

7 NATURE

STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 62–63

fog /fɒg/ Noun singular

fog is a thick cloud that forms close to the ground

Collocates: thick/dense fog | fog lifts/clears | fog comes down/descends

thick fog | hopefully the fog will lift soon | we couldn't see anything through the fog

Adjective: *foggy*

Collocates: foggy weather | a foggy day/morning/night
it was a cold and foggy morning

- *brouillard*

METAPHOR AND WEATHER

Many words are often used in different contexts but with a connection to their original meaning. This is true of many weather words. For example, *my mind's a fog*, *my memory's a bit foggy* (not clear or confused)
people flooded into the streets (lots of people moved like a flood), *she was in floods of tears*, *we had a flood of letters*; *come under a hail of bullets / missiles / criticism* (attacked by lots of hard things);
the exam was a breeze (light, easy); *the origins have been lost in the mists of time* (difficult to see / know) / *her eyes were misty* (almost crying); *lightning quick / lightning reactions* (fast and sudden); *a thunder of drums / the kids thundered down the stairs* (sound / move very loudly).

thunder /'θʌndə(r)/ Noun singular

thunder is the loud noise that you hear in the sky during a storm

a faint rumble of thunder | the thunder was getting louder

Verb: *thunder* | Adjective: *thundery*

did you hear it thundering earlier? | a thundery, purple-grey sky

- *tonnerre*

flash /flæʃ/ Noun

a *flash* of light is a very sudden and bright light which appears and then disappears very quickly

there were incredible flashes of lightning | we saw a lightning flash before we heard the thunder

Verb: *flash*

lightning flashed across the sky

- *éclair*

come off /'kʌm ,ɒf/ Verb

when you *come off* a motorway, you move onto the special road for traffic that wants to leave the motorway. You say that a car *came off* the road if the driver lost control and the car went onto the pavement or side of the road

you need to come off the motorway at junction 10 | the roads were so icy we were lucky we didn't come off the road

- *sortir*

pass out /'pɑːs ,aʊt/ Phrasal verb

if you *pass out*, you become unconscious for a short time

I thought I was going to pass out | he passed out with the heat | it nearly made me pass out

- *s'évanouir*

turn /tɜː(r)n/ Verb

you use *turn* to describe how the quality of something changes from one state into another

it was so cold my lips turned blue | our beautiful friendship was turning sour (we stopped being good friends) | the leaves will turn brown in the autumn

Noun: *turn*

Collocates: be on the turn

the weather was on the turn (was in the process of changing)

- *devenir*

freeze /friːz/ Verb

when something *freezes*, it becomes hard because it is so cold. When people *freeze*, they get very uncomfortable because it is extremely cold. You can also say that you are *freezing* or that a place is *freezing* when it is very cold

it's freezing in here | the water in the lake had started to freeze | put the heater on. I'm freezing

Adjective: *frozen* | Adverb: *freezing*

a frozen river | the weather was wet and freezing cold

- *geler*

soaked /səʊkt/ Adjective

if you get *soaked*, you become extremely wet

Collocates: soaked through | soaked to the skin

I got absolutely soaked on the way | within seconds they were both soaked to the skin

Verb: *soak* | Adverb: *soaking* | Noun: *soaking*

Collocates: soaking wet

my shirt was soaking wet | I forgot my umbrella and got a soaking

- *trempe*

blow down /'bləʊ daʊn/ Phrasal verb

if something is *blown down*, it collapses or is destroyed by very strong winds in a storm

the storm blew down a tree which hit our house | the garage was blown down in the storm | we had to rebuild the shed after the wind had blown it down

- renverser

pull over /'pʊl əʊvə(r)/ Phrasal verb

if you *pull over*, you drive to the side of the road and stop your car. If the police *pull* you over, they make you move to the side of the road and stop your car

we had to pull over until the rain eased off | she signalled to us to pull over | Harris was pulled over on a routine traffic check

- arrêter

ease /i:z/ Verb

if something *eases* or *eases off*, it becomes less severe

the pain was beginning to ease | the snow's eased off slightly

- calmer

settle /'set(ə)l/ Verb

if snow *settles*, it stays on the ground when it lands and does not turn to water straight away

the snow had started to settle | the roads were still clear but the snow had settled in the fields | overnight snow will settle on high ground

- tenir

skid /skɪd/ Verb

if you *skid* while you are driving, your vehicle slides uncontrollably, for example because you have tried to stop too quickly when it is icy or muddy

I was afraid we'd skid on the ice | the jeep skidded and slammed into the truck | if you feel the car skidding, lift your foot off the accelerator

