

13 NEWS AND THE MEDIA

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bar /bɑ:(r)/ Verb

if someone *is barred* from going in somewhere or *barred* from doing something, they are officially not allowed to go in there or not allowed to do it

Collocates: bar someone from doing something | bar someone from going somewhere

club bars fans in crackdown on hooliganism | he was barred from entering the UK | some voters were barred from casting their vote because they were out of the country at the time

- prohibit

bid /bɪd/ Noun

a *bid* is an attempt to buy something by offering an amount of money. It will be successful if no one else offers a larger sum. A *takeover bid* is an attempt to buy a whole company

Collocates: a takeover bid

they launched a takeover bid in early December | Kraft's original takeover bid was originally rejected by Cadbury

Verb: *bid* | Noun: *bidder*

Collocates: the highest bidder

Kraft bid £9.8 billion for Cadbury | the highest bidder had offered \$250 million

- oferta

brink /brɪŋk/ Noun

the *brink* of something is a situation that is going to change very soon, often to something that is much worse

Collocates: on the brink of (doing) something | bring someone to the brink of something

the Cuban missile crisis brought the world to the brink of nuclear war | we're on the brink of a major new medical discovery

- llindar

clash /klæʃ/ Verb

when people or groups *clash*, they fight or have a violent disagreement

Collocates: clash with someone

on Thursday afternoon, the two groups clashed again | last week, the Syrian army clashed with rebels in the heart of Damascus

Noun: *clash*

the arrests sparked fierce clashes between demonstrators and the police

- enfrontar-se

clear /kɪə(r)/ Verb

if someone *is cleared*, it is officially decided that they were not guilty of something they had been accused of

Collocates: clear one's name

Sanders was cleared of bribery charges | he was arrested in February, and was not completely cleared until September | we launched a campaign to clear their names

- absoldre

coverage /'kʌv(ə)rɪdʒ/ Noun uncount

to cover a story means to report it in a newspaper, on television, in a magazine, etc. The *coverage* of something is the amount of reporting of it that happens

there's been a lot of news coverage about it | the story had virtually no national coverage

Verb: *cover*

I've just got back from covering the G8 conference

- cobertura

get off /get 'ɒf/ Phrasal verb

if someone *gets off*, or *gets off lightly*, they are not punished or receive only a light punishment after they have done something wrong

Collocates: get off lightly

he got off with a warning | I don't expect to get off this time as it's my third offence | Bourne got off lightly, but his partner got a prison sentence

- sortir d'un judici

hail /heɪl/ Verb

if someone *hails* something, they say publicly that it is very good

Collocates: hail someone or something as something | be hailed something

the president hailed the breakthrough in the peace talks | in his speech, he hailed the success of the scheme | on his return, he was hailed as a hero

- aclamar

key /ki:/ Noun

a *key* is a tool that you use to lock and unlock a door

I left my keys at the office | a bunch of keys

- clau

line your pockets /laɪn jə(r) 'pɒkɪts/ Phrase

if you say that someone is *lining their own pockets*, you mean they are taking money dishonestly from somewhere and keeping it for themselves

it was obvious he was lining his own pockets | they'd been lining their own pockets for years before they were caught

- **omplir-se les butxaques (il-legalment)**

outburst /'aʊt,bʊ:(r)st/ Noun

an *outburst* is a sudden and loud expression of emotion, often anger

Collocates: a sudden outburst | an emotional/furious/angry outburst

he was prone to sudden outbursts of anger | her outburst had no effect at all on her mother

Phrasal verb: *burst out*

'You're lying,' he burst out angrily

- **explosió**

pull out of /pʊl 'aʊt əv/ Phrasal verb

if you *pull out of* something, you stop being involved in it

Kohl pulled out of the tournament because of an injury | the ambassador pulled out of the talks at the last minute | Spielberg pulled out of the project in 2009

- **retirar-se**

raid /reɪd/ Noun

in a war, a *raid* is a sudden armed attack on a place. When criminals break into somewhere such as a bank, that is a *raid*. And a *raid* is also when the police rush into a building by surprise to try and catch criminals inside it

Collocates: bombing raid | armed raid

police found £10 million of drugs in a raid on a house in Hoxton | a series of night raids failed to take the town

