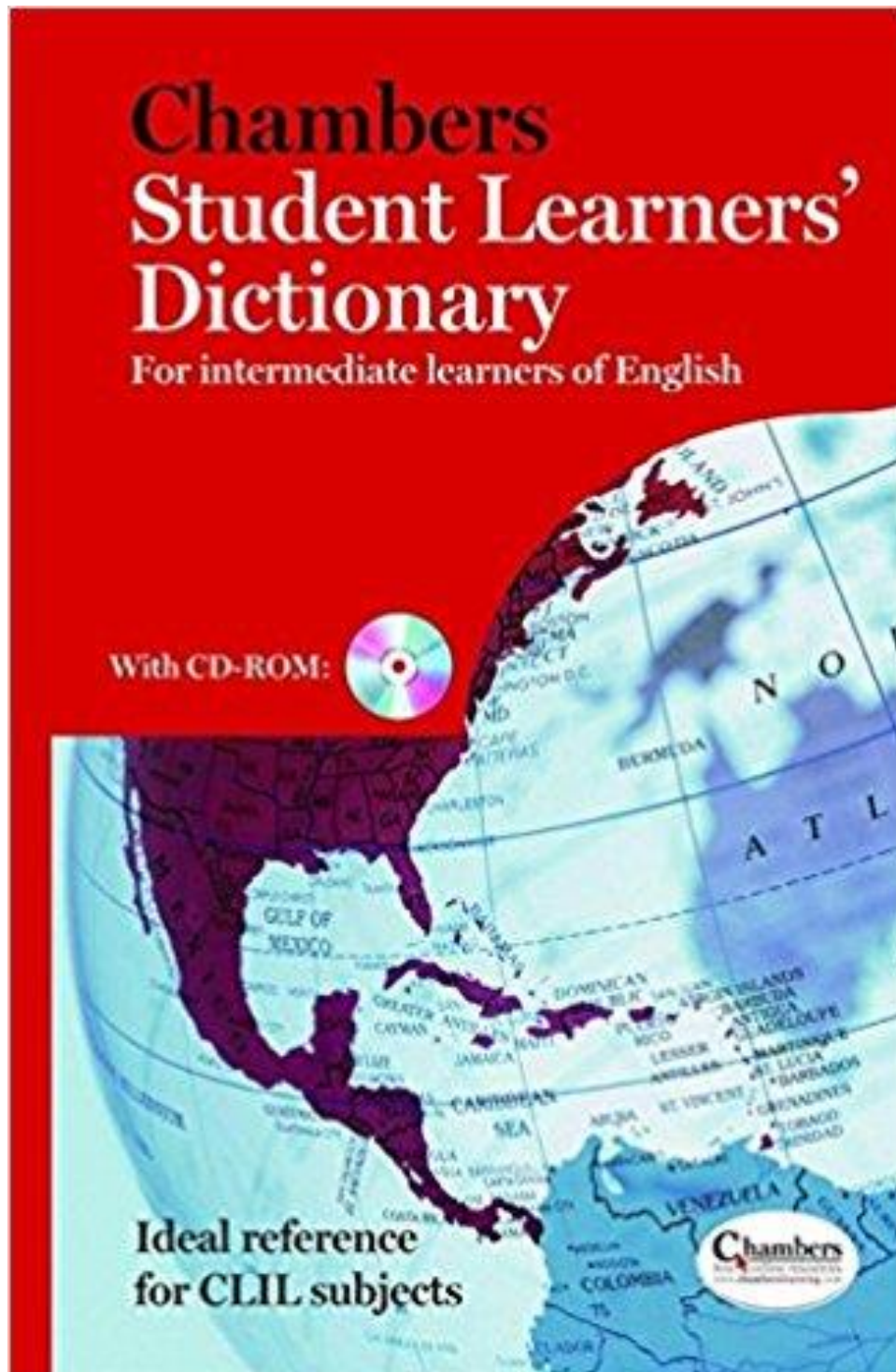


# 25 Most Common Verbs

<https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/common-verbs-25.htm>



**be**  /bi:z/

## ▶ VERB

**1** used for giving information about someone or something

- He's French.*
- Are you hungry?*
- Her brother's an accountant.*

**2 there are/is/were, etc.** used for saying that something exists or existed

- There are a lot of people here.*
- Is there anything else to eat?*

## ▶ AUXILIARY VERB

**1** used with the present participle of another verb to talk about actions that were or are continuous

- I am enjoying my course.*
- What are you doing?*
- He is not doing very well at school*

**2** used with the present participle of another verb to talk about actions in the future

- He is going to London next week.*
- They are opening a new shop.*
- I am coming back again later.*

**3** used with the past participle of another verb to make passive sentences

- She was taken to hospital.*
- They have been warned before.*
- The animals will be kept in a zoo.*

**have**  /hæv/

► AUXILIARY VERB

used with the past participle of another verb to form the present perfect tense or the past perfect tense

- I have bought a new car.*
- Have you fed the rabbit?*
- She has been feeling tired recently.*
- They had opened a restaurant in Athens.*

► VERB [ has, having, had ]

**1** used for describing someone or something

- He has got black hair.*
- The room had patches of damp on the walls.*
- The soup had a delicious flavour.*

**2** to own something

- He has a house in Spain.*
- I have got three brothers.*
- She has the determination to win.*

**3** used for saying that someone has something with them

- Do you have a towel I could use?*
- He had a large dog with him.*

**4** to have an illness is to suffer from it

- She has cancer.*
- I had a terrible headache.*

**5** **have a look/shower/walk, etc.** to do a particular thing

**6** to have food or drink is to eat it or drink it

- You'll have lunch with us, won't you?*
- I had a huge curry last night.*

**7** to experience something

- We've had a lot of problems.*
- I hope you have a great time in Mexico.*

→ go to have your **cake** and eat it

Notice (*sense 2*) that **have** and **have got** are both used to mean 'to own something'. It is normal, especially in spoken English, to use the short forms of **have got** and **has got**:

- I've got a dog. (= I have got a dog).
- She's got a dog. (= She has got a dog).

▶ MODAL VERB

**1 have to do something** if you have to do something, you must do it

- I have to go away for a few days.*
- You'll have to give him the money.*
- I don't have to go to work tomorrow.*

**2** used for telling someone how to do something

- You have to press the green button.*

Notice that when **have to** (*sense 1*) is negative, the negative form is usually made with **do**:

- I *don't have to* go.
- He *doesn't have to* work.