Noun: *skid*

if you go into a skid, stop braking

- patiner

stuck /stʌk/ Adjective

if you are *stuck* somewhere, you cannot get away even though you want to

people got stuck in their cars overnight | we were stuck inside thanks to the rain | several vehicles became stuck in the snow

- bloqué

non-stop /'nɒn'stɒp/ Adverb

if something happens *non-stop*, it continues all the time without a pause

Collocates: talk non-stop | drive/fly non-stop

it continued non-stop for about a week | Stella's phone has been ringing non-stop all morning

Adjective: *non-stop*

Collocates: a non-stop flight

a non-stop flight from Heathrow to Chicago

- sans arrêt

sunshine /'sʌnʃaɪn/ Noun

sunshine is bright light and warmth that comes from the sun when the weather is fine and there are no clouds

Collocates: be in sunshine | bright/glorious/brilliant sunshine | warm sunshine

the weather was wonderful with bright sunshine | sunshine streamed in through the window

- soleil

bounce /baʊns/ Verb

if something *bounces*, it hits a surface and then goes back up in the direction it came from

hailstones started bouncing off the car | the ball bounced off the edge of the table

- rebondir

windscreen /'wɪn(d)skri:n/ Noun

a *windscreen* is a sheet of glass at the front or back of a car that the driver can see through

Collocates: a shattered/broken/cracked windscreen | a front/rear windscreen

the hailstones were so hard they nearly broke the windscreen | you'll have to replace the windscreen

- pare-brise

heavens /'hev(ə)nz/ Noun plural

if you talk about the *heavens*, you are referring to the sky

Collocates: the heavens open

seconds later, the heavens opened and it started pouring with rain | the heavens darkened and the rain came down

- ciel

empty /'empti/ Verb

to *empty* a container means to take everything out of it. If you *empty* the contents of a container, you take them all out

she emptied a bucket of water over the two dogs | you can buy lots of these earrings without emptying your wallet (without spending all the money that you have)

- vider

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civilised /ˈsɪvəlaɪzd/ Adjective

people or places that are *civilised* show culture and good standards of behaviour because they belong to an advanced and well developed society

a highly civilised society | let's talk about this in a civilised way | without these rules, civilised life would be impossible

Noun: *civilisation* | Opposite – Adjective: *uncivilised*
modern civilisation is built upon cooperation

• *civilisé*

contest /kən'test/ Verb

to *contest* something means to say officially that you do not agree with it or think it is wrong

Collocates: *contest a will*

the will is being contested | they plan to contest the decision | he contested the validity of the wedding ceremony

• *contester*

dare /deə(r)/ Noun

a *dare* is something difficult or dangerous that you do because someone has challenged you to do it

Collocates: *do something for a dare*

I tried eating them for a dare | he challenged me to a dare

Verb: *dare*

Collocates: *dare someone to do something*

I dare you to call him now

• *défi*

intimidation /ɪnˌtɪmɪ'deɪʃ(ə)n/ Noun

intimidation is behaviour that deliberately tries to frighten someone, often in order to make them do something they do not want to do

they endured years of intimidation | using various intimidation tactics

Verb: *intimidate* | Adjective: *intimidating*

Collocates: *intimidate someone into doing something*

they tried to intimidate him into confessing | he was a large dog, and very intimidating

• *intimidation*

spark /spɑː(r)k/ Verb

to *spark* something violent or extreme means to cause it
the speech sparked a heated debate | what sparked this explosion of anger?

• *provoquer*

insight /ˈɪnsaɪt/ Noun

an *insight* is a clear way of understanding something

Collocates: *insight into something*

research will provide invaluable insights | she's got a lot of insight into this problem

Adjective: *insightful*

she writes a highly insightful blog

• *regard*

inheritance /ɪnˈherɪt(ə)ns/ Noun

your *inheritance* is money that you get from someone after they die

Collocates: *claim an inheritance | receive an inheritance*

he received a small inheritance from his father | she accused him of trying to steal her inheritance

Verb: *inherit*

his only daughter inherited his land

• *héritage*

initial /ɪˈnɪʃ(ə)l/ Adjective

an *initial* idea or action is one that comes at the beginning of a situation, and which later changes

the initial ban was introduced in 2006 | the police made an initial breakthrough | the initial stages of the illness

Adverb: *initially*

the company was quite successful initially

• *initial*

amidst /əˈmɪdst/ Preposition

if something happens *amidst* other events, feelings, or activities, it happens with those things happening all around at the same time. To be *amidst* people means to have people all around you. *Amidst* is a literary word, and the usual word is *amid*

he resigned amidst allegations of corruption | living amidst his family

• *parmi*

root /ru:t/ Noun

the *roots* of a plant are the parts under the ground that send food up to the plant above the ground. The *roots* of a person or a tradition are the place, culture, and family that they come from

