

16 DANGER AND RISK

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agony /'ægəni/ Noun

agony is extreme physical pain

Collocates: in agony

I was screaming my head off in agony | you could see he was in agony when his wrist snapped

Adjective: agonising | Adverb: agonisingly

the pain was agonising | with no drugs available, the operation was agonisingly painful

• *souffrance*

come to /,kʌm 'tʊ/ Phrasal verb

if you *come to*, you wake up after being unconscious for a while

when I came to I realised I couldn't feel my hands | after he fainted it was 10 minutes before he came to | she was quite unsteady on her feet after she had come to

• *reprendre connaissance*

forehead /'fɒrɪd / 'fɔː(r)hed/ Noun

your *forehead* is the part of the front of your head above your eyes

he had a nasty scar on his forehead | he wiped his forehead with a handkerchief

• *front*

gash /gæʃ/ Noun

a *gash* is a long deep cut in someone's skin

I ended up with a huge gash on my arm | it left an ugly gash on his cheek

Verb: *gash* | Adjective: *gashed*

his throat had been gashed from ear to ear | I wiped the blood from his gashed leg

• *balafre*

haul /hɔːl/ Verb

if you *haul* something heavy, you pull it along using a lot of force

we were trying to haul ourselves over the wall | trucks hauled away several tons of cargo from the airport | the coal is hauled by rail to the power station

Noun: *haulage*

he runs a road haulage business (a business transporting heavy goods by road)

• *trainer*

head first /hed 'fɜː(r)st/ Adverb

if you fall or rush *head first* somewhere, you move there with your head in front of the rest of your body

he was blown head first into a door | Clarke lost his balance and fell head first down the stairs

• *la tête la première*

presence /'prez(ə)ns/ Noun uncount

the *presence* of something or someone somewhere is the fact that they are there. If you are in someone's *presence*, you are there with them

Collocates: in the presence of someone | in someone's presence

looks like he's comfortable in your presence now | there was a heavy police presence in the city centre

Adjective: *present*

her parents were present during the interview

• *présence*

profusely /prə'fjuːsli/ Adverb

if something happens *profusely*, it involves large quantities of something

I was bleeding quite profusely from the wound | he thanked me profusely for the book

Adjective: *profuse* | Noun: *profusion*

Collocates: a profusion of something | in profusion

the injury resulted in profuse bleeding that needed hospital treatment

• *abondamment*

scald /skɔːld/ Verb

if you *scald* yourself, you hurt yourself with very hot liquid or steam

I scalded myself badly with a kettle of boiling water | he nearly scalded his tongue on the hot tea | they were both scalded in an accident in the kitchen

Noun: *scald* | Adjective: *scalding*

this is useful for treating burns and scalds | a cup of scalding tea (so hot it might scald you)

• *ébouillanter*

snap /snæp/ Verb

if something *snaps*, or if you *snap* it, it breaks, often with a sharp noise

I heard the bone snap from 20 metres away | he managed to snap his wrist when he fell | I could feel something in my knee snap

Noun: *snap*

the pencil broke with a snap

• *casser net*

sneak /sni:k/ Verb

if you *sneak* off somewhere, you go there quietly or secretly so that no one knows where you are

couldn't he have sneaked off somewhere instead of doing it right here? | Dad saw me sneaking out of school at lunchtime | we sneaked into the back of the cinema without paying

• **se glisser**

stream /stri:m/ Verb

when liquid *streams* somewhere, it flows there quite quickly

blood was streaming down my leg | his father had tears streaming down his face | water streamed down the kitchen wall | sweat was streaming into his eyes

Noun: *stream*

Collocates: a stream of something

a steady stream of blood poured from his nose

• **ruisseler**

stumble /'stʌmb(ə)l/ Verb

if you *stumble*, you nearly lose your balance when your foot accidentally hits against something. If you *stumble* in a particular direction, you go there by walking in a very unsteady way, for example because you are not well or cannot see properly where you are going

I managed to stumble home and then whacked my head on the door going in | she almost stumbled in front of a car | he stumbled blindly up the steps looking for the light switch

• **trébucher**

top off /,tɒp 'ɒf/ Phrasal verb

if you *top* something off, you end it in an especially noticeable or remarkable way

to top the whole thing off, he didn't even notice | we topped off the holiday by eating at the most expensive restaurant in Paris

• **couronner**

whack /wæk/ Verb

if you *whack* something, you hit it hard. If you *whack* a part of your body, you accidentally hit it against something

I whacked my head on the door | he whacked his knee on the edge of the table | just whack the tap with a hammer if it doesn't come on properly