The question form of **have to** is also made with **do**:

- Do you have to* tell him?
- Do we have to* come?

**do**  /du:z/

► AUXILIARY VERB [ **does, doing, did, done** ]

**1** used with another verb to make questions and negative sentences

- Do you want another drink?*
- I don't (= do not) like her husband.*
- She doesn't (= does not) play tennis.*

**2** used to avoid repeating a verb

- 'I love chocolate.' 'So do I.'*
- They spent a lot more money than I did.*

**3** used to emphasize the main verb

- I do love Paris.*
- She does want to come, but she's very busy.*

**4** used at the end of a sentence to make it into a question

- Lucy goes to this school, doesn't she?*

Notice that instead of **do not**, people often say or write the short form **don't** and instead of **does not**, people often say or write the short form **doesn't**.

► VERB [ **does, doing, did, done** ]

**1** to perform an action

- What are you doing?*
- Make sure you do your homework.*
- What does your mother do (= what is her job)?*
- + with:*

*What have you done with the map (= where is it)?*

**2** to make something or to provide a service

- Do you do picture framing?*
- They do great cakes.*

**3** to study a subject

- I'm doing English and French.*

**4 do badly/well** to make bad/good progress

□ *Oleg's doing well with his swimming.*

**5 How are you doing?** an informal way of asking someone about their health and situation

□ *Hi Carlos - how are you doing?*

**6 something will do** something will be enough or be suitable

□ *If you haven't got walking boots, trainers will do.*

**7 to do with something** connected with something

□ *He's writing a book - something to do with astronomy.*

**8 someone could do with something** someone needs something. An informal phrase.

□ *I could do with a hot drink.*

◆ **phrasal verbs**

**do away with something**

to get rid of something

□ *The school has done away with its uniform.*

**do something up**

**1** to fasten a piece of clothing

□ *Do your jacket up.*

**2** to repair or decorate a room or building

**do without (something)**

to manage without something

► **NOUN** [ plural **dos** ]

an informal word for a party

□ *The wedding's at three and there's an evening do afterwards.*

**say**  /seɪ/

► VERB [ **says, saying, said** ]

**1** to express something in words

*I asked her about the rumours, but she wouldn't say anything.*

*I asked for more money, but my boss said no.*

+ that: *Officials say that the death toll has reached 30.*

+ about: *Did she say anything about the wedding?*

**2** to give information in words or signs

*What does the notice say?*

*My watch said six.*

**3** to mean something

*They seem to be saying that the building is not suitable.*

*I'm not saying she's mean - it's just that she never shares her things.*

**4** to show what something or someone is like

+ about: *The state of the offices said a lot about the company.*

*What do your clothes say about you?*

**5** used to give a possibility

*Say we were to print the book in India - could we be sure of getting it on time?*

*We only need a few more people - 20 say - to get the job done.*

Remember that you **say** something but you do not 'say someone something':

✓ She said she was leaving.

✗ She said me she was leaving.

► NOUN, NO PLURAL

**1** when you are involved in making a decision

*I had no say in how the money was spent.*

**2 have your say** to be allowed to give your opinion about something

*Let Mark finish speaking, then you can have your say.*

● **saying**  /'seɪɪŋ/

● **saying**  /'seɪɪŋ/

NOUN [ *plural* **sayings** ]

a phrase or sentence that people often use, giving advice or saying something that many people believe is true

□ *Gran's favourite saying was 'an apple a day keeps the doctor away'.*



**get**  /get/

VERB [ gets, getting, got ]

**1** to take, receive or buy something

*Isabel got lots of birthday presents.*

*Did you get my letter?*

*I got a new dress today.*

**2** to go somewhere and then bring something back

*Could you get me a drink?*

*I'll go and get the money.*

**3** **get away/in/out, etc.** to move in a particular direction

*We managed to get over the wall.*

*All the chickens have got out.*

*Catch a bus, and get off near the cathedral.*

**4** to become

*The baby's getting bigger every day.*

*I got wet in the rain.*

*If I mention money, he always gets angry.*

*The wine glasses got broken.*

**5** if you get somewhere, you arrive there

*We got to New York at 5 o'clock in the morning.*

*What time will you get home?*

*The train gets in at three thirty.*

**6** if you get a bus, train, etc., that is how you travel.

*I usually get the train to work.*

**7** to become ill with a particular illness

*They had an injection to stop them getting measles.*

**8** if you get something done, you make sure it is done

*We got our house painted.*

*I need to get the washing done.*

◆ **phrasal verbs**

### get something across

to explain something

□ + to: *The government is struggling to get its message across.*

### get along

if two people get along, they are friendly

□ + with: *She gets along really well with her cousins.*

### get around to doing something

to do something that you have been intending to do

□ *We finally got around to decorating the bathroom.*

### get at someone

to criticize someone

□ *I felt that the teacher was getting at me.*

### get at something

if someone is getting at something, they are trying to express it

□ *He kept mentioning the past, but I wasn't sure what he was getting at.*

### get away with something

to avoid being punished or criticized

□ *I'm hoping to miss the next meeting, if I can get away with it.*

### get on

**1** to make progress

□ + with: *I need to get on with my work.*

□ *How are you getting on in your new job?*

**2** to be friendly

□ *Pierre and Alex don't really get on.*

### get out of something

to avoid doing something

□ *He'll do anything to get out of the washing up.*

### **get over something**

to feel better after being ill or unhappy

□ *He never really got over his wife's death.*

### **get round to doing something**

to do something that you have been intending to do

□ *I'd like to do more exercise, but I never seem to get round to it.*

### **get through**

to manage to talk to someone on the telephone

□ *I tried to ring her, but I couldn't get through.*

### **get through something**

to reach the end of a difficult situation

□ *It was a terrible illness, but his determination helped to get him through it.*

### **get (someone) up**

to wake up and get out of bed

□ *I always get up early.*

□ *My Dad gets me up in the morning.*

### **get up to something**

to do something, often something wrong

□ *Sent to the head teacher? What's she been getting up to now?*

**make**  /meɪk/

► VERB [ **makes, making, made** ]