Collocates: *go back/return to your roots*

an art form that has deep roots in Spanish history | he wanted to return to his Irish roots

Adjective: *rooted*

these ceremonies are rooted in centuries-old tradition

• *racine*

ensure /ɪnʃʊə(r)/ Verb

to *ensure* that something happens means to make certain that it happens

Collocates: ensure that something happens

tax breaks have ensured low ticket prices | precautions to ensure the safety of all passengers

- garantir

bravery /ˈbreɪvəri/ Noun uncount

bravery is the quality and behaviour involved in being brave

Collocates: show/display bravery

he was awarded a medal for exceptional bravery | they have shown extraordinary bravery and determination

Adjective: *brave* | Adverb: *bravely*

Collocates: fight/battle/struggle bravely

it was an incredibly brave thing to do | he fell bravely defending his country

- courage

cruel /ˈkruːəl/ Adjective

an activity that is *cruel* causes unnecessary suffering to people or animals. If people are *cruel*, they deliberately cause suffering to other people or animals

many people think bullfighting is cruel | how selfish and cruel she had been

Noun: *cruelty* | Adverb: *cruelly*

the public does not tolerate animal cruelty (cruel treatment of animals) | he was treated cruelly by the other students there

- cruel

poll /pɒl/ Noun

a *poll* is an activity in which a large number of people are asked what they think about something or how they will vote in an election. You can also refer to the elections that take place when a country chooses a new government as the *polls*

Collocates: an opinion poll

the results of a recent opinion poll | the poll found that neither candidate was popular among voters

Verb: *poll*

43% of voters polled were undecided

- sondage

breeder /ˈbriːdə(r)/ Noun

a *breeder* is someone who keeps animals and produces and sells young animals

a dog breeder | he came from a rich family of cattle breeders

Verb: *breed* | Noun: *breed*

they breed cattle on the farm | a very popular breed of dog (particular type of dog)

- éleveur

subsidy /ˈsʌbsədi/ Noun

a *subsidy* is an amount of money that a government pays in order to help a producer sell goods at a lower price and still have a profit

an agricultural subsidy | subsidies from the European Union

Verb: *subsidise*

Collocates: heavily subsidise something

Ontario has subsidised solar power energy

- subvention

leave /liːv/ Verb

if you *leave* money, property, or possessions to someone, you give official instructions that they should have the money, property, or possessions after you die

Collocates: leave someone something | leave something to someone

her parents had left everything they owned to the RSPCA | he uncle left her a house and £20,000

- léguer

matter /ˈmætə(r)/ Noun

a *matter* is a problem or an issue that people cannot agree about

they hope the matter can be settled quickly | we'll discuss the matter at our meeting tomorrow

- question

settle /ˈset(ə)l/ Verb

if you *settle* a problem or dispute, you find an acceptable solution to it

Collocates: settle a claim/dispute/matter

they hope the matter can be settled quickly | her insurance claim was finally settled for £800 | find a peaceful way to settle the dispute

- régler

found /faʊnd/ Verb

to *found* an institution means to start it and provide the money it needs to become established

the RSPCA was founded in 1824 | the company was originally founded in 1923

Noun: *founder*

his grandfather was one of the founders of the organisation

- fonder

involvement /ɪn'vɒlmənt/ Noun uncount

someone's *involvement* in an activity is the fact of their taking part in it

Collocates: involvement in something

he denied any involvement in the robbery | her continued involvement is due to her strong belief in the project

Verb: *involve* | Adjective: *involved*

you shouldn't involve yourself in these matters

- *participation*

STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 66–67**variety** /və'raɪəti/ Noun

a *variety* of something, especially a plant, fruit, or vegetable, is a particular type of it

we grow different varieties of tomato | choose organically grown varieties whenever possible

- *variété*

curse /kɜː(r)s/ Verb

to *curse* someone or something means to say words that are deliberately intended to cause something bad to happen to them by magic

she thought I was cursing her | it was possible to curse an enemy through a spoken word | it is highly unlikely you have been cursed

Noun: *curse*

Collocates: put/place a curse on someone or something | lift a curse

an old woman placed a curse on Serena and her family

- *maudire*

funeral /'fjuːn(ə)rəl/ Noun

a *funeral* is the ceremony that takes place when someone who has recently died is put into the ground, or when their body is burned

Collocates: hold a funeral | attend a funeral | a state funeral
her funeral will be held on Wednesday | her funeral was attended by 150 family and friends

