

A Verbs based on Latin words

Many words in English are formed from Latin roots. These words are often considered fairly formal in English. Here are some examples of the more common Latin roots, with some of the English verbs derived from them.

DUCE, DUCT lead

She was **educated** at a very small private school. [went to school]

He **conducted** the orchestra with great vigour. [led]

Japan **produces** a lot of electronic equipment. [makes]

PONE, POSE place, put

The meeting has been **postponed** until next week. [put off to a later date]

The President was **deposed** by his own son. [put out of office]

The government have **imposed** a sizeable tax increase. [put into force]

Beethoven **composed** some beautiful pieces of music. [created, put together]

She **deposited** some money in her bank account. [placed, put in]

PORT carry, take

How are you going to **transport** your things to the States? [send across]

Britain **imports** cotton and **exports** wool. [buys in] [sells out]

Our opinions are **supported** by a considerable amount of research. [held up / backed]

Foreigners who commit crimes are usually **deported**. [taken/sent away to another country]

PRESS press, push

She was **impressed** by his presentation. [filled with admiration and respect]

This weather **depresses** me. [fills me with miserable feelings]

She always **expresses** herself very articulately. [puts her thoughts into words]

SPECT see, look

You should **respect** your parents / the laws of a country. [look up to]

The police officer **inspected** the mysterious package. [looked into / examined]

Many pioneers travelled west in America to **prospect** for gold. [look for / search]

VERT turn

I tried the new make of coffee but I soon **reverted** to my old favourite brand. [went back]

Can you **convert** this MP3 file to MP4? [change from one form to another]

The police **diverted** the traffic because there was a demonstration. [sent it a different way]

B Nouns based on Latin words

The examples above are of verbs only. Note that for all the verbs listed, there is usually at least one noun, sometimes a different one for a person and an idea. Here are some examples.

verb	person noun	abstract noun
inspect	inspector	inspection
advertise	advertiser	advertisement
deport	deportee	deportation
introduce	introducer	introduction
oppress	oppressor	oppression
compose	composer	composition

Exercises

71.1 Complete the table with other forms of some of the words presented in B opposite. Use a dictionary if necessary. Do not fill the shaded boxes.

verb	person noun	abstract noun
convert		conversion
produce		
conduct		
impress		
support		
compress		

71.2 Fill the gaps in the sentences below using words based on the root given in brackets at the end of the sentence.

- The bad news depressed everyone. (PRESS)
- He was from the USA for not having a visa. (PORT)
- The magazine seems to have nothing in it but for cosmetics. (VERT)
- The new manager a lot of new rules on the staff when she took over. (POSE)
- The tax wrote to tell me I owed a lot of money. (SPECT)
- Because of the flood, the traffic was and we had to drive a long way. (VERT)
- Thank you for me to Dino last week. (DUC)
- Tchaikovsky some wonderful ballet music. (POSE)
- Grey, wet weather always me. I love the sun. (PRESS)
- I think we should our tennis game till tomorrow. It's going to rain. (PONE)

71.3 Can you work out the meanings of the underlined words in the sentences below? To help you, here are the meanings of the main Latin prefixes:

intro: *within, inward* o, ob: *against* in, im: *in, into* re: *again, back*
 de: *down, from* ex: *out* sub: *under* trans: *across*

- She's a very introspective person and her husband's also a quiet, thoughtful person.
thinks privately about her own thoughts and feelings instead of talking about them to others
- He always seems to oppose everything I suggest. Why can't he agree sometimes?
- I don't think it's healthy to repress one's emotions too much. You should just behave naturally.
- Perhaps you can deduce what the word means from the way it's formed. Otherwise, use a dictionary.
- The documentary exposed corruption in high places. Now everyone knows the truth.
- She just thought he looked so funny. She tried hard to suppress a laugh but couldn't.

71.4 Below are some words based on Latin roots and their two-part verb equivalents. Match each word with its synonym. Which in each pair is more formal?

support hold up postpone oppose inspect
 deposit divert

put off look at hold up turn away go against put down

71.5 Over to you

Choose any four words from A opposite based on the roots given. Write sentences using them which are true for you.