**1** to create something

*I'll make dinner.*

*She makes all the children's clothes.*

*They've made a film of the book.*

**2** to cause someone to feel a particular emotion

*It made me so angry.*

*That film makes me cry.*

**3** to force someone to do something

*My parents made me do my homework.*

*No one is going to make you go if you don't want to.*

**4 make an appointment/date** to arrange to see someone at a particular time

*I've made a doctor's appointment.*

**5** used with some nouns to do with speech

*May I make a suggestion?*

*He made a very strange comment.*

*I've made a complaint.*

*He made an interesting point.*

**6 make a decision** to decide something

*Have you made a decision yet?*

**7 make a mistake** to do something wrong

*Everyone makes mistakes.*

**8 make progress** to develop or improve

*The children are all making progress.*

**9 make a noise/sound** to cause there to be a noise or sound

*The children were making so much noise.*

**10** to earn money

*He makes about \$90,000 a year.*

□ *You can make a lot of money in banking.*

**11** to be the total amount of two or more numbers added together

□ *Six and six makes twelve.*

**12** to manage to go somewhere or manage to arrive somewhere in time to do something

□ *I don't think I'm going to make the party tonight.*

□ *If we hurry, we might just make the earlier train.*

**13 make do** to accept or use something although it is not exactly what you wanted

□ *If we can't borrow Andrew's van we'll have to make do with the car.*

**14 make it** to manage to go somewhere or manage to arrive somewhere in time to do something

□ *If we run we might just make it before the train leaves.*

→ go to make the **best** of something, make a **clean** breast of something

◆ phrasal verbs

**make something into something**

to change something so that it becomes something else

□ *We've made the back room into an office.*

**make something of someone/something**

to think of someone or something in a particular way

□ *What do you make of his girlfriend?*

**make something/someone out**

to be able to see or hear something or someone although with difficulty

□ *His voice was very low but I could just make out what he said.*

**make out something**

to pretend something is true

□ *He made out that he was rich.*

### make it up to someone

to do something nice for someone so that they will forgive you

□ *I know I haven't been home much this week but I'll make it up to you - I'll take you out for dinner.*

### make up

to become friendly again after an argument

### make up something

to give an explanation that is not true

□ *He made up some excuse about the train being late.*

### make up for something

to make someone feel less upset or angry about something you have done by doing something nice

□ *He was late but made up for it by bringing me a present.*

### ► NOUN [ plural makes ]

the name of a company that produces a particular product

□ *What make is your washing machine?*

**go**  /gəʊ/

► VERB [ goes, going, went, gone ]

**1** to travel or move somewhere

*I'm going home now.*

+ to: *We're going to France for our holiday.*

*He went into the other room.*

*I wish she'd go away.*

*He left home at 18 and never went back.*

**2** to travel or move somewhere so that you can do something

+ to: *She goes to school in the next village.*

+ for: *Shall we go for a swim?*

*We all went cycling.*

**3** to leave or disappear

*It's six o'clock, so I'll have to go soon.*

*I'm sure I left my coat here, but it's gone.*

*The food all went very quickly.*

**4** if a road or path goes somewhere, it leads there

*Does this road go to Edinburgh?*

**5** the place where something goes is where it fits or is kept

*That piece of the jigsaw goes at the top.*

*The cups go on the top shelf.*

**6** to become

*Her face went pale.*

*Your soup's gone cold.*

**7** to happen in a particular way

*The concert went well.*

*How's your new job going?*

**8 be going to do something**

**(a)** to intend to do something

*I'm going to write to Molly.*

*What were you going to say?*

**(b)** to be expected to happen

□ *I think it's going to rain.*

→ go to go to great **lengths** to do something

◆ phrasal verbs

**go about something**

to do something in a particular way

□ *I'm not sure how to go about slicing this chicken.*

**go ahead**

to start to do something

□ + with: *They're going ahead with the new airport.*

**go around**

**1** to be enough for everyone

□ *Are there enough books to go around?*

**2** if someone goes around doing something, they often do something that upsets other people

□ *You can't go around telling lies about him.*

**go by**

if time goes by, it passes

**go down**

to become lower in level

□ *His temperature has gone down a bit.*

**go down with something**

to get an illness

□ *She's gone down with a tummy bug.*

**go for something**

to choose something



□ *I'm going to go for the curry.*

### **go into something**

**1** to talk about something in detail

□ *She told me a lot about her marriage, though I won't go into that now.*

**2** to start working in a particular type of job

□ *After university, he went into banking.*

### **go off**

**1** if food goes off, it becomes rotten

**2** to explode

□ *A bomb has gone off in a busy London street.*

### **go off someone/something**

to stop liking someone or something

□ *I've gone off spicy food.*

### **go on**

**1** to continue for a period of time

□ *His speech went on for hours.*

**2** to continue doing something

□ + ing: *He went on singing, despite the noise.*

□ + with: *Go on with your work.*

**3** if something is going on, it is happening

□ *What's going on?*

### **go out**

to leave your house, especially for a social activity

□ *Are you going out tonight?*

### **go round**

**1** to be enough for everyone

□ *Is there enough bread to go round?*

**2** if someone goes round doing something, they often do something that upsets other people

□ *She goes round complaining to anyone who'll listen.*

**go through something**

to experience something

□ *She went through agony during the illness.*

**go through with something**

to do something even though it is difficult

□ *They persuaded her to go through with the operation.*

**go up**

to become higher in level

□ *Prices have gone up again.*

► NOUN [ plural **goes** ]

**1** an attempt

▣ *It doesn't matter if you can't climb to the top - just **have a go**.*

▣ *She asked me if I'd go to dancing lessons with her, so I decided to **give it a go**.*

**2** when it is your turn to do something, especially in a game

□ *Pick up a card, Adam - it's your go.*

◆ idioms

**have a go at someone**

to criticize someone

□ *He had a go at me for not doing my homework.*

**on the go**

active or busy

□ *I'm on the go from the moment I wake up.*

## keyword

**know**  /nəʊ/

VERB [ knows, knowing, knew, known ]

**1** to have information or knowledge about something

*I didn't know the answer to her questions.*

*'What's the capital of Hungary?' 'I don't know.'*

+ question word: *Do you know where he lives?*

*She knows how to make me happy.*

+ about: *I didn't know about the course.*

**2** to be familiar with a person

*I didn't know anyone at the party.*

*I got to know her when I was a student.*

*I don't know him very well.*

**3** to be familiar with a place or a thing because you have been there, seen it, used it, etc.

*Do you know Berlin well?*

*I know his work.*

**4 let someone know** to tell someone something

*I'm going to be late - could you let John know, please?*

**5 be known as something** to be called something

*Cromwell's supporters were known as Roundheads.*

Remember that to **know** something means to *have* knowledge about something. To **find out** something is to *get* knowledge about something:

✓ I called Annie to **find out** when she was leaving.

