

Unit 3

- 3.1** 1 terrible 2 the same as 'choose' 3 a verb 4 an adjective 5 uncountable
6 complete/total/utter 7 You must choose between A and B; You can choose from ten different colours. 8 See answers to 7
- 3.2** 1 choice 2 advise 3 piece 4 chaotic 5 clean 6 'homework' is school or college work that you do at home; 'housework' is work that is necessary in a home e.g. washing, ironing, cleaning 7 win a game 8 gain / put on weight 9 order 10 Is this seat free/taken?

206 English Vocabulary in Use (pre-intermediate & intermediate)

3.3 knife; bomb; psychology; receipt; castle; doubt; wrist; calm

3.4 1 = def. 2 2 = def. 4 3 = def. 1

If you find these exercises difficult, it may mean that you need to practise using a dictionary more often, or you need to buy yourself a better dictionary.

3.1 Use a dictionary to find/check the answers to these questions. (They are all based on words from the opposite page.)

- 1 What does **dreadful** mean?
- 2 How do you pronounce **lose**? (Is it the same as 'choose' or 'chose'?)
- 3 What part of speech is **choose**?
- 4 What part of speech is **homesick**?
- 5 **Homework** and **chaos** are both nouns, but what **type** of noun are they?
- 6 What adjectives are often used before **chaos**? (Give two.)
- 7 What two prepositions are often used after **choose**?
- 8 Write down a sentence example of **choose** used with a preposition.

3.2 When you look up a word, you can also use your dictionary to increase your vocabulary by learning related words and phrases. Find out if your dictionary helps you to answer these questions, also about words from the opposite page.

- 1 **Choose** is a verb, but what is the noun with the same meaning?
- 2 **Advice** is a noun, but what is the verb with the same meaning?
- 3 **Advice** is also uncountable, but you can make it countable using another word. Can you complete this sentence: 'He gave me a very useful of advice.'
- 4 What adjective is formed from **chaos**?
- 5 What is the opposite of **dirty**?
- 6 What is the difference between **homework** and **housework**?
- 7 What is the opposite of **lose a game**?
- 8 What is the opposite of **lose weight**?
- 9 **Law** often appears in the phrase **law and** What is the missing word?
- 10 If you want to sit at a table in a cafe and you see that one person is sitting there already, but another seat is empty, what can you say to the person sitting down?

3.3 In the word 'island' /aɪlənd/, the letter 's' is silent (= not pronounced). Use the pronunciation guide in your dictionary to find the silent letters in each of these words. (Do not include the letter 'e' at the end of a word.)

knife bomb psychology receipt castle doubt wrist calm

Note: Students often ask if the letter 't' is pronounced in 'often'. Some people pronounce it, others don't. What does your dictionary say?

3.4 Look at the entry for *suit* on the right, then match the definitions with the sentences on the left.

- 1 I'm afraid black doesn't suit me – my hair is the wrong colour.
- 2 A: I'm not going, so don't ask me again.
B: OK. Suit yourself.
- 3 If we have the meeting this afternoon, would 2.30 suit you?

suit² *v* (T) 1 to be acceptable or convenient for a particular person or in a particular situation: *Finding a date that suits us all is very difficult.* | *Buy a database program to suit your needs.* | *suit sb (fine) spoken (=be completely acceptable) "Eight o'clock?" "That suits me fine."* | *suit sb down to the ground (=be exactly right for someone) *Yup, this little car suits me down to the ground.** 2 [not in passive] to make someone look attractive: *That coat really suits Paul.* | *Red suits you.* —see FIT² (USAGE) 3 well/best/ideally suited to have the right qualities to do something: *Dirk would be ideally suited to the job.* 4 **suit yourself** *spoken* used to tell someone they can do whatever they want to, even though it annoys you: *"I don't really feel like going out after all."* "Suit yourself." 5 **suit sb's book** *BrE informal* to fit well into someone's

3 Using a dictionary

A What dictionaries do I need?

If possible, you should buy two dictionaries: a good bilingual dictionary and a good English–English dictionary. The bilingual dictionary is quicker and easier for you to understand; the English–English dictionary may give you more information about a word or phrase, and it is also a good idea for you to work in English as much as possible. Here are some current recommended English–English dictionaries:

Large dictionaries

Cambridge International Dictionary of English
Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English
Collins COBUILD English Dictionary
Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary

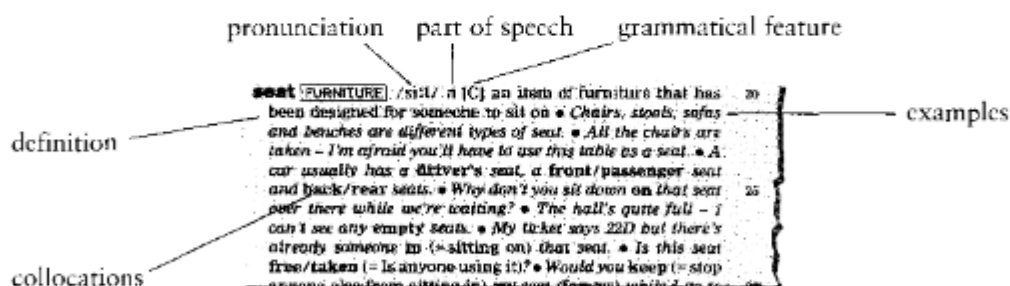
Medium-sized dictionaries

Collins COBUILD Essential Dictionary
Oxford Wordpower Dictionary
Longman Active Study Dictionary

B What information does a dictionary give me?

- the meaning, e.g. **homesick** = unhappy when you are away from home for a long time
- the pronunciation, e.g. **chaos** /keɪns/, **dreadful** /dredfʊl/, **island** /aɪlənd/
- the part of speech, e.g. **dirty** *adj* (= adjective), **lose** *v* (= verb), **law** *n* (= noun)
- any special grammatical features, e.g. **advice** (U) (= uncountable)
- common collocations (word partners), e.g. you do **homework** [NOT ~~you make homework~~]
- example phrases or sentences, e.g. It was such a big menu, I didn't know what to **choose**.
- opposites (where they exist), e.g. **polite** (≠ **impolite/rude**)

Note: In most English–English dictionaries for foreign learners, collocations are usually shown in **bold** or *italics*, or they are included in the examples given after the definition.



C How should I use my dictionary?

Here are some ideas to help you.

- When you look up a word, put a ✓ next to it. Each time you return to a page with a ✓ look at it quickly to check that you remember the word.
- If you see an English word in a text, first try to guess the meaning, and carry on reading to see if your guess seems correct. Use your dictionary to check the meaning.
- If you look up a word in a bilingual dictionary and get several different words in your own language, look up the word in your monolingual dictionary. This should help you to decide which word in your own language is the nearest translation in this context.
- Remember that many words have more than one meaning, and the first meaning in the dictionary is not always the one you want. Read through the different meanings.