A What are abstract nouns?

An abstract noun represents an idea, experience or quality rather than an object that you can touch. For example, **advice**, **happiness**, **intention** and **(in)justice** are abstract nouns but *pen*, *bed* and *trousers* are not.

B Suffixes in abstract nouns

Certain suffixes (see Unit 69) are used frequently in abstract nouns. The most common are **-ment**, **-ion**, **-ness** and **-ity**. The suffix **-ion** sometimes becomes **-tion**, **-sion**, **-ation** or **-ition**. **-ment**, and **-ion** are usually used to make verbs into abstract nouns. The suffixes **-ness** and **-ity** are added to adjectives.

Here are some examples of abstract nouns using those suffixes.

achievement	affection	carelessness	activity
adjustment	collection	consciousness	authority
amazement	combination	eagerness	creativity
disagreement	expectation	friendliness	curiosity
improvement	frustration	kindness	generosity
investment	limitation	laziness	hostility
replacement	recession	politeness	popularity
retirement	reduction	weakness	sensitivity

C Less common suffixes forming abstract nouns

-ship, **-dom**, **-th** and **-hood**


The suffixes **-ship** and **-hood** are usually added to other nouns to form abstract nouns. The suffix **-th** is added to an adjective to form an abstract noun and **-dom** can combine with either a noun or an adjective.

Here are some examples of abstract nouns using those suffixes.

boredom	breadth	adulthood
freedom	depth	brotherhood
kingdom	length	childhood
martyrdom	strength	motherhood
stardom	warmth	neighbourhood
wisdom	width	(wo)manhood

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When he left school, Rolf trained as an electrician with a large company. There were two other boys in a similar **position** and he enjoyed their **companionship**. They developed such a good **relationship** that, once they'd completed their **apprenticeship**, they decided to go into **partnership** together. Now they have set up a business under joint **ownership**. They have taken out **membership** of the Association of Electricians and are beginning to attract a great deal of work.



D Abstract nouns with no suffix

anger	belief	calm	chance
faith	fear	humour	idea
luck	principle	rage	reason
sense	sight	speed	thought

Common mistake

The definite article is not normally used before an abstract noun, e.g. *Love is blind.* (NOT *The love is blind.*) *I can resist everything except temptation.* (NOT *I can resist everything except the temptation.*)

Exercises

72.1 What is the abstract noun related to each of the following adjectives?

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 friendly <u>friendliness</u> | 6 strong | 11 popular |
| 2 amazed | 7 angry | 12 weak |
| 3 frustrating | 8 generous | 13 wise |
| 4 kind | 9 polite | 14 reasonable |
| 5 hostile | 10 happy | 15 wide |

72.2 Which verbs are related to these abstract nouns? Use a dictionary if necessary.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1 collection <u>collect</u> | 5 strength | 9 production |
| 2 recession | 6 boredom | 10 ownership |
| 3 belief | 7 activity | 11 expectation |
| 4 relationship | 8 sight | 12 adjustment |

72.3 Find a synonym with the suffix in brackets for each of the following nouns. Use a thesaurus if necessary.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 animosity (-ity) <u>hostility</u> | 9 community (-hood) |
| 2 astonishment (-ment) | 10 vision (no suffix) |
| 3 inquisitiveness (-ity) | 11 liberty (-dom) |
| 4 fraternity (-hood) | 12 fury (no suffix) |
| 5 possibility (no suffix) | 13 wealth (-ity) |
| 6 substitution (-ment) | 14 maternity (-hood) |
| 7 fame (-dom) | 15 possession (-ship) |
| 8 decrease (-tion) | |

72.4 Complete each of the quotations with one of the words in the box.

~~imitation~~ advice injustice kingdom darkness

- ‘Imitation..... is the sincerest form of flattery.’
- ‘Do not ask of the ignorant.’
- ‘Better to suffer than to commit it.’
- ‘Better to light a candle than to curse the
- ‘It’s easy to govern a but difficult to rule one’s family.’



