

# 6 CONFLICT AND RESOLUTION

## STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 50–51

**aggression** /ə'ɡreɪʃ(ə)n/ Noun uncount

*aggression* is very angry and determined behaviour which sometimes becomes violent

*raising your voice is a form of aggression | violence is often the result of anger and aggression*

Adjective: *aggressive* | Adverb: *aggressively*

*sometimes, clients become aggressive | several people reacted aggressively to the announcement*

- *agressivité*

**annoyance** /ə'noɪəns/ Noun

an *annoyance* is a small problem that makes you feel annoyed

*having to remember two passwords for my bank account is a real annoyance | the biggest annoyance was that the bathroom was downstairs*

Verb: *annoy* | Adjective: *annoying* | Adverb: *annoyingly* | Adjective: *annoyed*

*the music from next door annoyed me all afternoon | her little brother was a very annoying child | the download time was annoyingly slow*

- *contrariété*

**let off steam** /let ɒf 'sti:m/ Phrase

if you *let off steam*, you do something extreme such as shouting or physical activity in order to get rid of anger or extreme emotions that you feel

*it's healthy to let off steam some of the time | I went to the gym to let off steam*

- *relâcher la pression*

## STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 52–53

**drop** /drɒp/ Verb

if you *drop* what you are doing, you stop doing it. If you *drop* a subject, you stop talking about it in a conversation you are having. If you tell someone to *drop it*, you are telling them to stop doing something or saying something

*you'd better drop the subject before I lose my temper | I'm busy! I can't just drop everything because you need a lift to the station! | I studied French, Russian and Italian for the first year at university, but had to drop Italian for the second year*

- *laisser tomber*

**grip** /ɡrɪp/ Noun

if you have a *grip* on something, you are holding it firmly in your hand. If you have a *grip* on a problem or difficult situation, you are in control of it and able to prevent any problems developing

Collocates: *get/have/take a grip on something*

*we've got to get a grip on costs | Clara felt her grip on the situation slipping*

- *prise*

**offence** /ə'fens/ Noun

if someone takes *offence*, they feel angry or upset because they think someone has been deliberately rude or behaved unfairly towards them

Collocates: *take offence (at something) | cause offence | no offence*

*she's always been quick to take offence | the BBC was forced to apologise for causing offence*

Verb: *offend* | Adjective: *offended* | Adjective: *offensive* | Adverb: *offensively*

*Jeremy was easily offended | I think I offended them by not visiting over Christmas | he looked rather offended at the suggestion | many people found the cartoon offensive*

- *se vexer*

**tremendous** /trə'mendəs/ Adjective

something that is *tremendous* is very great in size, amount, or degree

*I have a tremendous amount of work on | there are tremendous opportunities here for the right candidate | the flames generated tremendous heat*

Adverb: *tremendously*

*the event was tremendously successful*

- *énorme*

### PHRASES USED IN ARGUMENTS

#### twist someone's words:

if you *twist someone's words*, you deliberately suggest that they meant to say something different from what they really meant, usually in order to get an advantage for yourself or to try and win an argument

*I never said I thought you were too old for the job – that was just Robin twisting my words again to cause trouble between us*

**get your wires crossed:**

if you've *got your wires crossed*, you and someone else are confused because you each think the other person is talking about something different from what they are actually talking about

*I think we've got our wires crossed – I'm Donald's father, not his brother!*

**clear the air:**

if you *clear the air*, you have a conversation with someone to try and settle a disagreement between you

*I think we need to clear the air first if we're going to cooperate on this project*

**not the end of the world:**

if you say that something is *not the end of the world*, you are telling someone that a situation is not as bad as they think it is

*missing the plane wasn't the end of the world as it gave me another day to spend in Tbilisi*

**no use crying over spilt milk:**

if you say *there's no use crying over spilt milk*, you mean that although something bad has happened, there's no point being sorry about it because you can't change what happened

*OK, there's no use crying over spilt milk – we've just got to start again and hope we get it right this time*

**go round in circles:**

if you are *going round in circles*, you are doing something or discussing something but are not making any progress and are always coming back to the same problem you started with

*what a waste of time that meeting was – we just went round in circles for two hours and no one was prepared to change their mind*

**STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 54–55****break down** /breɪk 'daʊn/ Phrasal verb

if talks or negotiations *break down*, they stop because the two sides involved cannot agree

*peace talks broke down after just two days | if negotiations break down the strike will start on Friday*

Noun: *breakdown*

Collocates: a breakdown in something

*he resigned following the breakdown in negotiations | there were further problems caused by a breakdown in communications*

- s'arrêter

**break out** /breɪk 'aʊt/ Phrasal verb

if something unpleasant or violent *breaks out*, it starts to happen

*fighting broke out on the border | the fire broke out at 3 in the morning | when war broke out in 1939, his father left home to join the army*

