

UNIT 26 Vocabulary

Preference and leisure activities

Topic vocabulary: Preference

see page 243 for definitions

addiction (n)	decline (v)	greedy (adj)	praise (v, n)
adore (v)	dedicated (adj)	impulse (n)	resolve (v)
anticipation (n)	delight (v)	inclined (adj)	sacrifice (v, n)
appeal (v, n)	desire (v, n)	liking (n)	strive (v)
arbitrary (adj)	devote (v)	mediocre (adj)	taste (n)
aspiration (n)	differentiate (v)	motive (n)	tempting (adj)
bear (v)	envy (v, n)	mundane (adj)	urge (v, n)
compulsory (adj)	fancy (v)	obsessed (adj)	welcome (v, adj)
content (adj)	fascination (n)	optional (adj)	worthwhile (adj)
craving (n)	favour (v, n)	passion (n)	yearn (v)

Topic vocabulary: Leisure activities

see page 244 for definitions

absorbing (adj)	indulge (v)	pursue (v)	solitude (n)
casual (adj)	lifestyle (n)	recreation (n)	tedious (adj)
exhilarating (adj)	leave (n)	respite (n)	trivial (adj)
fatigue (n)	outing (n)	sedentary (adj)	unwind (v)
idle (adj)	pastime (n)	socialise (v)	venue (n)

Phrasal verbs

centre around	if something centres around someone or something, or you centre something around them, they are its main subject of attention or interest	laze around	relax and enjoy yourself, doing no work
get into	start enjoying something or become enthusiastic about it; if a train, plane, etc gets into a place, it arrives there; become involved in a bad situation	mess about/around	spend time doing things in a relaxed way; behave in a silly way
go in for	enjoy a particular thing or activity; choose something as a subject of study or as your career	pick up	learn a new skill or start a habit without intending to; go and meet someone or something that you have arranged to take somewhere in a vehicle
go off	stop liking someone or something; explode or be fired; leave a place, especially for a particular purpose; if food or drink goes off, it is no longer fresh	put in	spend a particular amount of time doing something, or make a particular amount of effort in order to do something <i>input (n)</i>
grow on	if something or someone grows on you, you start to like them more	seek out	find someone or something by looking for them in a determined way
hang out	spend time in a particular place or with particular people; lean out of a window so that the top part of your body is outside <i>hang-out (n)</i>	take in	include something
keep up	continue to do something; move at the same speed as someone or something	take off	have a particular amount of time away from work; become successful or popular very fast <i>take-off (n)</i>
		take out	take someone to a place like a cinema or a restaurant and usually pay for them
		warm up	prepare for a sport or activity by doing gentle exercises or practising just before it starts <i>warm-up (n)</i>

Phrases, patterns and collocations

choice make a choice, exercise choice, have no choice, choice between, choice of, personal/parental/consumer choice, informed choice, wide choice, obvious choice	decide decide to do, decide against/in favour of, decide that, decide between, decide for yourself, decide on
choose choose from, choose between, choose sb/sth as, choose sb/sth out of, choose to do, pick and choose, nothing/little to choose between	delight delight in doing, take (great) delight in doing, to sb's delight, with/in delight

Phrases, patterns and collocations

eager	eager to do, eager for, only too eager to do	opt	opt for, opt to do
free	set sb free, let sb go free, free sb from, walk free, free to do, free from, free and easy, free time	option	have no option (but to do), consider your options, the option of doing, the option to do, keep/leave your options open
impulse	act on impulse, do sth on impulse, control/resist an impulse, an impulse to do	play	play against/for, play at, play by yourself, play for time, play the fool, play sth by ear, at play
keen	keen (for sb) to do, keen on, keen interest in	praise	praise sb for doing, win/earn/deserve praise, full of praise for, in praise of
leisure	have the leisure to do, at your leisure, leisure centre, leisure pursuits, leisure time	prefer	prefer sth to, prefer (sb) to do, prefer doing, would prefer (that), would prefer it if
like	like (sb) to do, like doing, like it when, just like, anything/nothing like, it's not like sb to do, like crazy/mad, like so, something like	rest	rest sth on/against, rest assured that, take/have a rest (from), get some rest, come to rest, at rest
need	need (sb) to do, need do, need doing, meet a need, have no need of, in need (of)	taste	develop/have a taste for, in good/bad taste, sense of taste, acquired taste
off	have / take / be given the day off, have / take / be given time off, off work/college, off sick	want	want (sb) to do, want sth done, for want of

