

Open Mind

WORD LIST

ADVANCED

Unit 2 Watch this space ...

WORDS AND PHRASES

Word / Phrase	Part of Speech	Phonetic Spelling	Definition	Sample Sentence
analyse	verb	/ˈænəlaɪz/	to study or examine something in detail in order to understand or explain it	We need to analyse all of the data carefully before we reach a conclusion.
causation	noun [uncountable]	/kɔːzeɪʃ(ə)n/	the process of causing something to happen or exist	Since they don't have enough evidence to prove causation, they don't know how the fire started.
claim	verb	/kleɪm/	to say that something is true, even though there is no definite proof	The report claimed that hundreds of people had crossed the border to escape.
come up with	phrase	/ˈkʌm ʌp ,wɪð/	to think of, suggest or invent something	She came up with a completely new way of selling her products.
correlate	verb	/ˈkɒrəleɪt/	if two or more things correlate, they are connected in a way that is not caused by chance	The age and gender of the victims did not correlate.
correlation	noun	/ˌkɒrəˈleɪʃ(ə)n/	a connection or relationship between two or more things that is not caused by chance	There is evidence of a strong correlation between drinking alcohol and violence.
distinguish	verb	/dɪˈstɪŋɡwɪʃ/	to recognise the differences between things	Even three-year-olds are able to distinguish between cause and effect.
evaluate	verb	/ɪˈvæljuːeɪt/	to think carefully about something before making a judgment about its value, importance or quality	The performance of each employee is evaluated once a year.
foreshadow	verb	/fəʊ(r)ˈʃædəʊ/	if something foreshadows a future event, it shows or gives a warning that it will happen	The storms and rains of that year foreshadowed a long period of unstable weather conditions.
frequency	noun	/ˈfriːkwənsi/	the rate at which a sound wave, light wave or radio wave vibrates	The radio station was on a frequency of 7.5 MHz.
gain a lead	phrase	/ˌgeɪn ə ˈliːd/	to get ahead or be in front of of your competitors	The company gained a lead by selling their products in more shops than their competitors.
giant	noun	/ˈdʒaɪənt/	a very large and successful company	He worked for the Dutch electronics giant Philips.
handheld	adjective	/ˈhænd,held/	an appliance or device small enough to be held and used in the hands	They developed the first handheld computer.
handset	noun	/ˈhænd(ɪ),set/	the part of a telephone that you hold next to your ear	I picked up the handset and answered the call.
hefty	adjective	/ˈhefti/	large and heavy	Carrying the hefty suitcase made my back hurt.