Noun: *outbreak*

Collocates: an outbreak of something

*there's been a recent outbreak of fighting in the region*

- éclater

**casualty** /'kæʒuəlti/ Noun

a *casualty* is someone who is injured during fighting or in an accident

Collocates: suffer casualties | heavy casualties | civilian casualties

*people moved away before the storm arrived so there were very few casualties | we suffered six fatalities and 13 casualties in the attack*

- blessé

**complexity** /kəm'pleksəti/ Noun

*complexity* is the state of being very complicated

*we were overwhelmed by the sheer complexity of the problems | I needed a specialist to guide me through the legal complexities of the case*

Adjective: *complex*

*it was a complex task and couldn't be done quickly*

- complexité

**continuation** /kən'tɪnjʊ'eɪʃ(ə)n/ Noun

the *continuation* of something is the fact that it carries on happening or existing

*the lecture was a continuation of last week's | treatment should include continuation of regular morning exercise*

Verb: *continue*

Collocates: continue to do something | continue doing something

*the company continued in business until 1997*

- continuité

**coup** /kuː/ Noun

a *coup* is when a government is removed by illegal, undemocratic, or violent means

*opposition leaders staged a coup | on 6 August, another coup overthrew the government*

- coup d'État

**domain** /dəʊ'meɪn/ Noun

a *domain* is a particular area of interest or activity  
*the same is true in other domains of knowledge | one of the biggest problems in the domain of environmental protection*

- domaine

**dynamics** /daɪ'næmɪks/ Noun plural

*dynamics* are the different ways in which people or things react and affect each other

*I'm especially interested in group dynamics | the dynamics of their relationship were constantly changing*

- **dynamique**

**escalate** /'eskəleɪt/ Verb

if a difficult or dangerous situation *escalates*, it becomes even more extreme

*the conflict escalated after the peace talks failed | sending troops to the border will simply escalate the conflict | as tensions escalated, families started leaving the city*

Noun: *escalation*

Collocates: the escalation of something

*these actions marked an escalation of the conflict*

- **s'aggraver**

**fatality** /fə'tæləti/ Noun

a *fatality* is a death caused by violence or accident

Collocates: suffer fatalities

*there were 2,650 fatalities from car accidents last year | three fatalities occurred as a result of the floods*

Adjective: *fatal* | Adverb: *fatally*

*he received a fatal blow to the head | he had been fatally wounded*

- **mort**

**feed in** /fi:d ɪn/ Phrasal verb

if something *feeds in*, or *feeds into* a situation or problem, it is one of the factors that has an effect on or creates the situation

*there are a number of factors that feed into climate change | these results will be fed into the revised proposal | we'll feed in the responses to the questionnaire and analyse them by the end of the month*

- **contribuer**

**forces** /fɔ:(r)sɪz/ Noun plural

if you *join forces* with someone, you start to work together with them rather than you both working separately to achieve the same thing

Collocates: join/combine forces

*they've had to join forces to fight off new businesses that are challenging them in the market | three schools and the university are combining forces on this project | police are joining forces with local businesses to fight crime*

- **forces**

**ground** /graʊnd/ Noun uncount

you use *ground* in a number of phrases such as *lose ground* or *gain ground* to talk about how an advantage changes from one person to another

Collocates: lose ground | gain ground | give ground

*they're gaining ground in the election and look likely to win 20 more seats | there was no point arguing with him as he was obviously not going to give ground*

- **terrain**

**inversion** /ɪn'vɜ:(r)ʃ(ə)n/ Noun

*inversion* is the reversing of a situation so that it becomes its opposite

*in an ironic inversion of the world off the pitch, Peace defeated War | to say that he was guilty is an inversion of the truth*

Verb: *invert*

*the image is inverted in the mirror*

- **renversement**

**legitimate** /lɪ'dʒɪtəmət/ Adjective

something that is *legitimate* is allowed by law

*it encouraged the creation of legitimate state institutions | it was perfectly legitimate to call a new election | we favour trade expansion by every legitimate means*

Adverb: *legitimately* | Noun: *legitimacy* | Verb: *legitimise*

*a legitimately elected government | foreign observers questioned the legitimacy of the election result*

- **légitime**

**notable** /'nəʊtəb(ə)l/ Adjective

something or someone that is *notable* is very significant, interesting, unusual or good

*she was remembered for a number of notable achievements | he met Abraham Lincoln and other notable figures | there are several notable differences between the two proposals*

Adverb: *notably* | Noun: *notables*

*they were notably influenced by the Rolling Stones and the Beatles | we saw the prime minister and other notables arriving at the palace*

- **notable**

**rage** /reɪdʒ/ Verb

if something unpleasant or violent *rages*, it continues with a lot of energy and causes a lot of anger or destruction