72.5 *Over to you*

Write your own quotations to describe the following abstract nouns. Perhaps you know a saying in your own language that you could translate into English?

- freedom
- love
- life
- curiosity
- imagination

A Form and meaning

A compound adjective has two parts. It is usually written with a hyphen, e.g. **well-dressed**, **never-ending**, **sky-blue**. Its meaning is usually clear from the combined words. The second part of the adjective is often a present participle (ending in *-ing*) or past participle (ending in *-ed*, except for irregular verbs).

Language help

Some compound adjectives use a hyphen before a noun but not after a verb (e.g. *a well-dressed man* but *He is always well dressed*).

B Personal appearance

A number of compound adjectives describe personal appearance. Here is a rather **far-fetched** description of a person starting from the head down. [hard to believe]

Tom was a **curly-haired**, **suntanned**, **blue-eyed**, **rosy-cheeked**, **thin-lipped**, **broad-shouldered**, **left-handed**, **long-legged** young man, wearing an **open-necked** shirt, **brand-new**, **tight-fitting** jeans and **open-toed** sandals.



C Personality and character

Other compound adjectives describe a person's character.

Melissa was **absent-minded** [forgetful], **easy-going** [relaxed], **good-tempered** [cheerful], **warm-hearted** [kind] and **quick-witted** [quick-thinking/sharp], if perhaps a little **big-headed** [proud of herself], **two-faced** [not sincere], **self-centred** [always thinking about herself instead of others] and **stuck-up** [thinks she's better than other people (colloquial)] at times.

D Prepositions and particles

Another special group of compound adjectives has a preposition or particle in its second part. The workers' declaration of an **all-out** strike forced management to improve conditions. [total] Once there were fields here but now it's a totally **built-up** area.

That student's parents are very **well-off** but they don't give him much money and he is always complaining of being **hard-up**. [rich] [poor]

I love these shoes and, although they're **worn-out**, I can't throw them away.

This area was once prosperous but it now looks very **run-down**. [in a very bad condition]

E Collocations

Here are some other compound adjectives with typical noun collocations.

air-conditioned rooms bullet-proof windows on the President's car business-class ticket
cut-price goods in the sales duty-free items handmade furniture interest-free credit
last-minute revision for an exam long-distance lorry driver long-standing relationship
off-peak train travel [at a time which is less busy] part-time job so-called expert sugar-free diet
time-consuming writing of reports top-secret information world-famous film star

F Changing compound adjectives

You can vary the compound adjectives listed by changing one part of the adjective.

For example, **curly-haired**, **long-haired**, **red-haired** and **wavy-haired**; **first-hand** (knowledge), **first-class** (ticket) and **first-born** (child).

Exercises

73.1 What compound adjectives from the opposite page can describe ...

- 1 a problem that never ends? a(n) never-ending problem
- 2 a shirt whose neck is open and which fits tightly? a(n) _____ ,
_____ shirt
- 3 a girl who has long legs and brown eyes? a(n) _____ , _____ girl
- 4 very new sandals that have open toes? _____ , _____ sandals
- 5 a boy who dresses well and is brown from the sun? a(n) _____ ,
_____ boy
- 6 a person who is very relaxed and kind? a(n) _____ , _____ person
- 7 a boy who has curly hair and is sharp? a(n) _____ , _____ boy
- 8 a story that is difficult to believe? a(n) _____ story

73.2 Fill the gaps with the words from the box to form new compound adjectives. Use a dictionary if necessary.

tight	blue	man	broad	brown
bullet	fire	water	loose	green
hand	sugar	second	narrow	business
right	home	absent	duty	left

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 <u>blue</u> _____
_____ -eyed | 4 _____
_____ -minded | 7 _____
_____ -fitting |
| 2 _____
_____ -proof | 5 _____
_____ -made | 8 _____
_____ -handed |
| 3 _____
_____ -class | 6 _____
_____ -free | |