✗ I called Annie to **know** when she was leaving.

● **knowing**  /'nəʊɪŋ/

ADJECTIVE

showing that you know something that is supposed to be secret

*He gave me a knowing look.*

**take**  /teɪk/

VERB [ takes, taking, took, taken ]

**1** to get something and often move it from one place to another

- I took him some food.*
- Make sure you take a coat with you.*
- Who's taken all the milk?*
- + away: *His passport was taken away from him.*
- + back: *I must take Jo's book back.*
- + out: *He opened the case and took out a cloak.*

**2** to accept something that you have been offered

- She took a biscuit.*
- Are you going to take the job?*
- Do you take credit cards?*

**3** to go somewhere with someone, especially to look after them or to provide transport for them

- I took my mother to the hospital.*
- I take my son swimming every week.*

**4** to do or have a particular thing

- Take a deep breath.*
- Take a look at his work.*
- She won't take any responsibility for the business.*
- Sometimes, you have to take a chance.*

**5** to need a particular amount of time to be done

- I just need to finish this letter - it won't take long.*
- It took him five years to finish his novel.*

**6** to need something

- + to do something: *It takes a lot of courage to oppose your friends.*
- It took five people to lift the piano.*

**7** to travel somewhere using a particular form of transport

- I took a ferry to Stockholm.*

**8** to swallow medicine

□ *I have to take these antibiotics for a week.*

**9** to use something of a particular size or type

□ *The printer only takes A4 paper.*

□ *I take size 12 trousers.*

**10** if you take a photograph, you use your camera to make a picture

**11** if a space or container takes a certain amount, it has enough room for it

□ *This jug takes nearly two pints.*

→ go to take your **breath** away, take the **bull** by the horns, take your **eye** off something/someone, take your **mind** off something

◆ phrasal verbs

**take after someone**

to be like an older person in your family

□ *She's so emotional - she takes after her father.*

**take something apart**

to separate something into pieces

□ *He took the bike apart and cleaned all the parts.*

**take something down**

**1** to write something

□ *He took down our names.*

**2** to remove something from a wall or a position

□ *They took down the posters.*

**3** to remove something from a website

□ *He had to take down those pages for legal reasons.*

**take something forward**

to make something develop or continue successfully

□ *He is the best person to take our business forward.*

**take something in**

to understand something

*I enjoyed the course but there was an awful lot to take in.*

### **take someone in**

**1** to allow someone to live with you

*The children were taken in by a neighbour.*

**2** if you are taken in by someone or something, they trick you

*They used a very similar brand name, and a lot of customers were taken in.*

### **take something off**

to remove a piece of clothing

*He took off his jacket.*

### **take off**

**1** if an aircraft takes off, it leaves the ground at the beginning of a flight

**2** to suddenly become successful

*With all the extra publicity, our business really took off.*

### **take on something**

to accept work, responsibility, etc.

*We've taken on a lot of work this winter.*

### **take someone on**

**1** to begin to employ someone

*We've had to take on more staff.*

**2** to compete against someone

*England are taking on France in the rugby.*

### **take someone out**

to go somewhere with someone and pay for them

*He's taking me out for a meal tonight.*

### take something out on someone

to behave badly towards someone because you are upset, especially when it is not their fault

*I know you had a bad day at work, but there's no need to take it out on me!*

### take over (something)

**1** to start doing something that someone else was doing

*Could you take over the cooking while I make a phone call?*

+ from: *She took over from Annie as treasurer.*

**2** to take control of something

*The business was taken over by a French company.*

### take to someone/something

to start to like someone or something

*I took to Paul as soon as I met him.*

### take something up

**1** to start doing an activity

*I've taken up judo.*

**2** to use a particular amount of time or space

*His piano takes up most of the front room.*

### take someone up on something

to accept someone's offer

*May I take you up on your offer of accommodation?*

**see**  /si:/

VERB [ **sees, seeing, saw, seen** ]

**1** to look at someone or something and notice them

*The dog goes mad whenever he sees a cat.*

*I saw you coming.*

*Can you see where the switch is?*

**2** to meet someone or spend time with them

*Have you seen Peter much lately?*

*I'm seeing Billie at the weekend.*

**3** to watch a film, television programme, etc.

*Did you see 'Pride and Prejudice'?*

**4** to understand something

*Now I see what you mean.*

*I don't see why I should tidy up your mess.*

*'He couldn't come because he didn't have a ticket.' 'Oh, I see.'*

**5** to find out something by waiting for something to happen

*I'll see what she says.*

*Let's see how today's lesson goes.*

*See if you can arrange a taxi.*

**6** to find out information about something

*Can you see what time the bank opens?*

*As we have seen, Cromwell was hated by the Irish.*

**7** to imagine something or to believe that something will happen

*I can't see him as a father.*

*I can't see the building being ready by June.*

**8** if you see someone somewhere, you go there with them

*I'll see you to the door.*

**9** if you see that something happens, you make sure that it happens

+ that: *I'll see that he's back before eight.*

**10** if a place or a period of time sees something, that is where or when it



happens

□ *The town saw mass unemployment in the eighties.*

**11 I'll see/We'll see** used to say that you will consider agreeing to what someone has asked, but will not decide immediately

□ *'Can I have a new bike for my birthday?' 'We'll see.'*

**12 let me see** used when you are trying to remember something

□ *It must have been - let me see - at least fifteen years ago.*

**13 See you.** an informal way of saying goodbye

**14 you see** used when you are explaining something

□ *We didn't have a car then, you see.*

→ go to not see **eye** to eye

◆ phrasal verbs

**see about something**

to deal with something or to organize something

□ *We need to see about the lighting.*

**see something in someone/something**

to believe that someone or something has particular, usually good, qualities

□ *She's always hanging round with Rob - I don't know what she sees in him.*

**see someone off**

to go with someone to say goodbye to them

**see someone/something off**

to defeat or get rid of someone or something that is threatening you

□ *He saw off over twenty other artists to win the prize.*

**see someone out**

to go to the door with someone who is leaving

### **see out something**

to finish spending a period of time in a particular place or doing a particular thing