Word / Phrase	Part of Speech	Phonetic Spelling	Definition	Sample Sentence
immeasurable	adjective	/ɪ'meʒərəb(ə)l/	a distance or quality that is so large or extreme that it cannot be measured	The damage the catastrophic earthquake did was immeasurable.
impatient	adjective	/ɪm'peɪf(ə)nt/	annoyed because something is not happening as quickly as you want or in the way you want	He gets impatient with people who don't agree with him.
imperfect	adjective	/ɪm'pɜ:(r)fɪkt/	something that is imperfect has some faults or other bad qualities	In the early days of sailing, navigation was an imperfect science.
imply	verb	/ɪm'plaɪ/	if one thing implies another thing, the other thing is likely to exist or be true	The presence of stairs in the ruins implies an upper floor.
impossible	adjective	/ɪm'pɒsəb(ə)l/	if something is impossible, no one can do it or it cannot happen	We were faced with an impossible task.
impractical	adjective	/ɪm'præktɪk(ə)l/	not sensible or not likely to be effective or successful	She was wearing clothes that were attractive but entirely impractical for cold weather.
improbable	adjective	/ɪm'prɒbəb(ə)l/	not likely to happen or to be true	It's improbable that a lawyer would give such advice.
inaccurate	adjective	/ɪn'ækjʊrət/	not accurate or correct	The report was criticised for containing inaccurate information.
incapable	adjective	/ɪn'keɪpəb(ə)l/	unable to do something	The city's road system is incapable of handling the volume of traffic.
influence	verb	/'ɪnfluəns/	to affect the way that someone thinks or behaves, or to affect the way that something happens	He was found guilty of trying to influence the witness before the trial.
infrastructure	noun	/'ɪnfra,striktʃə(r)/	the set of systems within a place or organisation that affect how well it operates, for example the telephone and transport systems in a country	In rural areas the transport infrastructure is very poor.
inhabit	verb	/ɪn'hæbɪt/	to live in a particular place	Four million people inhabit the city.
innovation	noun	/'ɪnə'veɪʃ(ə)n/	the invention or use of new ideas, methods, equipment, etc	Technological innovation is changing the way we live and work.
innovative	adjective	/'ɪnə'veɪtɪv/; /'ɪnəvətɪv/	new, original and advanced	The innovative device has made communication faster and simpler.
insignificant	adjective	/'ɪnsɪg'nɪfɪkənt/	not large or important enough to be worth considering	An insignificant percentage of voters were opposed to the idea.
inspire	verb	/ɪn'spaɪə(r)/	to give someone the enthusiasm to do or create something	Inspired by her example, other zoologists have begun working with apes in the wild.
insufficient	adjective	/'ɪnsə'fɪʃ(ə)nt/	not enough	There are insufficient funds in your account.
launch	verb	/lɔ:ntʃ/	to start a major activity such as a military attack, a public investigation or a new career or project	The company announced it will launch a new version of its software in January.

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leapfrog	verb	/'li:p,fɹɒg/	to go straight from a job or position that was lower in status than someone else's, to one that is higher than theirs	They leapfrogged from ninth place to second place.
lobby	verb	/'lɒbi/	when an organised group of people who represent a particular area of business or society try to influence politicians	Motorists lobbied the government to take action on petrol prices.
press conference	noun	/'pres kɒnf(ə)rəns/	an official meeting where someone makes a formal statement about a particular issue or event to reporters and answers their questions about it	The company organised a press conference to announce the merger.
prototype	noun	/'prəʊtətaɪp/	the first form of something new, made before it is produced in large quantities	Designers have built a working prototype of the car.
public relations	noun	/'pʌblɪk rɪ'leɪʃ(ə)nz/	the relationship between an organisation and the public	When the company fired half of the workforce, it was a public relations disaster.
rival	noun	/'raɪv(ə)l/	a person, team or business that competes with another	The two women were rivals in business, but friends in their personal life.
unacceptable	adjective	/,ʌnək'septəb(ə)l/	wrong or harmful, especially by not reaching usual or accepted standards of behaviour, morals, etc	This sort of behaviour is totally unacceptable in a civilised society.
unavailable	adjective	/,ʌnə'veɪləb(ə)l/	not able to go somewhere, meet someone or do something	Tom and James are both unavailable to play in next week's football game.
unbelievable	adjective	/,ʌnbɪ'li:vəb(ə)l/	too unlikely to be true or believed	The acting was fairly good, but the plot was unbelievable.
uncertain	adjective	/ʌn'sɜ:(r)t(ə)n/	not clearly known or understood	It is uncertain how they entered the property.
unknown	adjective	/ʌn'nəʊn/	if something is unknown, people do not know about it or do not know what it is	Several hundred people were affected by the previously unknown virus.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

Expression	Topic / Category	Sample Sentence
I think a more likely explanation is that ...	Evaluating explanations	I think a more likely explanation is that accidents tend to happen at night because it's dark.
I think this explanation is improbable because ...	Evaluating explanations	I think this explanation is improbable because it doesn't take into account conditions in different countries.
It's just matter of time before ...	Evaluating explanations	It's just a matter of time before someone invents a teleportation machine.
That can't be right, since ...	Evaluating explanations	That can't be right, since many blind people are also gifted musicians.
This may be true, provided that ...	Evaluating explanations	This may be true, provided that a country has a good basic education system.