73.3 Complete the sentences using compound adjectives from D and E opposite.

- 1 It was an old, run-down _____ hotel that needed modernising. None of the rooms were air-_____ and the so-_____ restaurant was just a coffee bar. Our room had an old, _____-out carpet that was dirty.
- 2 It's a very _____-up coast, with hotels and villas everywhere.
- 3 We managed to get a _____-minute booking for a Mediterranean cruise.
- 4 Off-_____ train travel is much cheaper than travelling at busy times, but long-_____ travel by train can sometimes be more expensive than flying.
- 5 The route of the President's drive to Parliament was _____ secret and he was driven in a bullet-_____ limousine.
- 6 The workers went on _____-out strike over a long-_____ pay dispute and the airport was closed for three days.
- 7 She used to be quite well-_____ but she lost a lot of money and now she has a _____-up look about her. She got a part-_____ job to help pay the bills.
- 8 She has to have a sugar-_____ diet but it's very time-_____ trying to make sure everything she buys has no sugar in it.

Over to you

Which of the adjectives from this unit could you use to describe yourself or your friends or members of your family?

Compound nouns 1: noun + noun

A What are compound nouns?

A compound noun is a fixed expression which is made up of more than one word and functions as a noun. Such expressions are frequently combinations of two nouns, e.g. **car park**, **human being** [person], science fiction [fiction based on some kind of scientific fantasy]. A number of compound nouns are related to phrasal verbs and these are dealt with in Unit 75.

B How are compound nouns written?

If you understand both parts of the compound noun, the meaning will usually be clear. Compound nouns are usually written as two words, e.g. **tin opener** [an opener for tins], **bank account** [an account in a bank], **pedestrian crossing** [a place for people to cross a road], but sometimes they are written with a hyphen instead of a space between the words, e.g. **self-control** [control over your own emotions and reactions]. Sometimes they may be written as one word, e.g. **earring**, **trademark** [the symbol of a product], **babysitter** [someone who stays with a baby/child while parents are out].

Note that there are no strict rules about which compound words should be written in which way. There is a lot of variation even between dictionaries.

C Stress in compound nouns

Usually the main stress is on the first part of the compound but sometimes it is on the second part. In the common compound nouns below, the word which contains the main stress is underlined.

<u>alarm</u> clock	<u>contact</u> lens	<u>mineral</u> water	<u>voice</u> mail
<u>blood</u> donor	<u>credit</u> card	<u>package</u> holiday	<u>wind</u> screen
<u>burglar</u> alarm	<u>heart</u> attack	<u>steering</u> wheel	<u>windscreen</u> wiper
<u>bus</u> stop	<u>light</u> bulb	<u>tea</u> bag	<u>youth</u> hostel

D Grammar of compound nouns

Compound nouns may be countable, uncountable or only used in either the singular or the plural. The examples given in C are all countable compound nouns. Here are some examples of common uncountable compound nouns.

air <u>traffic</u> control	<u>computer</u> technology	<u>food</u> poisoning	<u>junk</u> food
<u>birth</u> control	cotton <u>wool</u>	<u>hay</u> fever [allergy to pollen]	<u>mail</u> order
<u>blood</u> pressure	data <u>processing</u>	<u>income</u> tax	<u>pocket</u> money

Here are some examples of common compound nouns used only in the singular.

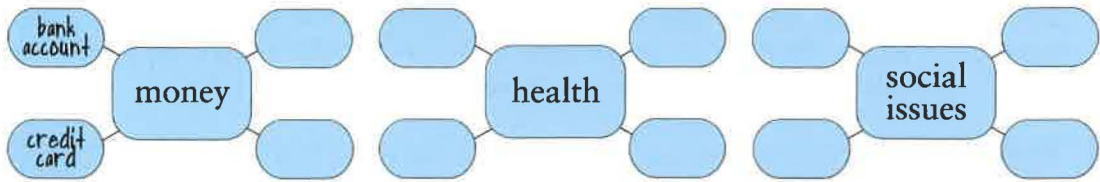
<u>arms</u> race [two or more countries competing to have the most powerful military]	<u>generation</u> gap
<u>climate</u> change	<u>labour</u> force
<u>death</u> penalty	<u>sound</u> barrier
	<u>welfare</u> state

Here are some examples of common compound nouns used only in the plural.

grass <u>roots</u>	kitchen <u>scissors</u>	<u>race</u> relations	<u>sun</u> glasses
<u>head</u> phones	luxury <u>goods</u>	<u>road</u> works	traffic <u>lights</u>

Exercises

74.1 Complete these bubble networks with any appropriate expressions from the opposite page. Add extra bubbles if you need them.