Noun: *whack*

I got a whack on my head

• **grand coup**

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absurd /əb'sɜ:(r)d/ Adjective

something that is *absurd* is completely ridiculous or unreasonable

her claim was utterly absurd | his first explanation was rejected as absurd | we were in the absurd position of having a boat but no water for 40 miles

Adverb: *absurdly* | Noun: *absurdity*

Collocates: the absurdity of something

the answer was almost absurdly simple | Morris laughed when he saw the absurdity of the situation

• **absurde**

compliance /kəm'plaɪəns/ Noun uncount

compliance with a law or instruction is the fact of obeying it. If someone is guilty of *non-compliance*, they do not do what they are meant to do

Collocates: compliance with something

the authority monitors compliance with the regulations | penalties for non-compliance are high

Verb: *comply* | Adjective: *compliant*

Collocates: comply with something | compliant with something

our products comply with all international safety standards | these products are not compliant with European safety regulations

• **conformité**

confine /kən'faɪn/ Verb

if something is *confined* to a particular place or area of activity, it stays within those limits and does not spread beyond them

Collocates: be confined to something

his influence was not confined to music | she had confined her attention to 20th century French literature for the past three years

• **confiner**

confiscate /'kɒnfɪskeɪt/ Verb

to *confiscate* something from someone means to take it away from them as a punishment or because they are not allowed to have it

if you try to take more than 50 ml of liquid through airport security, it will be confiscated | police confiscated five guns and many bullets | his camera and memory cards were confiscated as he was trying to leave the country

Noun: *confiscation*

possession of drugs can be punished by confiscation and a fine

• **confisquer**

dismiss /dɪs'mɪs/ Verb

to *dismiss* something means to refuse to consider it
the case was dismissed on the grounds of insufficient evidence |
she always dismissed my ideas without even discussing them |
he dismissed suggestions that climate change was responsible for the flooding

Noun: *dismissal* | Adjective: *dismissive*

Collocates: the dismissal of something | dismissive of something

you were very dismissive of the idea earlier

• **rejeter**

file /faɪl/ Verb

if you *file* a complaint, lawsuit, charges, etc., you submit documents to a court or other authority so that it can be considered and a decision made

she filed a lawsuit against her employer claiming unfair dismissal | *complaints filed by the public are kept confidential for a number of years* | *you have ten days in which to file an appeal*

• **déposer**

goggles /'gɒɡ(ə)lz/ Noun plural

goggles are glasses that fit closely against your face and protect your eyes from dust, wind, water, etc.

all staff and visitors must wear safety goggles in the laboratory | *I always wear goggles when I go swimming*

• **lunettes de protection**

guard against /ˌɡɑː(r)d ə'ɡenst/ Phrasal verb

if you *guard against* something, you do what you need to do to make sure it does not happen or does not have a bad effect on you

Collocates: guard against doing something

it is important to guard against making the same mistake again | *make sure you eat plenty of oranges to guard against winter colds*

• **se protéger contre**

hold back /ˌhəʊld 'bæk/ Phrasal verb

to *hold* someone or something *back* means to prevent their development or progress in some way

half of all teachers believe children are being held back by health and safety regulations | *all this red tape is holding back the development of a new energy industry* | *he missed three weeks of school, which has held him back a bit this year*

• **retenir**

lawsuit /'lɔːsu:t/ Noun

a *lawsuit* is a case in a court involving a disagreement between two people or organisations

Collocates: file/bring a lawsuit (against someone)

he left the country before they could bring a lawsuit against him | *the lawsuit was dropped after the mistake was discovered*

• **action en justice**

liability /ˌlaɪə'bɪləti/ Noun

someone's *liability* is their legal responsibility for paying money for something or for damage or loss that they cause

Collocates: liability for something

we accept no liability for damage caused to customers' cars in our car park | *your tax liability may be affected by your change of job*

Adjective: *liable*

he is personally liable for the whole of the loan

• **responsabilité**

precedent /'presɪdənt/ Noun

a *precedent* is an official decision that was made earlier, and that cannot be contradicted by a decision in a similar case later

Collocates: set a precedent | follow precedent

many believed the decision set a dangerous precedent | *no precedent existed for how to proceed with this case*

• **précédent**

red tape /ˌred 'teɪp/ Noun uncount

red tape is all the official rules and procedures that seem unnecessary and that stop things happening quickly

they promised to cut unnecessary red tape | *local government red tape has caused several delays in the project*

• **formalités administratives**

repeal /rɪ'piːl/ Verb

to *repeal* a law means to formally rule that it is no longer valid

a lot of people want to see the legislation repealed | *the Act was repealed in 1996* | *the state can't afford to repeal the law on property tax*