Idioms

at a loose end	with nothing in particular to do
couch potato	someone who spends a lot of time sitting at home watching television
do sth on a whim	do because of a sudden feeling that you must have or do something
have time on your hands	have more time available than you need
let your hair down	relax and enjoy yourself because you are in a comfortable environment
life and soul of the party	someone who is very lively at social events
put your feet up	sit down and relax, especially with your feet raised off the ground
recharge your batteries	rest after being very busy, so that you will be ready to start working again
set your heart on	decide that you want something very much
variety is the spice of life	used for saying that different experiences and situations make life enjoyable or interesting

Word formation

available	(un)availability, unavailable	relax	relaxation, relaxing, relaxed
choose	chose, chosen, choice, choosy	rest	restlessness, unrest, restive, restful(ly), restless(ly)
desire	(un)desirable, desirous, desired, (un)desirably	rhythm	rhythmic(al), rhythmically
do	overdo, outdo, redo, undo, (over/out/re/un)did, (over/out/re/un)done, doing, doings	satisfy	dissatisfy, (un)satisfactory, (dis)satisfied, (un)satisfying(ly), satisfactorily
envy	(un)enviable, (un)enviably, envious(ly)	select	deselect, selection, selective(ly)
leisure	leisured, leisurely	sport	sportsman/woman/person, sportsmanship, sports, sporting, sporty
motive	(de)motivated, (de)motivator, (de)motivation, (de)motivating, motivational	stimulate	stimulation, stimulant, stimulus, stimuli, stimulating, stimulated
obsess	obsession, obsessed, obsessive(ly)	tend	tendency
play	replay, overplay, downplay, player, playful(ly)	zeal	zealot, zealous(ly)
prefer	preference, preferable, preferred, preferential, preferably		
pursue	pursuit, pursuer		

Topic vocabulary: Preference

A Choose the correct answer.

- Although she would have preferred to carry on working, my mum her career in order to have children.
A devoted B repealed C sacrificed D abolished
- I find the offer quite, but I think I'd rather study at Oxford.
A tempting B desirous C inclined D envious
- I don't normally like noisy clubs, but I had a sudden to see what the Blue Parrot was like.
A force B motive C pressure D impulse
- Jerry loves snowboarding so much that it's almost like a drug
A passion B obsession C addiction D requirement
- I don't want to do the course in applied statistics, but it's
A compulsory B inevitable C bound D indecisive
- Don't worry about me – I'm quite to sit here and wait for you to come back.
A ecstatic B delighted C joyful D content
- When I was pregnant, I often got a sudden for tinned sardines.
A preference B craving C envy D greed
- Thank you for thinking of us, but I'm afraid we're going to have to your kind invitation.
A decline B deny C condemn D reject
- I've never seen anyone so to their job as Philip is.
A eager B keen C dedicated D interested
- Why do you have such a with model railways?
A desire B fascination C love D preference
- I wish you would stop wasting so much time on computer games and do something a little more
A welcome B enviable C feasible D worthwhile
- Olivia has always to return to the country she was born in.
A favoured B yearned C urged D inclined

B Complete using the correct form of the words in the box.

adore • appeal • bear • delight • differentiate • fancy • favour • praise
resolve • strive • urge • welcome

- Trisha suggested going to Indonesia, but the idea didn't really to me.
- Young children seem to in showing things they've made at school to their parents.
- Francis obviously his three children and will do anything for them.
- I think I just getting a DVD and staying in tonight.
- The firefighters Mrs Collins for her quick thinking when the fire broke out.
- We would anyone who values personal freedom to vote against this proposal.
- The Prime Minister the suggestion from the leader of the opposition and said that the government would consider it carefully.
- I don't know how Liz can to work at that place.
- It's important to have clear goals to towards.
- Parents should try to treat all their children equally and not one over another.
- It's quite easy to between margarine and butter because butter has a creamier taste.
- The Board of Directors has to increase sales by at least 20% over the coming year.