74.2 Here are some compound expressions you have looked at in this unit. Explain what the significance of the nouns used in the compound is.

- | | | |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1 windscreen <i>A screen that protects a driver from the wind.</i> | 5 climate change | 8 pocket money |
| 2 burglar alarm | 6 kitchen scissors | 9 welfare state |
| 3 food poisoning | 7 luxury goods | 10 voice mail |
| 4 generation gap | | |

74.3 What are they talking about? In each case the answer is a compound noun opposite.

- I had it taken at the doctor's this morning and he said it was a little high for my age.
blood pressure
- It's happening through natural causes and also through man-made pollution.
- She always has terrible sneezing fits in the early summer.
- I can't understand why they spend so much on devising ways of killing people.
- They say that working there is much more stressful than being a pilot.
- The worst time was when one fell out at the theatre and I spent the interval searching around on the floor. I can't see a thing without them.
- I don't think it should ever be used whatever the crime.
- It's much easier not to have to make your own travel arrangements.
- It's not difficult to access mine on my mobile.
- You really shouldn't cross the road at any other place.
- I didn't like the eco ones at first because they're so slow to get going.
- I had it very badly once when I ate some chicken that wasn't properly cooked.

74.4 In some cases more than one compound noun can be formed from one particular element. For example, *blood pressure* and *blood donor*; *air traffic control*, *birth control* and *self-control*. Complete the following compound nouns using nouns from the box.

bite	country	fast	inheritance	level
mail	pot	rat	ties	word

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1 junk <u>mail</u> | 4 tea | 7 -processing | 10 race |
| 2 sound | 5 mother | 8 crossing | |
| 3 blood | 6 tax | 9 food | |

74.5 Now make up some sentences like those in exercise 74.3 relating to the new compound nouns you made in exercise 74.4.

EXAMPLE 1 I get a ridiculous amount of this through my letter box every day. (junk mail)

A Compound nouns based on phrasal verbs

An example of a compound noun based on a phrasal verb is a **takeover** [when one company takes control of another] from *to take over*. In sections B to E you will see these types of nouns in context. The meaning of the compound noun is given in brackets. To form the plural, 's' is added to the end, e.g. **workouts** [exercise sessions, e.g. at the gym].

B Journalism

Nouns based on phrasal verbs often have an informal feel to them and they are particularly common in newspaper reporting.

In response to the pay offer, there was a **walkout** at the factory. [strike]

There is going to be a **crackdown** on public spending. [action to stop/reduce]

An enquiry into the recent **breakout** from the local prison has recommended measures to tighten security there. [escape]

Last month saw a tremendous **shake-up** in personnel. [change]

Last week we reported on the **break-up** of the mayor's marriage. [collapse]

C The economy

The **takeover** of one of our leading hotel chains has just been announced. [purchase by another company]

We're trying to find some new **outlets** for our products. [places to sell]

Take your things to the **check-out** to pay for them. [cash desk]

Cutbacks will be essential until the recession is over. [reductions]

Our profit was £1,000 on a **turnover** of £10,000. [money passing through a company]

D Aspects of modern life

What the computer produces depends on the **input**. [information that is put in]

Output has increased thanks to new technology. [production]

We have a rather rapid staff **turnover**. [change]

Just after leaving school he went through a stage of being a **dropout**. [person who rejects society]

The consequences of **fallout** from the explosion at the nuclear reactor were felt for many years. [radioactive dust in the atmosphere]

I can easily get you a **printout** of the latest figures. [paper on which computer information has been printed]

A **breakthrough** has been made in AIDS research. [important discovery]

E General

The following words can be used in more general circumstances.