Noun: *repeal*

Collocates: repeal of something

they continued to fight for full repeal of the law

• **abroger**

smother /ˈsmʌðə(r)/ Verb

if you *smother* someone, you protect them so much that they cannot live or develop freely

he thought he was doing the right thing, but his children felt smothered by him | they grew up smothered in love but unable to think independently | I just wish you'd stop smothering the boy

- **étouffer**

sue /suː/ Verb

if you *sue* someone, you make a claim against them in court because of damage or injury they have caused you

Collocates: sue someone for something

the Senator sued the paper for libel | his widow sued the company for negligence | the ambulance took over two hours to arrive so now the boy's family are suing

- **poursuivre en justice**

violation /ˌvaɪəˈleɪʃ(ə)n/ Noun

a *violation* is an instance of a law being broken or a regulation deliberately not being followed

Collocates: in violation of something

a violation of the peace agreement | if this goes ahead, we will be in violation of international law

Verb: violate | Noun: violator

several people were arrested for violating public order | violators face a long jail sentence

- **violation**

welcome /ˈwelkəm/ Verb

if you *welcome* something, you say that you are pleased it has happened and approve of it

any research that can help develop new treatment has to be welcomed | the president welcomed the opportunity to meet a group of business leaders | the proposals were cautiously welcomed by campaigners

- **accueillir**

STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 146–147**appraisal** /əˈpreɪz(ə)/ Noun

an *appraisal* is an opinion about a situation based on what is known about it

Collocates: an appraisal of something

well, that was a fairly bleak appraisal | the article contained a comprehensive appraisal of the proposals

Verb: appraise

Collocates: appraise something as something

try to appraise the situation objectively

- **évaluation**

bleak /bliːk/ Adjective

if a situation is *bleak*, it seems bad and does not have much chance of improving

the future is looking very bleak for the company | the economic outlook is bleak

Noun: bleakness

when the next day came, the bleakness of our situation became even more apparent

- **lugubre**

blessing /ˈblesɪŋ/ Noun

a *blessing* is something that is good and that you are pleased to have or experience

Collocates: a mixed blessing

we're asking whether the Internet is more of a curse than a blessing | it's such a blessing to have all the family at home for Christmas

- **bénédiction**

curse /kɜː(r)s/ Noun

a *curse* is something that causes you a lot of trouble or harm

Collocates: the curse of something

that car was a curse from the day we bought it | only the poor really understand the curse of poverty

Verb: curse

we've been cursed with bad luck ever since we moved to this town

- **malédiction**

deteriorate /dɪˈtɪəriəreɪt/ Verb

if a bad situation *deteriorates*, it gets even worse

the situation is bound to deteriorate | his health has deteriorated significantly | the weather is deteriorating rapidly

Noun: deterioration | Adjective: deteriorating

Collocates: deterioration of/in something

the gradual deterioration of his eyesight

- **détériorer**

detox /ˈdiːtɒks/ Noun uncount

detox is a process of getting rid of unwanted and harmful substances from your body. Digital *detox* is a period of time when someone deliberately does not use any phones, computers, or tablets

a detox clinic | leave the phone behind and have a digital detox weekend by the sea

Verb: detox

there are many gentler ways to detox the body

- **désintoxication**

disruption /dɪs'rʌpʃ(ə)n/ Noun

if there is *disruption*, a process or system is prevented from operating normally. *Digital disruption* is when existing companies have to change the way they work because of competition from other companies who do their business on the Internet

there's been disruption on the railways due to heavy snow | we suffered serious disruption to our Internet connection all afternoon

Verb: *disrupt* | Adjective: *disruptive*

phone and electrical services were disrupted by the storm | he'd been warned before about his disruptive behaviour

• **perturbation**

distinct /dɪ'stɪŋkt/ Adjective

a *distinct* possibility or chance of something is an obvious or definite possibility

there's a distinct chance you'll end up in a legal dispute | there's a distinct possibility our jobs will be at risk | he agreed, but with a distinct lack of enthusiasm

• **clair**

finalise /'faɪnəlaɪz/ Verb

if you *finalise* something, you complete the last parts of it so that it is finished

we'll send out more information as soon as we finalise the details | Marx never finalised the text of the third volume of Capital | we're on the verge of finalising the purchase of our new house

Noun: *finalisation*

the report was published just three days after its finalisation

• **finaliser**

footprint /'fʊt.prɪnt/ Noun

a *footprint* is the mark left by someone's foot when they have stepped on soft or wet ground. Someone's digital *footprint* is the information about them that can be found on the Internet, for example on social networking sites, blogs, personal web pages, etc.