□ *He saw out the decade in London.*

### **see through someone/something**

to understand that someone or something is trying to trick you

□ *I knew they only wanted my money - I could see through their flattery.*

### **see something through**

to finish doing something, even if it is difficult

□ *We're determined to see this job through.*

### **see to something**

to deal with something

□ *Don't worry about the travel arrangements - I'll see to all that.*

**come**  /kʌm/

VERB [ comes, coming, came ]

**1** to move towards someone or a place

- Come here!*
- Here comes Julia.*
- He came back to see me later.*
- She came in and said hello.*

**2** to go with someone

- + with: *Are you coming with us or not?*
- We're going swimming - do you want to come?*

**3** to arrive

- Has my parcel come yet?*

**4** to move in a particular direction or to a particular level

- Prices have come down.*
- All the flowers have come up.*
- We watched the sun come up.*

**5 come second/last/before, etc.** to have a particular position in a competition or a list

- P comes before Q in the alphabet.*
- Philippe came first in the English exam.*

**6 come apart/off, etc.** to become separated from something

- I picked up the jug and the handle came off.*

**7 How come ...?** used to ask for an explanation

- How come Penny isn't here?*

Remember that the verb **come** means 'to move towards the speaker' or 'to move with the speaker'. For movements away from the speaker, use **go**:

- Come here!
- Eva came to see us last night.
- Are you coming to the supermarket with me?

◆ idiom

**come clean**

to tell the truth

□ *I think it's time you came clean about your exam results.*

◆ phrasal verbs

**come about**

to happen

□ *How did the friendship come about?*

**come along**

**1** to arrive

□ *Luckily a police officer came along at that moment.*

**2** to go with someone

□ *Do you mind if I come along?*

**come from somewhere**

to be born somewhere or to live somewhere

□ *She comes from Brazil.*

**Come on!**

used to encourage someone or to make them go faster

□ *Come on, we're going to be late for school!*

**come out**

to be available to buy or use

□ *Their new CD comes out on Friday.*

**come round**

to become conscious again

□ *When he came round, he could remember nothing about the accident.*

### come to something

to be a particular amount of money

□ *Six bananas and a bag of apples - that comes to £2.80, please.*

### come up

**1** to happen

□ *If the opportunity to travel comes up, you should take it.*

□ *If any problems come up, just phone me.*

**2** to be discussed

□ *The subject of Midori's birthday party came up.*

### come up with

to produce

□ *She came up with several good ideas.*

# think /θɪŋk/

## ► VERB [ **thinks, thinking, thought** ]

**1** to have an opinion about someone or something

*I think there's too much salt in this soup.*

+ that: *I think that you should ask him to leave.*

+ about: *What do you think about the death penalty?*

+ of: *What do you think of his new girlfriend?*

**2** to believe that something is true, although you are not certain

*I think Anna will be here soon.*

+ that: *We thought that there would be more people there.*

*'Do the trains run on Sunday?' 'I think so.'*

**3** to consider something, especially in order to understand it or to decide what to do

+ about: *You need to think very carefully about which subjects to choose.*

+ of: *We need to think of a way to raise money.*

**4** to remember someone or something

+ about: *I was just thinking about the time we went to New York.*

+ of: *I often think of my mother.*

**5** to express words to yourself in your mind

*I just remember thinking, 'I must stay calm'.*

**6** if you are thinking of doing something, you are considering doing it

+ of: *I'm thinking of starting my own business.*

+ about: *They're thinking about sending their son to boarding school.*

**7 not think much of someone/something** to have a low opinion of someone or something

*I don't think much of my new manager.*

**8 think nothing of something** to do something that other people would find difficult or strange in an easy and natural way

*He thinks nothing of cycling 50km to work every day.*

◆ idiom

**think twice**

to consider something carefully, often deciding not to do something you had intended to do

□ *People would think twice about weekend breaks if air travel was more expensive.*

◆ phrasal verbs

**think ahead**

to prepare for a possible situation in the future

□ *You need to think ahead - how many people will still want this kind of service in 10 years time?*

**think back**

to remember something from the past

□ *If you think back to when we were children, we were just as bad.*

**think something out**

to consider all the parts of something carefully

□ *He's thought it all out - the timing, the finances, everything.*

**think something over**

to consider something before you make a decision

□ *They offered him the job, but he's asked for a few days to think it over.*

**think something through**

to think about all the possible results of something

□ *I didn't think it through properly and there were all sorts of problems with the transport.*

**think something up**

to invent something such as an idea or a plan

□ *We tried to think up a way to get her to come to London.*

● **thinking**  /'θɪŋkɪŋ/

NOUN, NO PLURAL

**1** when you think

*You must do some serious thinking before you decide on a career.*

**2** your opinion or thoughts about a particular subject

*What's your thinking on this?*

*This whole plan is, **to my way of thinking**, a serious mistake.*

▶ **ADJECTIVE**

intelligent and interested in serious subjects

*a magazine for the thinking woman*



**look**  /lʊk/

## ► VERB [ looks, looking, looked ]

**1** to turn your eyes to see something + at: *She was looking at the view.* *Look behind you.* *Oh look, there's a deer over there!* *Look where you're going!***2** to try to find something or someone + for: *I'm looking for my passport.***3** to have a particular appearance *You look a bit tired.* *Kate looked fine when I saw her yesterday.***4** to seem *It looks as if Joe won't be coming.* *His job prospects are looking good.*

## ◆ idiom

**look on the bright side**

to think about the good parts of a situation that is mostly bad

 *'The power's been cut off again.' 'Oh well, look on the bright side - you'll be saving on your electricity bills!'*

Notice the prepositions that are used with **look**. When you turn your eyes to see something (*sense 1*), you look **at** something:

✓ I **looked at** the clock.

✗ I looked the clock.

→ go to look down your **nose** at someone/something, look the **part**

## ◆ phrasal verbs

**look after someone**

to take care of someone or something

 *Her husband looks after the baby during the day.*

### look at something

to think about something in order to make a decision about it

□ *We're looking at ways of making the road safer.*

### look down on someone/something

to think that you are better than someone or too good for something

□ *She never looked down on poor people.*

### look forward to something

to feel pleased and excited about something that is going to happen

□ *I'm really looking forward to meeting his family.*

When *look forward to* is followed by a verb, the verb is in the *-ing* form:

✓ We're looking forward to see*ing* you!

✗ We're looking forward to see you.