Verb: *raid*

Collocates: armed police raided the house early on Wednesday

- **assalt**

slash /slæʃ/ Verb

to *slash* things such as costs, prices, or jobs, means to reduce them a lot

defence spending had been slashed | the company desperately needed to slash labour costs | they slashed prices in a final attempt to attract more customers

- **retallar**

stake /sterk/ Noun

if you have a *stake* in a company, you have invested money in it and so are a part owner of it

Kirov increased his stake in Mac Industries | they had a 51% stake in the firm

- **acció**

stir up /stɜ: 'ʌp/ Verb

to *stir up* trouble means to cause it deliberately

Collocates: stir up trouble/hatred/controversy

maybe the opposition are just stirring up trouble | they're stirring up hatred against the immigrants | his tweet stirred up a big controversy

- **provocar**

storm in a teacup /stɔ:(r)m ɪn ə 'ti:kʌp/ Phrase

if you say that something is a *storm in a teacup*, you mean that people are creating a lot of trouble out of something that is not at all important. Americans call it a *tempest in a teapot*

it was just a storm in a teacup and it blew over quickly enough | they seemed to be taking it very seriously, but it looked to me like a storm in a teacup

- **fer-ne un gra massa**

sword /sɔ:(r)d/ Noun

a *sword* is a weapon that has a long metal blade

he drew his sword (took it out) and waited for the attack | every cavalry soldier has a sword

- **espasa**

technicality /,tekni'kæləti/ Noun

a *technicality* is a very small detail of the law that can have a very big effect on something such as a trial

Collocates: on a technicality

he got off on a technicality | a legal technicality prevented us from claiming the money

- **tecnicisme**

thug /θʌg/ Noun

a *thug* is a violent, often criminal man

he was attacked by a couple of thugs on his way home last night | some shopkeepers paid local thugs to protect them

Adjective: *thuggish*

there was something thuggish about the way he spoke

- **gamberro**

title /'taɪt(ə)l/ Noun

when a sportsperson or team wins a *title*, they win a particular competition

Murray won the Wimbledon title in 2014 | Anderson retained his world championship title

- **títol**

toll /təʊl/ Noun

when there is a disaster, the *toll* is the number of people who are killed or injured as a result of it

Collocates: the death toll | a heavy toll

the death toll carried on rising as more bodies were found | the bombing raids took a heavy toll on civilians

- **peatge**

up /ʌp/ Verb

to *up* something means to increase the amount or level of it

the band upped the volume for the last song of the gig | the doctor upped my dose to 40mg | you need to up your effort if you want to pass the exam

- **apujar**
-

STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 118–119**finger** /'fɪŋgə(r)/ Noun

your *fingers* are the four long thin parts at the end of your hands. If you say that someone *didn't lift a finger*, you mean they did nothing to help in a particular situation

I cut my finger on the bread knife | he spent a week here and never once lifted a finger to help in the kitchen

- **dit**
-

intrusion /ɪn'truːʒ(ə)n/ Noun

intrusion is when someone does something that affects you personally, like disturbing you when you want to be alone or by interfering in your personal affairs

the news report represented a gross intrusion into his private life | the new law will see a rise in government intrusion into our lives

Verb: *intrude* | Adjective: *intrusive* | Adverb: *intrusively*

I objected that they were intruding upon my privacy and asked them to leave | the staff were very helpful without being intrusive

- **intrusió**
-

murder /'mɜː(r)də(r)/ Noun

murder is the deliberate and illegal killing of someone. If you say that someone *got away with murder*, you mean that they did something bad but did not get punished for it

there've been three murders in the city since January | having a rich daddy can help you get away with murder

- **assassinat**
-

pang /pæŋ/ Noun

a *pang* is a sudden feeling of an emotion such as sadness, regret, or jealousy

Collocates: a pang of something

I felt a pang of disappointment | he felt a pang of jealousy when his twin sister got into university

- **rampell**
-

punch /pʌntʃ/ Verb

to *punch* someone means to hit them with a closed hand

several photographers have been punched by bodyguards | he was punched and kicked until he was unconscious | she punched the cushion to release the stress and anger she was feeling

Noun: *punch*

Collocates: throw a punch

he threw a punch at the policeman before trying to run away

- **donar un cop de puny**
-

shot /ʃɒt/ Noun

a *shot* is a picture taken by a camera or a sequence of pictures in a film

Collocates: a close-up shot

he managed to get an exclusive shot of Madonna as she left the hotel | a close-up shot of her earrings