C Circle the correct word.

- Share your chocolate with your brother and don't be so **greedy** / **obsessed**.
- Claudia's completely **greedy** / **obsessed** with Jack and doesn't talk about anything else these days.
- I smiled in **anticipation** / **aspiration** as the waiter brought the desserts to our table.
- Joining the Air Force has always been an **anticipation** / **aspiration** of mine.
- These two day trips are included in the price of the tour, while the third is **arbitrary** / **optional** and costs 50 euros extra.
- We don't have any information about the hotels, so we'll just have to make an **arbitrary** / **optional** decision.
- If you look at Madeleine's house, it's obvious she has a lot of **liking** / **taste**.
- I've always had a **liking** / **taste** for Naomi, ever since she moved in next door.
- Life in this small town is really quite **mediocre** / **mundane** and I can't wait to move to the big city.
- I thought her latest book was **mediocre** / **mundane** compared to the others, which I really enjoyed.
- Eva got everything she had ever **envied** / **desired** when she married a rich businessman.
- I **envy** / **desire** people who can just walk into a room full of strangers and feel at home.

Topic vocabulary: Leisure activities

D If the word in bold is correct, put a tick. If it is incorrect, replace it with one of the words in bold from the other sentences.

- It should be quite a **sedentary** event, so don't dress up too much.
- Without enough leisure time, people begin to suffer from stress and **solitude**.
- I get 25 days a year **venue**, which is probably about average.
- The new Arts Centre should be a great **outing** for concerts.
- Last time I had a day off, we went on a family **lifestyle** to the beach.
- Kids just wouldn't fit in with my **fatigue**, so I don't plan to have any at the moment.
- I like to be quite active when I've got time off because my job is quite **absorbing**.
- I find nothing so relaxing as reading a really **casual** book.
- Work's so **tedious** that I can't wait to meet my friends in the evening.
- The most relaxing things about getting away to the mountains are the peace and **leave**.

E Complete using the correct form of the words in the box.

exhilarating • idle • indulge • pastime • pursue • recreation • respite • socialise • trivial • unwind

The beginnings of modern leisure

During the first half of the nineteenth century, more and more people were employed in factories, working 14- or 15-hour days that left them little time for hobbies, sport or any other form of (1) and meant they weren't able to (2) with friends. A key breakthrough in Britain came with the Ten Hour Act (1847), which limited the working day and ensured that workers got some (3) from their jobs. People now had at least some time to (4) from work at the end of the day and (5) themselves. Not everyone approved. Many members of the middle class hated the idea of the workers being (6) and believed that they would waste their time on (7) matters instead of (8) productive activities, such as education or going to church. The workers, however, found the new freedom (9) and threw themselves into new (10) with enthusiasm.

Phrasal verbs

F Match to make sentences.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 I suppose I spend a lot of time just hanging | A in some fantastic areas of natural beauty. |
| 2 The best thing about camping is just messing | B for active pastimes; I much prefer reading. |
| 3 Since I'm self-employed, I'm able to take | C about with all the equipment all day. |
| 4 Drew spends a lot of time seeking | D a whole month off and just travel. |
| 5 Most of my leisure time seems to centre | E out with friends in the town centre. |
| 6 The tour we're going on next week takes | F out good spots to go windsurfing. |
| 7 I'm not one of those people who go in | G around fishing or my other main hobby, water polo. |
| 8 With a bit of practice, I picked | H up a few songs after just a couple of lessons on the guitar. |

G Complete using a phrasal verb with a word from box A in the right form and a word from box B. You need to use one word from box B more than once.

A get • go • grow • keep • laze • put • take • warm

B around • in • into • off • on • out • up

- I don't have much money these days, so it's hard to my music collection.
- If you're Amanda this weekend, why don't you go to the Popwave festival?
- I didn't like this CD at first, but now I'm really it.
- Carl and I just spent the whole day listening to music.
- I'm still not sure about this track, but I think it's starting to me.
- Before the concert started, we could hear the band off stage.
- I used to love this band, but I've them since the lead singer left.
- You can tell they've a lot of hard work when you listen to their latest album.