### look into something

to try to find information about something

□ *I'm looking into the possibility of having solar panels.*

### look out

to be careful because something might be dangerous

□ *Look out! The path is very slippery.*

### look something up

to look in a book, on a computer, etc. to find information about something

□ *I looked up the word 'digest' in the dictionary.*

### look up

if things are looking up, a situation is getting better

### look up to someone

to admire someone

*I always looked up to my older brother.*

► NOUN [ plural **looks** ]

**1** when you look at something or someone

*May I **have a look** at your watch?*

***Take a look** at these documents.*

*I had a **good look** round their house.*

**2** when you try to find something or someone

*I **had a look** outside, but I couldn't see her.*

**3** an expression on someone's face

*She gave me a **warning look**.*

*There was a **look of disgust** on his face.*

**4** the appearance of someone or something

*I don't **like the look** of those black clouds.*

*The house had a **neglected look** about it.*

**5 someone's looks** how attractive someone is

*She is worried that she is **losing her looks**.*

**want**  /wɒnt/▶ VERB [ **wants, wanting, wanted** ]

**1** to feel that you would like to have something or do something, or to wish that something will happen

*Do you want some cake?*

*Nobody wants higher taxes.*

+ to do something: *I didn't want anyone to know.*

**2** to need something

*Your hands want a good wash.*

**3** if something wants doing, it needs to be done

*The tomato plants want watering.*

**4** used to give someone advice or a warning

*Maps? You want to try the library.*

*She has a lot of influence. You don't want to upset her.*

▶ NOUN [ *plural* **wants** ]

**1** **NO PLURAL:** the state of being very poor or not having the things you need to live

*Many families are living in severe want.*

**2** **for want of something** because of something that is not done or not available

*He failed the test, but not for want of trying.*

**3** your wants are the things you need or would like to have

*The local shops are sufficient for our wants.*

● **wanted**  /'wɒntɪd/

ADJECTIVE

**1** someone who is wanted is being searched for by the police

*Pictures of the **wanted man** appeared in all the newspapers.*


**2** loved, needed, and cared for

*Make your pet **feel wanted** by giving it plenty of attention.*

● **wanting**  /'wɒntɪŋ/

ADJECTIVE

not of a high enough quality or standard

 *Against a much better side, the team was **found wanting**.*

**give**  /gɪv/

VERB [ gives, giving, gave, given ]

**1** to let someone have something

- Give your bags to the porter.
- Make sure you give back all the books you borrowed.
- Let me give you some advice.
- This news gives us hope.
- He gave us permission to visit the temple.
- Could you give us some information about hotels?

**2** to make someone have something

- They were given a severe punishment.
- Our boss gives us too much work.
- The sudden noise gave me a fright.

**3 give evidence/a performance/a speech, etc.** to say something or to perform in public

- She gave evidence at his trial.
- He gave a wonderful performance of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata.

**4** to make a sound or a movement

- He gave a shout of joy.
- She gave her brother a kick.

**5** if something gives, it bends or breaks when too much weight is put on top of it

- The rotten floorboard gave under him.

**6 give way** if you give way to another vehicle, you stop to allow it to drive before you

◆ phrasal verbs

**give something away**

**1** to let someone have something without paying for it

- I gave away all my old toys.

**2** to tell a secret

- The party was meant to be a surprise, but Billy gave it away.

## give in

to agree to something you did not want to agree to

□ *I kept asking for the new computer game, and eventually Dad gave in and bought it for me.*

## give something out

to give something to a group of people

□ *Can you give out the reading books please, Kazuo?*

## give up

to stop trying to guess an answer

□ *'How many beans are there in this jar?' 'Three hundred? A thousand?'  
I give up.'*

## give up (something)

1 if you give up a habit, you stop doing it

□ *She's managed to give up smoking.*

2 to stop doing something before it is finished, because it is too difficult

□ *I've given up trying to keep this room tidy.*

□ *Don't give up - only another mile to go!*

## ● given /'gɪvən/

### ▶ ADJECTIVE

decided or agreed

□ *You have a given time to complete each question.*

□ *On any given day, there are several dozen accidents.*


### ▶ PREPOSITION

considering the fact that

□ *Given that they don't have much money, their offer is extremely generous.*

### ▶ PAST PARTICIPLE OF **give**

## use

► VERB  /ju:z/ [ **uses, using, used** ]

**1** to do something with something for a particular purpose

*Use a knife to open it.*

*He used words like 'disappointing' and 'shocking'.*

+ for: *I use these boxes for storing apples.*

+ as: *Dad uses this room as his office.*

**2** to take an amount of something from a supply in order to do something with it

*I've used all the milk now.*

*You can use the logs from the shed.*

**3** to treat someone in an unfair or unkind way in order to get something you want

*He just used her to get to know her rich relatives.*

◆ phrasal verb

**use something up**

to use all of a supply of something

*We've used up all the paper.*

► NOUN  /ju:s/ [ **plural uses** ]

**1 NO PLURAL:** when you use something

+ of: *We do not allow the use of calculators in the exam.*

*We were able to **make use of** the sports facilities.*

**2** the purpose for which something is used

*This knife has a lot of uses.*

*They deny that the uranium is for military use.*

**3 NO PLURAL:** if something is of use, it is useful or effective

*Is this coat of any use to you?*

***What's the use of** leaving messages when he never replies?*

***It's no use** asking him for help - he's always busy.*

**4 NO PLURAL:** the right or ability to use something



□ + of: *He offered me the use of his car while he's away.*

□ *She lost the use of her legs.*

● **used**  /ju:zd/

ADJECTIVE

something that is used has been owned and used by someone else

□ *He sells used cars.*

**find**  /faɪnd/► VERB [ **finds, finding, found** ]

**1** to discover or see something or someone you have been looking for

*I can't find my pencil case.*

*The murderer was never found.*

**2** to discover something by chance

*A jogger found the body by the river last night.*

*I found a beetle in my soup.*

**3** to discover that something has happened or that something is true

*The survey found a link between birth weight and intelligence.*

+ that: *I find that it is best to call her in the mornings.*

*I found I had forgotten my phone.*

**4** to discover an answer, a reason or a way of doing something

*We found a way to stop the leak.*

*We are trying to find a solution to the problem of litter.*

**5** to have a particular experience of someone or something

*I found him very rude.*

*I found it difficult to lift the rocks.*

**6** to get something

*She found work in a local hospital.*

*I managed to find somewhere to live.*

**7** to manage to have enough of something

*I don't know how she finds the time to go running every day.*

*Somehow, he found the courage to speak his mind.*

**8 find yourself doing something** to become aware that you are doing something without intending to

*I found myself feeling sorry for her.*

**9 find your way** to get to a place

*Can you find your way to the station?*

**10 find someone guilty/not guilty** to say that someone is guilty/not guilty in

a court

□ *He was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life in prison.*

◆ phrasal verb

**find out (something)**

to discover information or the truth about something

□ + that: *We found out that they had been stealing from us.*

□ + about: *She used the Internet to find out about bees.*

□ *I need to find out how to set up a website.*

▶ NOUN [ plural **finds** ]