Adjective: *funeral*

Collocates: a funeral service

the funeral service was simple and moving

- *enterrement*

pick /pɪk/ Verb

if you *pick* fruit or vegetables or flowers, you take them from the plant that they are growing on so that you can eat them or show them indoors

we're going to pick mushrooms this afternoon | freshly picked tomatoes | pick and wash the herbs and then chop finely

- *ramasser / cueillir*

misunderstanding /ˌmɪsʌndə(r)'stændɪŋ/ Noun

a *misunderstanding* is a wrong or mistaken idea about something

Collocates: a total/complete/slight/common/genuine misunderstanding

it was all a complete misunderstanding | I can see how this misunderstanding arose

Verb: *misunderstand* | Adjective: *misunderstood*

I misunderstood the doctor's instructions | Powell was a much misunderstood politician

- *méprise*

awkward /ˈɔːkwə(r)d/ Adjective

an *awkward* social situation is one in which people feel embarrassed because they think something is wrong but they do not know exactly what

there was a bit of an awkward silence | there was an awkward moment when he mentioned Jack's ex-wife

- *délicat*

gather /'gæðə(r)/ Verb

to *gather* things means to collect them. To *gather* crops means to take them from the fields or places where they are growing and bring them indoors to be stored or eaten
we're off to gather mushrooms | the police are still gathering evidence | he hastily gathered his things together and left

- *ramasser / cueillir*

lethal /'liːθl/ Adjective

something that is *lethal* can kill someone

some mushrooms can be lethal | colder temperatures can also prove lethal for the elderly | he suffered a lethal blow to the head

Adverb: *lethally*

the edge of the knife was lethally sharp

- *mortel*

rot /rɒt/ Verb

if something *rots*, it decays through natural processes

too much water will rot the roots | the fruit was rotting in the bowl | the old wood had rotted

Noun: *rot* | Adjective: *rotting* | Adjective: *rotten*

the house was full of damp and rot | the smell of rotting food | a strong smell of rotten eggs

- *pourrir*

settle /'set(ə)l/ Verb

if something *settles* your stomach, it stops your stomach feeling uncomfortable and likely to make you sick

it will settle your stomach | after I'd had the tea, my stomach settled

- *apaiser*

root /ru:t/ Noun

the *roots* of a plant are the parts under the ground that send food up to the plant above the ground

the vine has put down strong roots | a tree with an extensive root system

- *racine*
-

plant /pla:nt/ Noun

a *plant* is a living thing such as a tree or bush that grows out of the ground. If you *plant* something in the ground, you put seeds or a young plant in the earth so that a plant will grow. If someone *plants* a bomb or other device, they leave it there so that it will explode at a later time

none of the other plants can survive here | house plants (plants that you grow in pots inside your home)

Verb: *plant*

we planted corn and barley (put seeds into the ground so that corn and barley plants would grow) | terrorists had planted a bomb inside the cinema

- *plante*
-

blossom /'blɒs(ə)m/ Noun

blossom is the flowers that grow on trees before the fruit develop. When a tree *blossoms*, it has blossom on its branches. If a person *blossoms* or if their career *blossoms*, they become happy and successful

Collocates: be in blossom | blossom comes out

the cherry trees are in blossom | beautiful pink blossom

Verb: *blossom*

since she won an Oscar her career has blossomed

- *fleur*
-

stem /stem/ Noun

a *stem* is the long thin part of a plant that a flower grows on. If something *stems* from something else, it has that other thing as its origin

cut the stems before you put the flowers in the vase | the stems can grow up to 60 cm

Verb: *stem*

Collocates: stem from something

weight problems often stem from a poor diet

- *tige*
-

stormy /'stɔ:(r)mi/ Adjective

stormy weather is when there is a lot of heavy rain and wind. If people's relationships are *stormy*, there is a lot arguing and disagreement

Collocates: stormy weather | a stormy relationship

the night was stormy and very cold | their relationship was stormy from the day they married

Noun: *storm*

the storm raged all night

- *orageux*
-

flood /flʌd/ Noun

a *flood* is an occasion when large amounts of water pour into an area, for example after there has been a lot of very heavy rain or if a water pipe bursts. If you get *floods* of something unwanted, a large quantity of it arrives

the village was cut off by floods | the flood water rose rapidly overnight

Verb: *flood*

thousands of homes are now flooded | his inbox is flooded with more than 200 emails per day

- *inondation*
-

seed /si:d/ Noun

a *seed* is a small part of a plant that grows into a new plant when it is in the soil. If you talk about a *seed* or the *seeds* of something, you are talking about the start of a new process or development

Collocates: sow/scatter seeds

I bought some seeds to grow some herbs in my kitchen | they are sowing the seeds of unrest

- *graine*
-