Verb: *shoot*

we're going to Ireland to shoot the final scenes of the film

- **fotografia**
-

steady /'stedɪ/ Adjective

something that is *steady* happens at a regular pace and is unlikely to change suddenly

it was a steady job, but sometimes it became very boring | I decided to take the job because I needed a steady income | we made steady progress in the first three months of the project

Adverb: *steadily* | Noun: *steadiness*

the business has grown steadily every year | her boss appreciated her steadiness under pressure

- **estable**
-

tip off /tɪp 'ɒf/ Phrasal verb

if you *tip* someone *off* about something, you give them information about something that is going to happen, especially something that is secret or that they are not meant to know about

he was tipped off that a boy band was staying at the hotel | someone tipped him off that the police were about to come and search his flat | Taplin tipped off prison staff about the planned escape

Noun: *tip-off*

police received an anonymous tip-off about the planned bank raid

- **avisar**
-

COMMON SAYINGS

when the going gets tough, the tough get going:

if you say *when the going gets tough, the tough get going*, you mean that in a difficult situation, strong people work hard in order to succeed

I couldn't believe how determined he was, but as the saying goes, when the going gets tough, the tough get going

people in glass houses shouldn't throw stones:

glass is a material that easily breaks, so if you throw stones in a glass house, you will damage your own environment. *People in glass houses shouldn't throw stones* is a saying that means that it is not sensible to make criticisms of other people if you have the same faults that you are criticising in them

I was going to say that he'd got a bit fat, then looked in a mirror and thought people in glass houses shouldn't throw stones

when in Rome (, do as the Romans do):

you say *when in Rome*, or *when in Rome, do as the Romans do*, to justify doing something that you would not normally do, because you are in a different place from usual and it is acceptable to the people and culture where you now are

'I thought you were a vegetarian!' – 'When in Rome, as they say. This is the best steak you can get in America'

if you can't beat them (, join them):

if you can't beat them (, join them) is a saying that means you might as well do what everyone else is doing even though you don't like it or disapprove of it, because you have tried doing something else but have not succeeded in it

I've never enjoyed sunbathing, but if you can't beat them ...

it takes all sorts (to make a world):

it takes all sorts (to make a world) is a saying that means that you think someone is behaving in a strange way but that you have to accept it because people are all different from each other

he's volunteered to work over the weekend again – well, it takes all sorts

the early bird catches the worm:

the early bird catches the worm is a saying that means you are likely to be successful if you start an activity before other people

he used to start work at 7 hoping to be the early bird that catches the worm

never look a gift horse in the mouth:

people used to look in a horse's mouth to see if it was healthy and fit. If you tell someone not to *look a gift horse in the mouth*, you mean they shouldn't try and find a fault in something that they got for free

never one to look a gift horse in the mouth, I thanked my aunt and put the vase on the dining table

if it ain't broke, don't fix it:

if it ain't broke, don't fix it is a saying that means that you should not try and make changes to something that already works properly. The saying deliberately uses informal and ungrammatical English. *If it ain't broke* means if it isn't broken

I can't get this door handle back to how it was – just goes to show that if it ain't broke, don't fix it

too many cooks (spoil the broth):

broth is a kind of soup. *Too many cooks (spoil the broth)* is a saying that means if too many people become involved in an activity it will not succeed because everyone will get in other people's way.

lunch was a disaster – it was literally a case of too many cooks

(every cloud has) a silver lining:

(every cloud has) a silver lining is a saying that means that there is usually something good in a situation even if the situation seems bad or unpleasant

every cloud has a silver lining, and when it rained all weekend I was able to finish reading War and Peace

the grass is always greener (on the other side):

the grass is always greener (on the other side) is a saying that means that people have a habit of thinking that things are better for other people or in other places

after a week in the marketing department I realised that the grass wasn't actually greener on the other side and went back to my old job

don't count your chickens (before they are hatched):

if you *don't count your chickens (before they are hatched)*, you don't make plans that depend on something before it is certain that it will be successful. The image is of counting eggs and imagining that you will have a lot of chickens when in fact some of the eggs might not hatch (give birth to live chickens)

don't count your chickens – you haven't had the exam results yet

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assure /ə'ʃʊ:(r)/ Verb

if you *assure* someone that something is true, you tell them firmly that it is true, especially when it is something that they hope is true

a police spokesman assured reporters that the gunman had been captured | Gary assured me that our conversation was not being recorded | they've assured us that the danger has passed