Collocates: a battle/war/conflict rages | a storm rages |

a dispute/argument rages | a fire/blaze rages

*a dispute had been raging for months over the issue | a violent storm raged over the city all night | huge forest fires were raging out of control*

Adjective: *raging*

*a raging fire was visible in the distance*

- **rage**

**renewal** /rɪ'nju:əl/ Noun

the *renewal* of something is the fact of it starting again

Collocates: renewal of something

*this weekend sees the renewal of one of sport's oldest rivalries | the spring saw a renewal of the war*

Verb: *renew*

*in June, hostilities were renewed (fighting started again)*

- regain

**sanction** /'sæŋkʃ(ə)n/ Noun

*sanctions* are formal measures taken by one or more countries against another country, such as restricting trade or cultural exchanges, in order to punish that country or make it change the way it does things

Collocates: impose sanctions | lift sanctions | sanctions against someone

*the EU imposed sanctions on Russia over their role in the war in Ukraine | the US wanted to tighten economic sanctions against Iran*

- sanction

**seize** /si:z/ Verb

to *seize* a place or to *seize* control of somewhere means to use force to take control there

Collocates: seize control | seize power

*rebels seized control of the presidential palace | they seized public buildings and the airport | he seized the city of Vidin in 1365*

Noun: *seizure*

*the seizure of the city brought an end to two years of fighting*

- s'emparer de

**siege** /si:dʒ/ Noun

a *siege* is when an army surrounds a town or city during a war and stops people or things going in or out in order to make it surrender

Collocates: lay siege (to somewhere) | relieve/lift/raise a siege | withstand a siege | be under siege

*Leningrad was under siege for 872 days | Hertford decided not to lay siege but to burn the city*

Verb: *besiege*

*troops besieged the town until it surrendered*

- siège

**stage** /steɪdʒ/ Verb

to *stage* an event means to organise it, especially an event involving a lot of people

*students staged protests against the rent rises | workers threatened to stage a strike unless management withdrew the proposal | thousands of anti-war protesters staged a demonstration in central London*

- organiser

**strive** /straɪv/ Verb

if you *strive* to do something, you try very hard to do it

Collocates: strive to do something

*we constantly strive for knowledge and self-improvement | the government is striving to bring down unemployment | he strove hard to complete his university degree*

- s'évertuer à

**surrender** /sə'rendə(r)/ Verb

to *surrender* means to stop fighting a battle or war because you know you cannot win, and to say that the other side has won

*the city surrendered after a three-week siege | they were told to surrender unconditionally (without asking for anything at all in return) | the government made plans to formally surrender*

Noun: *surrender*

*in despair, he attempted to negotiate a surrender*

- se rendre

**track down** /træk 'daʊn/ Phrasal verb

if you *track down* a person or thing, you find them after a long and difficult search

*there are websites that help you track down people you went to school with | I'm trying to track down a copy of the film on DVD | the police finally managed to track him down in Sheffield*

- retrouver

**trial** /'traɪəl/ Noun

a *trial* is a legal procedure during which a decision is made about whether or not someone is guilty of a crime they have been accused of

Collocates: put someone on trial | be on trial | stand trial | bring someone to trial

*he was put on trial three weeks after his arrest | two of them were released, but the other three will have to stand trial*

- procès

**troops** /tru:ps/ Noun plural

*troops* are soldiers

*international troops were sent in | the US had 50,000 troops stationed in southern Germany*

- troupes

**violation** /,vaɪə'leɪʃ(ə)n/ Noun

a *violation* is an action that breaks a law or rule

Collocates: a serious/gross/clear violation

*the UN received reports of human rights violations in the region | if it's only a minor violation, the police probably won't do anything*

Verb: *violate*

*their proposed action would violate international law*

- violation

**withdraw** /wɪð'drɔː/ Verb

if soldiers *withdraw*, or if they *withdraw* their weapons, they move back from a place so that they can no longer fight there

*British troops began to withdraw in December of that year | the Soviets finally agreed to withdraw their missiles from Cuba | the army withdrew towards the coast*

Noun: *withdrawal*

*the gradual withdrawal of soldiers from the area*

- **se retirer**

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**STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 56–57****allegation** /,ælə'geɪʃ(ə)n/ Noun

an *allegation* is a statement that someone has done something wrong, but which has not been proved yet

Collocates: deny an allegation | confirm an allegation | make an allegation

*I can assure you the allegations against me are completely false | several pupils made serious allegations against the headteacher*

Verb: *allege* | Adjective: *alleged* | Adverb: *allegedly*

*the shopkeeper alleged that the man had a knife | the two alleged offences date back to 2004 | he had allegedly stolen £20,000 from his employers*