something or someone useful, good or valuable that has been found

□ *The baker's in Hope Street was a real find!*

● **finding**  /'faɪndɪŋ/

NOUN [ plural **findings** ]

information that is got by studying a subject

▣ *The scientists **published** their **findings** in the journal 'Nature'.*

**tell**  /tel/

VERB [ tells, telling, told ]

**1** to give someone information by speaking

*Don't tell Mum I've lost my key.*

+ that: *He told the court that he was abroad at the time.*

+ question word: *Can you tell us why you disagree?*

*He promised to tell the truth.*

*She accused us of telling lies about her.*

**2** to order someone to do something

+ to do something: *He told me to sit down.*

*I wish you would do as you are told!*

**3** if you can tell something, you know that it is true or recognize the characteristics of someone or something

*I couldn't tell if he was joking or not.*

+ that: *I could tell that she was upset.*

*Can you tell the difference between butter and margarine?*

**4 tell the time** to be able to understand the information on a clock or watch

Note that when you use the word **tell**, meaning 'to speak to someone', you must say the person that you are speaking to

✓ I **told Peter** I would come.

✓ I **told him** I would come.

✗ I told that I would come.

#### ◆ phrasal verbs

##### **tell someone/something apart**

to be able to see the difference between two people or things

*There are two sisters, and I can never tell them apart.*

##### **tell someone off**

to speak angrily to someone who has done something wrong

+ for: *He told me off for wasting water.*

● **telling**  /'telɪŋ/

ADJECTIVE

**1** showing the truth about something

*Perhaps the most telling remark came from his brother.*

**2** important or effective

● **telling-off**  /'telɪŋ'ɒf/

NOUN, NO PLURAL

when you tell someone off

*His teacher gave him a telling-off for being late again.*

**ask**  /ɑ:sk/

VERB [ asks, asking, asked ]

**1** to say something as a question

*She asked how old I was.*

+ about: *They asked us about our families.*

**2** to say that you want someone to give you something

+ for: *I asked Joanne for some food.*

**3** to say that you want someone to do something

+ to do something: *He asked me to close the door.*

**4** to invite

+ to: *We've asked twenty people to our party.*

Remember that you ask someone. You do not ask to someone:

✓ He asked me the time.

✗ He asked to me the time.

◆ phrasal verbs

**ask after someone**

to ask about someone's health and what they are doing

*Rob was asking after you.*

**ask someone out**

to invite someone to go somewhere, often as a way of starting a romantic relationship

**work**  /wɜ:k/

► VERB [ **works, working, worked** ]

**1** to do something that needs effort or energy

+ on: *She's working on another novel.*

+ to do something: *We have been working to improve awareness of homelessness.*

*We all need to **work hard** to make this event a success.*

**2** to have a job that you are paid to do

+ for: *He works for a shipping company.*

+ as: *I was working as a nurse at the time.*

**3** to operate correctly

*My e-mail isn't working at the moment.*

**4** to be successful or effective

*The new treatment seems to be working.*

*Our plan to trick him **worked well**.*

**5** to operate a machine or a piece of equipment

*I don't know how to work the heating.*

**6** to gradually move into a different position

*These tiny particles can **work their way** into your lungs.*

*All the knots had begun to **work loose**.*

**7 work your way** to achieve something gradually

*He worked his way up to the position of chairman.*

*They have worked their way back into the competition.*

◆ phrasal verbs

**work at something**

to try to improve something

*I'm working at staying calm.*

**work off something**

to get rid of something such as an emotion or food you have eaten

□ *I went for a walk to work off my lunch.*

### **work on something**

to try to improve something

□ *He needs to work on his spoken English.*

### **work out**

**1** if a plan or a situation works out, it is successful

□ *I hope everything works out for you.*

**2** to end in a particular way

□ *The arrangement worked out well for me.*

**3** to do exercises to make your body stronger

□ *I work out four times a week.*

### **work something out**

**1** to be able to understand something or make a decision about something

□ + question word: *There was a message on the back, but I couldn't work out what it said.*

□ *I worked out how to put the tent up.*

**2** to calculate something

□ *I've worked out how much tax I owe.*

□ *The doctors have worked out the correct dose for me.*

### **work out at something**

to be the result of a calculation

□ *The cost works out at £150 per person.*

### **work up something**

to create something, especially a feeling

□ *I can't work up the enthusiasm to phone him.*

□ *Let's go for a walk to work up a bit of an appetite.*



## work up to something

to gradually prepare yourself to do something difficult

☐ *It took me over two years to work up to running a marathon.*

### ► NOUN [ plural **works** ]

**1 NO PLURAL:** an activity that needs effort

▣ *It was **hard work** clearing up after the party.*

▣ *There's still a lot of **work to do** before the website will be ready.*

**2 NO PLURAL:** someone's job, or the place they go to do it

▣ *I go to **work** at 8.*

☐ *I usually go to the gym before **work**.*

☐ *My **work** involves talking to doctors.*

**3 NO PLURAL:** the things that you create or do when you are working

☐ *I've done a lot of **work** with young people.*

☐ *Hand your **work** in to the teacher.*

**4** something produced by an artist, musician, writer etc.

☐ *Her early **works** are quite different.*

**5 get/set to work** to start working

☐ *We **set to work** on the garden.*

### ● **workable** /'wɜ:kəbəl/

ADJECTIVE

a workable system or plan is practical and will be effective

**seem**  /si:m/

VERB [ **seems, seeming, seemed** ]

to appear to be something

*He seemed very pleased to see you.*

*She **seemed like** a very nice young woman.*

*It **seems likely that** he will be in hospital for several weeks.*

*It seems strange we haven't heard from him.*

+ to do something: *Nothing seems to worry him.*

● **seemingly**  /'si:mɪŋli/

ADVERB

used for saying what seems true although it is probably not true

*The queue to get in was **seemingly** endless.*

**feel**  /fi:l/

► VERB [ **feels, feeling, felt** ]

