

# 16 DANGER AND RISK

## STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 142–143

### 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 /'fɔːrɪd / '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)/ 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

**STUDENT'S BOOK PAGES 144–145**

**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** /,gɑ:(r)d ə'genst/ 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** /,həʊld '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** /'lɔ:ˌsu: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** /,laɪə'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** /'prezɪdnt/ 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** /,red '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'pi:l/ 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)l/ 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** /bli:k/ 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** /ˈdɪtɒks/ 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** /ˌpʊt 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*

• *dégôûter*

**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*