we saw his footprints in the sand | we can follow the digital footprints of social media users

• **empreinte**

fraught /frɔ:t/ Adjective

if a situation is *fraught* with danger, problems, or other unpleasant features, there are a lot of them present

Collocates: *fraught with something*

the project was fraught with difficulties | the whole situation is fraught with problems | the atmosphere at home was fraught with tension

• **tendu**

haunt /hɔ:nt/ Verb

if something unpleasant *haunts* you, it continues to make you sad or causes problems for you

things can easily come back to haunt you later on | the memory of his election defeat still haunts him after seven years | what dark secret from his past is haunting him?

• **hanter**

literacy /'lɪt(ə)rəsi/ Noun uncount

literacy is the basic ability to be able to read and write. You can also use *literacy* about other skills, for example financial *literacy* is knowing how to deal with your money sensibly, and digital *literacy* is the ability to effectively use computers and the Internet and social media

Collocates: *financial/computer/digital literacy | adult literacy | literacy rates | literacy skills*

financial literacy should be taught in schools | they had basic literacy and numeracy (they could read and write and do basic arithmetic)

Opposite – Noun: *illiteracy* | Adjective: *literate* ||

Opposite – Adjective: *illiterate*

Collocates: *computer literate*

targets for reducing poverty, disease, hunger, and illiteracy | if you're not computer literate, you won't get on the course

• **alphabétisation**

meltdown /'melt.daʊn/ Noun

meltdown is a sudden and serious failure of something that affects a large number of people, such as a country's economy or banking system

Collocates: *be in meltdown*

the Internet is at risk of complete meltdown because of the amount of traffic | the economy is still recovering from the last banking meltdown

• **dégringolade**

menace /'menəs/ Noun

a *menace* is something that is likely to cause serious damage or harm

Collocates: *the menace of something*

they should do more to combat the menace of cyber-bullying | he's a menace to society

Verb: *menace* | Adjective: *menacing* | Adverb: *menacingly*

the world continues to be menaced by terrorism | in the distance we heard a loud, menacing roar | storm clouds hung menacingly over the airport

• **menace**

peril /ˈperəl/ Noun

peril is great danger

Collocates: at someone's *peril* | be in *peril*

ignore the warning at your peril! | if we don't act on climate change soon, the world will be exposed to great peril | by 1940, the country was in great peril

Adjective: *perilous* | Adverb: *perilously* | Verb: *imperil*

they began a long and perilous journey across the mountains | her temperature was perilously high | he believes that nuclear weapons imperil our common future

• *péril*

plagiarism /ˈpleɪdʒəˌrɪz(ə)m/ Noun uncount

if someone commits *plagiarism*, they copy someone else's work and present it as their own work

plagiarism became a much bigger problem once everyone had access to the Internet | he was accused of plagiarism and had to leave college

Verb: *plagiarise* | Noun: *plagiarist*

the publishers denied that their author had plagiarised my work | he was accused of being a plagiarist

• *plagiat*

put off /ˌput ˈɒf/ Phrasal verb

if something *puts* you *off* something, it makes you dislike it or not want to do it

Collocates: put someone off (doing) something

if we punish these two it might put the others off | I felt so sick afterwards that it put me off smoking for life

Adjective: *offputting*

the opening of the film was rather offputting, but it quickly got better

• *dégoûter*

slim /slɪm/ Adjective

something that is *slim* is not very great

the chances of people avoiding all this are pretty slim | there's a slim hope that they are still alive

• *mince*

sound /saʊnd/ Adjective

something that is *sound* is reliable and effective

it was sound advice | his judgement is usually sound | it was a financially sound proposal

• *valable*

spam /spæm/ Noun

spam is unwanted email messages that are sent out to large numbers of people. The people who organise the spam are *spammers*

my inbox is full of spam | a spam filter (software that identifies and deletes spam so you don't have to see it)

Verb: *spam* | Noun: *spamming* | Noun: *spammer*

he thinks that if a website asks for his email address he'll get spammed | where do the spammers get all the email addresses from?

• *pourriel*

verge /vɜː(r)dʒ/ Noun

if someone is on the *verge* of doing something, or if something is on the *verge* of happening, they are about to do it or it is about to happen

Collocates: be on the verge of (doing) something

I've been here 40 years and now I'm on the verge of retiring | I could see she was on the verge of tears

Phrasal verb: *verge on*

his behaviour was verging on the criminal

• *bord*