**1** to have an emotion or to be in a particular state

- I feel tired.*
- Do you feel better today?*
- How are you feeling?*
- I don't feel any anger towards them.*

**2** to experience something touching you or happening to you

- Suddenly, she felt a hand on her shoulder.*
- He could feel himself falling.*
- I felt a pain in my leg.*

**3** if something feels a certain way, that is how it seems to you

- Your forehead feels hot.*
- It feels strange to be back here.*
- It feels as though nobody is interested.*

**4** to touch something with your fingers to see what it is like

- Feel how soft her fur is!*

**5** to think or believe something

- I feel he should have asked my opinion first.*

**6 feel like something** to want something or want to do something

- + ing: *Do you feel like going for a swim?*

► NOUN, NO PLURAL

the way something is when you touch it

- I love the feel of these silk sheets.*

● **feeler**  /'fi:lə(r)/

NOUN [ *plural* **feelers** ]

one of the two long parts on an insect's head

● **feeling**  /'fi:lɪŋ/

NOUN [ *plural* **feelings** ]

**1** an emotion

*There was a feeling of excitement amongst the children.*

**2** something that you experience physically, or the ability to experience it

*I don't like the feeling of being under water.*

*I lost the feeling in my toes.*

**3** a belief that something is true

*I have the feeling that she's avoiding me.*

**4** opinion

*My feeling is that they should pay for the damage.*

→ go to **hurt** someone's feelings

**try**  /traɪ/

► VERB [ **tries, trying, tried** ]

**1** to make an effort or an attempt to do something

+ to do something: *Please try to understand.*

*We tried everything we could to save him.*

*He failed the exam, but he can always try again next year.*

**2** to do or use something to see if you like it or if it works or is effective

*Try this powder for a cleaner wash.*

*I've never tried Chinese food.*

+ ing: *You could try phoning him.*

**3** to find out if someone committed a crime by hearing all the evidence (= facts or statements given in a court of law)

*They will be tried in the European Court of Human Rights.*

+ for: *She was tried for murder.*

◆ phrasal verbs

**try something on**

to put on a piece of clothing to see if it fits or what it looks like on you

*I tried on three summer dresses but I didn't like any of them.*

**try something out**

to use something to see if it works or is effective or if you like it

*We're trying out a new type of carrot seed this year.*

→ go to try your **luck**

► NOUN [ *plural* **tries** ]

**1** an attempt to do something

*That was a good try. Better luck next time.*

*I couldn't get the tyre off - could you have a try?*

**2** when you do or use something to see if you like it or if it works or is effective


*I saw an advert for a sailing course, so I thought I'd give it a try.*

**3** in the sport of rugby, a successful attempt to put the ball over the other team's goal line

● **trying**  /'traɪɪŋ/

ADJECTIVE

difficult and annoying

 *He can be very trying sometimes.*

# leave /li:v/

## ► VERB [ leaves, leaving, left ]

**1** to go away from a place

- I left the office early.*
- The train leaves at two.*
- I left work at four thirty.*
- I left home when I was 18.*

**2** to not take something with you when you go away

- Maria left her umbrella on the bus.*
- + behind: *I left all my books behind.*

**3** to put something or someone somewhere

- Leave your shoes by the back door.*
- I left the children with a neighbour.*

**4** to allow something to be in a particular position or state

- Leave the conditioner in your hair for five minutes.*
- She left the door unlocked.*

**5** to end a relationship with someone you live with

- His wife left him.*

**6** to cause a situation or an emotion

- The illness left me without a job.*
- High crime rates have left people afraid to go out after dark.*

**7** to not use all of something

- Is there any milk left?*

**8** to not do something but do it later or let someone else do it

- I'll leave the washing up and do it in the morning.*
- + to: *I left all the driving to her.*

**9** to give something to someone after your death

- Her grandmother left Joy all her jewellery.*

**10** **leave someone/something alone** to stop touching something or talking to someone

□ *Journalists wouldn't leave her alone.*

□ *Leave my clothes alone.*

→ go to leave someone to their own **devices**, leave a bad/bitter/nasty, etc.  
**taste** in your mouth

◆ phrasal verbs

**leave someone/something out**

to not include someone or something

□ *I told him what she said, but I left out the rude bits.*

■ *Some of our members **felt left out** because they could not do the activities.*

**leave something over**

if something is left over, it is what remains when the rest of something has been used

□ *There was a lot of food left over from the party.*

▶ NOUN, NO PLURAL

a period of holiday from work

□ *I had a week's leave.*

□ *He committed the crime while he was on leave from the army.*



**call**  /kɔ:l/

► VERB [ **calls, calling, called** ]

**1** if a person or thing is called something, that is their name

*He's called Jonathan James.*

**2** to describe someone in a particular way

*How dare you call me a liar!*

**3** to shout

*I heard him calling my name.*

**4** to ask someone to come to you

*Call the children in from the garden.*

**5** to telephone someone

*Have you called your mother yet?*

**6** to visit someone

+ in: *We called in to see Maria this morning.*

+ round: *My neighbour called round yesterday.*

Remember that the verb **call** meaning 'telephone' is used without 'to':

✓ I called my brother to wish him happy birthday.

✗ I called to my brother to wish him happy birthday.

◆ **phrasal verbs**

**call for something**

to demand that something happens

*Campaigners have called for changes to the law.*

**call for someone**

to go to someone's house in order to go somewhere with them

*I'll call for you at seven.*

**call something off**

to stop a plan or an activity

□ *The search has been called off.*

### **call someone up**

a US word meaning to telephone someone

□ *He called me up in the middle of the night.*

### **call something up**

to find information on your computer screen

□ *He called up lots of information about horses.*

## ► NOUN [ *plural calls* ]

**1** when you contact someone by telephone

▣ *Give me a call tomorrow.*

▣ *I'm sure I can find someone to fix your car - let me **make a few calls**.*

**2 a call for something** a demand for something to happen

□ *The prime minister is facing calls for his resignation.*

**3** a shout

□ *They ignored his calls for help.*

**4** a short visit

▣ *I thought I might **pay you a call** tomorrow.*