the plates.
lift	To raise something to a higher position.	He can lift heavy weights.
push	To press something to move it away from you.	Push the door to open it.
pull	To move something towards you.	Pull the rope hard.
throw	To send something through the air with your hand.	Throw the ball to me.
catch	To take hold of something moving through the air.	Try to catch the ball.
hit	To strike something with force.	The car hit a tree.
kick	To hit something with your foot.	He learnt to kick the ball.
squeeze	To press something firmly from the sides.	Squeeze the lemon over the fish.
bend	To make something curved or to lean over.	Bend your knees when you lift.
fold	To bend something so one part lies over another.	Please fold the clothes.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
tear	To pull something apart into pieces.	Do not tear the paper.
stick	To fix one thing to another, or to become fixed.	Stick the stamp on the envelope.
pour	To make liquid flow out of a container.	Pour the milk into the cup.
spill	To accidentally let liquid fall out.	Be careful not to spill the juice.
shake	To move something quickly up and down or from side to side.	Shake the bottle before use.
knock	To hit a surface to make a noise.	Please knock before you enter.
grab	To take hold of something suddenly.	Try to grab the rope quickly.
hold	To have something in your hands.	Hold my hand while we cross.
drag	To pull something heavy along the ground.	He had to drag the heavy box.
lean	To bend or rest against something.	Do not lean on the wall.
climb	To move up something using your hands and feet.	They climb the mountain every year.
jump	To push yourself up into the air with your legs.	The cat can jump very high.
crawl	To move on your hands and knees.	The baby learnt to crawl.
slide	To move smoothly over a surface.	The children slide on the ice.
roll	To move by turning over and over.	The ball began to roll downhill.
spin	To turn round quickly.	The wheels spin very fast.
dig	To make a hole in the ground.	They dig holes for the plants.
lock	To close something with a key.	Remember to lock the door.
unlock	To open something with a key.	Use this key to unlock the gate.
carry	To hold and move something from one place to another.	Can you carry this bag for me?
raise	To lift something to a higher position.	Please raise your hand to answer.
lower	To move something to a lower position.	Slowly lower the box to the floor.
fetch	To go and bring something back.	The dog can fetch the stick.
hang	To attach something at the top so it hangs down.	Hang your coat on the hook.
wrap	To cover something by folding material around it.	Wrap the gift in paper.
scratch	To rub the skin with nails, or mark a surface.	Do not scratch the table.
rub	To move your hand back and forth over a surface.	Rub your hands to keep warm.

Thinking & Ideas

40 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
idea	A thought or plan in the mind.	I have a great idea.
think	To use your mind to consider something.	Let me think about it.
thought	Something that comes into your mind.	She had an interesting thought.
imagine	To form a picture of something in your mind.	Imagine a world without cars.
realise	To become aware of something.	I did not realise the time.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
remember	To keep something in your mind from the past.	I cannot remember his name.
forget	To fail to remember something.	Do not forget your keys.
recognise	To know someone or something you have seen before.	I did not recognise her.
comprehend	To understand something.	It is hard to comprehend.
decide	To choose after thinking about something.	We must decide soon.
decision	A choice made after thinking.	It was a difficult decision.
choose	To pick one thing from several.	You can choose any colour.
choice	The act of choosing, or the thing chosen.	It is your choice.
plan	To decide in detail what you will do.	We made a plan for the weekend.
intend	To have something as a purpose.	I intend to study harder.
predict	To say what you think will happen.	Nobody can predict the future.
expect	To think that something will happen.	We expect good results.
recall	To remember something.	I cannot recall his face.
wonder	To want to know something; to think about it.	I wonder what will happen.
reflect	To think carefully about something.	She paused to reflect on it.
ponder	To think about something slowly and carefully.	He likes to ponder difficult questions.
guess	To give an answer you are not sure about.	Can you guess my age?
mind	The part of you that thinks and feels.	Keep an open mind.
notion	An idea or belief about something.	He had a strange notion.
logic	Sensible reasons for thinking something.	There is no logic in his plan.
logical	Sensible and based on clear reasons.	It is a logical conclusion.
rational	Based on reason rather than feelings.	She gave a rational explanation.
intelligence	The ability to learn and understand.	He has great intelligence.
awareness	Knowledge that something exists.	There is growing awareness of the issue.
aware	Knowing that something exists or is happening.	Are you aware of the danger?
belief	Something you feel to be true.	It is a common belief.
suppose	To think that something is probably true.	I suppose you are right.
brainstorm	To think of many ideas quickly as a group.	Let’s brainstorm some ideas.
perception	The way you understand or see something.	Her perception of him changed.
interpret	To decide what something means.	How do you interpret this poem?
evaluate	To judge how good or valuable something is.	We must evaluate the results.
estimate	To guess an amount roughly.	I estimate it will take an hour.
certain	Completely sure.	I am certain he will come.
curiosity	A strong wish to know about something.	Children are full of curiosity.
insight	A clear and deep understanding of something.	The book gives great insight.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use