- **allégation**

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**bombard** /bɒm'baː(r)d/ Verb

to *bombard* a place means to fire heavy cannons at it over a long time. To *bombard* people with something means to send them a lot of things, usually things that are unwanted

Collocates: bombard someone or something with something

*they've been bombarding us with requests for support | she'd been bombarded with emails and text messages | navy ships bombarded the town at regular intervals*

Noun: *bombardment*

*the bombardment caused a large number of casualties*

- **bombarder**

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**crucial** /'kruːʃ(ə)l/ Adjective

something that is *crucial* is the most important thing in a particular situation

*scanners will play a crucial role in protecting the public from terrorism | we've reached a crucial stage in the project | it's crucial that you get a good night's sleep before the exam tomorrow*

Adverb: *crucially*

*it's crucially important that you follow the instructions exactly*

- **crucial**

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**dispute** /dɪ'spjuːt/ Noun

a *dispute* is a serious disagreement between people or groups

*try to find a solution to the dispute | you don't want to end up in a legal dispute*

Verb: *dispute*

*Mr Berry disputed the claim that he had deliberately set fire to the garage*

- **différend**

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**engage** /ɪn'geɪdʒ/ Verb

if people *engage* in an activity or *are engaged* in it, they are taking part in it

Collocates: engage in something

*they've been engaged in a price war | he became engaged in politics as a student | I'm currently engaged in designing a new theatre*

Noun: *engagement*

*we're trying to encourage public engagement in the decision-making process*

- **prendre part à**

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**gross** /grɒs/ Adjective

a *gross* action is one that is very serious and unacceptable

*it was a gross invasion of privacy | the patient died as a result of gross negligence by the hospital | a gross violation of their human rights*

Adverb: *grossly*

*if you think that's acceptable, you're grossly mistaken*

- **grossier**

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**harassment** /hə'ræsmənt/ Noun uncount

*harassment* is threatening or unpleasant behaviour towards someone

*he'd been accused of harassment | she'd been subjected to sexual harassment*

Verb: *harass* | Adjective: *harassed*

*they complained of being harassed by the police | she came to the door looking rather harassed*

- **harcèlement**

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**hostile** /'hɒstəl/ Adjective

someone or something that is *hostile* is not friendly or helpful and intends to cause harm or damage to someone

Collocates: be hostile to or towards someone | openly hostile

*he was very hostile towards us when we arrived | she was shocked at his hostile attitude | public opinion towards the government had turned hostile*

Noun: *hostility*

*there was a lot of hostility against the police*

- **hostile**

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**march** /mɑ:(r)tʃ/ Verb

when soldiers *march*, they walk somewhere as a group in an organised way. When people *march*, they go somewhere in a large crowd, usually to protest about something

*protesters marched on Downing Street | the general marched his army across the desert | nearly 500 people marched through the city centre in protest*

Noun: *march*

*I used to go on protest marches when I was a student*

- défiler

**ruling** /'ru:lɪŋ/ Noun

a *ruling* is a decision about something made by someone in authority, which people have to accept and obey

*the government has accepted the ruling | three appeal court judges handed down a unanimous ruling (all three agreed)*

Verb: *rule*

*the appeal court ruled that the original decision was wrong*

- décision

**scanner** /'skænə(r)/ Noun

a *scanner* is a machine that is used to detect and record information about something by using light, sound, or X-rays. Some *scanners* are used in hospitals to examine people and discover what is wrong with their bodies. Other *scanners* are used at places like airports to make sure that people are not carrying weapons or bombs. Shops use *scanners* to read the bar code on things that are being bought

*full body scanners are being installed in airports across the country | police now use a digital scanner to take someone's fingerprints*

Verb: *scan* | Noun: *scan*

*the machine scans the brain looking for abnormal activity | the results of his brain scan came back – it was good news*

- scanner

**settlement** /'set(ə)lmənt/ Noun

a *settlement* is an agreement that ends a dispute between people, countries, or organisations

Collocates: *reach a settlement | agree to/come to a settlement*

*the two sides agreed to a settlement before the case got to court | workers and employers finally reached a settlement after four days of talks*

Verb: *settle*

*we tried to settle the dispute before it got to court*

- solution

**vandal** /'vænd(ə)l/ Noun

a *vandal* is someone who causes deliberate damage to things for no reason, especially things in public places

*vandals had sprayed the statue with paint | the monument was damaged by vandals*

Noun: *vandalism* | Verb: *vandalise* | Noun: *vandalisation*  
*the house had been damaged by vandalism | he was caught vandalising a statue | he admitted being responsible for the vandalism of the bus station*

- vandale

**will** /wɪl/ Noun

your *will* is your desire and determination to do something once you have decided to do it, and a refusal to give up

*it was a battle of wills that Connie was determined to win | throughout the war, she never lost the will to live*

- volonté