Many of the problems were caused by a **breakdown** in communications. [failure]

The **outlook** for tomorrow is good – sunny in most places. [prospect]

There are **drawbacks** as well as advantages to every situation. [negative aspects]

The **outcome** of the meeting was not very satisfactory. [conclusion]

TV companies always welcome **feedback** from viewers. [comments]

It was clear from the **outset** that the **set-up** would cause problems. [start; situation]

We parked in a **lay-by** on the **bypass**. [parking space at the side of a road; road avoiding the centre of a town]

The **outbreak** of war took many people by surprise. [start of something unpleasant]

Exercises

75.1 Which of the words on the opposite page would be most likely to follow the adjectives given below?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 radioactive <u>fallout</u> | 5 final |
| 2 nervous | 6 sales |
| 3 computer | 7 positive |
| 4 annual | 8 city |

75.2 Match the compound nouns on the left with the synonyms on the right.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 breakdown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | a result |
| 2 break-up | <input type="checkbox"/> | b beginning |
| 3 cutback | <input type="checkbox"/> | c production |
| 4 drawback | <input type="checkbox"/> | d strike |
| 5 feedback | <input type="checkbox"/> | e failure |
| 6 outcome | <input type="checkbox"/> | f disadvantage |
| 7 output | <input type="checkbox"/> | g collapse |
| 8 outset | <input type="checkbox"/> | h comments |
| 9 walkout | <input type="checkbox"/> | i reduction |

75.3 Fill in the gaps with an appropriate word from the opposite page.

1 AKC make <u>takeover</u> bid for FEDCO	2 Prime Minister announces cabinet _____	3 Transport union threatens _____	4 Police plan _____ on vandalism
5 Two prisoners escape in jail _____	6 Football star injured in pre-game _____	7 Flu _____ in Ireland	8 _____ staff at supermarket announce strike

75.4 Here are some compound nouns based on phrasal verbs. Guess the meaning of the underlined word from its context. Show how it relates to its verb.

- Because of the accident there was a three-mile tailback along the motorway. *queue of traffic (it tails back from a vehicle at the head of the queue)*
- Police are warning of an increased number of break-ins in this area.
- The papers are claiming the Prime Minister organised a cover-up.
- Unfortunately, our plans have suffered a setback.
- I'm sorry I'm late. There was a terrible hold-up on the bridge.
- The robbers made their getaway in a stolen car.
- There was a surprisingly large turnout at the concert.
- I love having a lie-in on Sundays.
- The lecturer distributed handouts before she started speaking.
- I'm giving my office a major clear-out this week.

75.5 These words are made up of the same parts but they have very different meanings. Explain the meaning of each of the words. Use a dictionary if necessary.

- | | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 outlook / look-out | | |
| <i>Outlook means prospect, whereas a look-out is a person watching out for an enemy or danger.</i> | | |
| 2 set-up / upset | 3 outlet / let-out | 4 outlay / layout |

A What are binomials?

Binomials are expressions (often idiomatic) where two words are joined by a conjunction (usually 'and'). The order of the words is normally fixed. For example:

odds and ends: small, unimportant things, e.g. Let's get the main things packed – we can do the **odds and ends** later. (NOT ends and odds)

give and take: a spirit of compromise, e.g. Every relationship needs a bit of **give and take** to be successful.

You can often tell something is a binomial because of the sound pattern, which may be a repetition of the same first sound or a rhyme.

Tears are **part and parcel** of growing up. [an important part of / belong to]

The boss was **ranting and raving** /'reɪvɪŋ/ at us. [shouting / very angry]

The old cottage has gone to **rack and ruin**. [is ruined / has decayed]

He's so **prim and proper** at work. [rather formal and fussy]

The hotel was a bit **rough and ready**. [poor standard or quality]

She has to **wine and dine** important clients. [entertain / take out to restaurants]

They stole my wallet. I was left **high and dry**, with no money. [in a very difficult situation]

B Pairs of near synonyms

At other times, the clue is that the words are near synonyms.