Noun: *assurance*

Collocates: give/make an assurance

he gave us his assurance that he would be back before dark

- assegurar

base rate /'beɪs reɪt/ Noun singular

in Britain, the *base rate* is a rate of interest that is set by the Bank of England and that other banks use as a guide to the rates that they charge when they lend money to their customers

the latest rise took the base rate to a ten-year high of 4% | the financial press expected there to be no change to the base rate for the fifth month in a row

- *tipus bàsic*

behind /bɪ'hɑɪnd/ Preposition

if you are *behind* a person or an idea, you support them and want to help them succeed

on all policy issues, I'm firmly behind the government | my family have stood behind me all the way

- *darrere*

bust /bʌst/ Adjective

if a company *goes bust*, it has too many debts and cannot continue to exist

Collocates: go bust

if the crisis lasts much longer, we'll go bust | there was a risk the newspaper would go bust | thousands of small firms went bust during the recession

- *fallida*

calm /kɑ:m/ Noun uncount

calm is an atmosphere that is quiet and peaceful

relative calm has returned to the capital after last night's rioting | she felt a sense of peace and calm when she went into the church

Adjective: *calm*

after a night of violence, the streets were calm again in the morning

- *tranquil*

counter /'kaʊntə(r)/ Verb

to *counter* an action or process means to do something that will stop it, or that will have the opposite effect

the government took steps to counter the effects of cheap imports | they successfully countered all attempts to have the book banned

Adverb: *counter*

his decision ran counter to our earlier agreement

- *contrarestar*

counter- /kaʊntə(r)/ Prefix

counter- is used to make words that mean the opposite of something or that react to something

the court heard claim and counterclaim about the state of their marriage | a counter-terrorist police unit

- *prefix per indicar oposició*

destabilise /di:'steɪbəlaɪz/ Verb

to *destabilise* a government, organisation, or system means to damage it so that it cannot work properly

the president put the blame on subversive groups trying to destabilise the country | a fresh wave of strikes destabilised the government even more | the economy was seriously destabilised by the banking crisis

Noun: *destabilisation*

the war caused destabilisation throughout the region

- *desestabilitzar*

disposal /dɪ'spəʊz(ə)l/ Noun

disposal is the act of getting rid of something you do not want. Bomb *disposal* is the activity of making unexploded bombs safe so that they can be removed from a place where they are a danger

a company that specialises in waste disposal | a bomb disposal team arrived to deal with the situation

Verb: *dispose*

Collocates: dispose of something

he had to dispose of the car before it broke down again

- *eliminació / rebuig*

force /fɔ:(r)s/ Verb

if you use your power or authority to *force* someone to do something, you make them do it even though they do not want to

Collocates: force someone to do something | force someone into doing something

he was forced out of office even before the election had happened | we were forced to hand over our passports | he was forced into accepting a pay cut

- *forçar*

form /fɔ:(r)m/ Noun uncount

a sportsperson's *form* is whether they are regularly playing well or badly. If a player is *on good form*, he or she is going through a period of playing very well

Collocates: on good/great/brilliant form

my form dropped a bit at the start of the season, but I'm back to my best now | her form this year has been excellent

- *forma*

grumble /'grʌmb(ə)l/ Verb

if someone *grumbles*, they complain about something in an unpleasant way

Collocates: grumble about something

he's always grumbling about his boss | stop grumbling and enjoy the sunshine! | the kids never grumbled, even though it rained every day of the holiday

Noun: *grumble* | Noun: *grumbling*

there have already been grumbings of discontent

- *queixar-se / rondinar*

hands /hændz/ Noun plural

if something is in someone's *hands*, they own it or have control over it. If it is out of their *hands*, they no longer own it or control it

I'll leave this in your hands for the moment | I'm afraid I can't help – the matter is entirely out of my hands now

- [mans](#)

helpless /'helpləs/ Adjective

someone who is *helpless* cannot do anything about a difficult or dangerous situation that they are in

Collocates: feel helpless

watching the news just leaves me feeling helpless | he stood there looking helpless | they are helpless victims of something they cannot control

Adverb: *helplessly* | Noun: *helplessness*

his hands hung down helplessly by his side | a feeling of helplessness came over him

- [indefens](#)

hike /haɪk/ Noun

a *hike* is an increase in the amount, number, or rate of something

spending cuts are more effective than tax hikes | last year saw a 5% hike in the price of electricity

Verb: *hike*

train operators have hiked ticket prices by a massive 7% this January

- [pujada forta](#)

keep up with /ki:p ʌp wɪð/ Phrasal verb

if you *keep up with* events or *keep up with* the news, you regularly hear about all the latest developments

I'm happy to keep up with the news via social media | I keep up with my brother on Facebook | I can't keep up with everything that's going on in the fashion world

- [estar al dia](#)

libel /libəl/ Noun

libel is something that is written about someone and that is deliberately untrue and makes other people have a very bad opinion of that person. *Libel* is against the law. If it is spoken rather than written, then it is called slander

they launched a libel action against the newspaper | he sued the paper for libel, but lost the case

Verb: *libel* | Adjective: *libellous*

you can't libel someone if they are dead | there's a big problem with libellous material on the Internet

- [calúmnia / difamació](#)

missile /'mɪsaɪl/ Noun

a *missile* is a weapon that flies through the air. A *missile* can be heavy object that someone throws at someone else, or a weapon that contains explosives and that can fly over long distances before exploding when it lands

crowds throwing missiles confronted police in the main square | a guided missile (one that uses technology to make sure it hits its target)

- [missil](#)

proceeds /'prəʊsi:dz/ Noun plural

the *proceeds* of an event or activity are the money that you get from it

Collocates: the proceeds of something

all the proceeds will be given to charity | all proceeds from the event will be used for further research

- [guanyys](#)

rioting /'raɪətɪŋ/ Noun

rioting is violent protesting and fighting in the streets by a large number of people

the rioting began shortly after police had shot and killed a young black man | widespread violence and rioting followed

Noun: *riot* | Verb: *riot* | Noun: *rioter*

riots broke out after the announcement | around 450 rioters were arrested

- [disturbis](#)

rolling /'rɒlɪŋ/ Adjective

a *rolling* news channel or a *rolling* contract is one that starts again as soon as it has finished

a rolling 24-hour news channel | he was offered a three-month rolling contract (a contract for three months that can probably be renewed)

- [continuat / renovable](#)

sham /ʃæm/ Adjective

something that is *sham* is not genuine and not what it seems to be

they denied that theirs was a sham marriage | everyone knew that it was a sham trial

Noun: *sham*

the opposition insisted the trial was a sham

- [simulat](#)

sniffer dog /'snɪfə(r) dɒg/ Noun

if you *sniff*, you breathe in forcefully through your nose, often in order to find out what something smells like. A *sniffer dog* is a dog that is trained to find things such as illegal drugs, explosives, or buried people by using its sense of smell

a medal has been awarded to an army sniffer dog | firefighters helped by sniffer dogs have managed to pull 20 people from the ruins of the building

- [gos detector](#)

subversive /səb'vɜː(r)sɪv/ Adjective

something that is *subversive* is intended to damage the power or influence of a government or other authority

he was arrested on suspicion of subversive activities | he wanted to use his art as a subversive force in society | police found the subversive documents when they searched an abandoned car

Verb: *subvert* | Noun: *subversion*

the play subverts our ideas about truth and honesty | they were accused of engaging in political subversion

- *subversiu*

suppress /sə'pres/ Verb

if information is *suppressed*, people are deliberately not told about it, even if they have the right to know about it

we must challenge any attempt to suppress freedom of expression | some of the evidence was suppressed

Noun: *suppression*

suppression of evidence is a crime

- *suprimir*

tack /tæk/ Noun uncount

if you *change tack* or *try a different tack*, you start doing something in a different way

the government rejected demands for it to change tack | let's try a different tack and use water instead of milk

- *tàctica*

tear gas /'tiə(r) ,gæs/ Noun uncount

tear gas is a gas that causes pain in someone's eyes and stops them seeing clearly, used by police to control crowds of people

police used tear gas to disperse the crowd | nine youths suffered the effects of tear gas or rubber bullets

- *gas lacrimogen*

term /tɜː(r)m/ Verb

if you say that something is *termed* a particular thing, that is what people call it or that is its correct name

he urged what he termed the silent majority to make their voices heard | such a method is termed 'the indirect approach' | a police spokeswoman termed the action 'criminal'

Noun: *term*

the term 'passive' is used in grammar

- *anomenar*