You can **pick and choose** – it's up to you. [have a wide choice]

My English is progressing in/by **leaps and bounds**. [big jumps]

It's nice to have some **peace and quiet** now that the children have left.

[a peaceful/calm situation]

The doctor recommended some **rest and recreation** / **R and R**. [relaxation]

First and foremost, you must work hard. [first and most importantly]

C Binomials composed of grammar words

Many grammar words combine to form binomials.

There are cafés **here and there** along the sea front. [scattered round / in different places]

We've had meetings **on and off** / **off and on**. [occasionally]

I've been running **back and forth** / **to and fro** all day. [to and from somewhere]

She's better now, and **out and about** again. [going out]

She ran **up and down** the street. [in both directions]

Language help

Your language probably has many binomials. Check that the ones which look similar in English have the same word order as your language. These three are very neutral binomials and can be used in formal or informal situations. Try translating them.

*I have an old **black and white** photograph of my grandparents. **Ladies and gentlemen**, your attention, please! She ran **back and forth**.*

D Binomials linked by words other than and

You've got your sweater on **back to front**. [the wrong way]

He won't help her – she'll have to **sink or swim**. [survive or fail]

Slowly but surely, I realised the boat was sinking. [gradually]

Sooner or later, you'll learn your lesson. [sometime in the future]

She didn't want to be just friends – it had to be **all or nothing**.

Well, I'm sorry, that's all I can offer you – **take it or leave it**.

It's about the same distance as from here to Dublin, **give or take** a few miles. [perhaps a mile or two more, or a mile or two less]

Exercises

76.1 Here is a list of words that can combine to form binomials. Use similarities in sound to join them with *and*. Look at A opposite to check that you have the right word order and meaning. Use the binomials to fill the gaps in the sentences which follow.

prim	dine	high	parcel	ruin	rough	dry
rack	part	ready	proper	rave	rant	wine

...prim and proper

- The receptionist is always so terribly *prim* and *proper* ; the whole atmosphere always seems so very formal.
- I was left and , with no one to help me.
- The room's a bit and but you're welcome to stay as long as you like.
- She was in a bad temper and was and at everybody.
- My hosts and me at the best restaurants.
- That old house in the country has gone to and ; nobody looks after it now.
- Working hard and being very disciplined is and of training to be a top athlete.

76.2 Use binomials from B and C to rewrite the words in bold. Your new sentences will often sound more informal than the original ones.

- I'm hoping to get some **time without noise or interruption** at the cottage I've rented.
peace and quiet
- Most importantly of all**, I want to get a good, steady job.
- I've bumped into Karen **occasionally** but I don't meet her regularly.
- Her violin playing seems to be progressing **very rapidly**.
- I've been running **from one place to another and back again** all morning.
- The doctor said I needed a few weeks of **relaxation without activity**.
- We'll have to stay in a cheap hotel. We can't afford to **choose what we'd like best**.
.....
- There are some nice hotels **in different places** along the coast.
- Mrs James was ill for a while, but now she's **going out and doing things** again.
.....
- Jim's office is on the next floor to mine, so we have to go **from one floor to another** all day.

76.3 Some of the binomials in these sentences are in the right order and some are wrong. Correct the wrong ones.

- I spent a long time going forth and back between different offices to get my visa.
wrong: back and forth
- You look very tired and stressed. You need some rest and recreation.
- I love those old white and black Hollywood films from the 1940s.
- Later or sooner you will learn that he is not a true friend of yours.
- Gentlemen and ladies, would you like to take your seats now, please?
- Slowly but surely my English got better and soon I felt fairly fluent.

76.4 These binomials do not have *and* in the middle. What do they have? Check the opposite page if you are not sure.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 sooner <i>or</i> later | 3 back front | 5 slowly surely |
| 2 all nothing | 4 sink swim | 6 give take |