H The phrasal verb *get into* has a meaning connected to the idea of becoming involved in an activity or situation. Tick the sentences where the phrasal verb has a meaning connected to a similar idea.

- I love watching TV, but it does **bite into** my free time.
- Jordan was relieved when she finally **broke into** the music business.
- When you're flying a model aeroplane, the important thing is not to **crash into** anything!
- The council have **entered into** discussions on building a new sports centre in town.
- To access the online games network, **key** your username and password **into** the box below.
- Think carefully before you **rush into** such a long-term agreement.
- Kelly **launched into** a detailed account of her plans for the summer.
- Pete is always taking up new hobbies and he really **throws himself into** them.

Phrases, patterns and collocations

I One word in each sentence is incorrect. Underline the incorrect word and write the correct word.

- It's the boss's birthday next Wednesday, and there's a rumour we might be taken the day off.
- I know you'd rather I took up a sport, but it's not your choice to do.
- Some of the courses are compulsory, so we can't just pick and select whatever we like.

- If you won't give me a pay rise, then I shall have to think my options.
- The council said they had no option apart to close the sports centre.
- Angela travels a lot and is only very eager to experience new places.
- Jake's been practising as mad to impress the others in the band.
- I can't believe the judge just let the accused be free like that.
- I've decided in favour for joining the local swimming team.
- You should plan things more carefully and not just act with impulse all the time.

J Circle the correct word.

The future of leisure

There is no doubt technology and shorter working hours have (1) **got / let / set** people free to enjoy their leisure time more than ever before. Many people (2) **do / have / make** the leisure to pursue hobbies and other activities they (3) **like / prefer / want** to the work routine. What leisure activities will people (4) **choose / decide / opt** for in the future?

We can expect to see increased personal (5) **choice / decision / option**. The range of leisure (6) **actions / hobbies / pursuits** will expand and people will have the (7) **decision / option / preference** of following up an interest in almost any activity. Whether at home or at (8) **enjoyment / leisure / relaxation** centres, there will be an ever-increasing need to provide for people at (9) **play / recreation / rest**. If the future is not one of increased leisure, then it won't be for (10) **need / desire / want** of demand.

K For each question, write one word which can be used in all three sentences.

- To our, the boss said that we could have an extra day off work.
Martin always takes great in talking to anyone about fishing.
When Erin finally started to move downhill on the skis for the first time, she laughed in
- It's important that people feel they can exercise over their leisure activities.
Your fee is so late that I'm afraid we have no but to cancel your membership.
The college offers a wide of evening and weekend classes.
- The local council should start a building programme to meet the for leisure facilities.
The Mayor said he had no of advice from people who didn't understand the situation.
This area is badly in of financial investment.
- I had dried frog when I was in Korea, and I would describe the as unforgettable.
I thought that what you said to Erica was in very bad
You might not like sushi the first time you try it – it's a bit of an acquired
- We're quite for our son to go to Cambridge University when he finishes school.
I enjoy team sports, like basketball and volleyball, and I'm especially on football.
My parents have always taken a interest in my hobbies.
- I was a bit of a loner when I was younger and I spent a lot of time by myself.
The government has been accused of for time because it doesn't know what to do.
Liam never learnt to read music, but he's capable of practically anything by ear.
- The headmaster was full of for the school cricket team, who had won six matches in a row.
The police officers involved deserve for their bravery in such a difficult situation.
If I read one more newspaper editorial in of the Prime Minister I shall scream.
- When we finally made it out of the forest, we decided to before moving on.
Just your bike against the gate and come inside.
You can assured that I will not stop until I find the person who damaged the school gym.

Idioms

L Complete using the words in the box.

batteries • end • feet • hair • heart • party • potato • spice • time • whim

- 'Oh! I'm exhausted! I've been doing housework all day.'
'Come and put your up for five minutes and I'll make a cup of tea.'
- 'Do you fancy going to that new jazz club in town?'
'Yes, let's go and let our down a bit, shall we?'
- 'Jamie is so much fun!'
'Yes, he really is the life and soul of the'
- 'You're not changing jobs again already, are you?'
'Well, they do say that variety is the of life.'
- 'Roger wasn't pleased to get rejected by the team, was he?'
'No. He really had his set on playing for them.'
- 'You look a bit bored.'
'Well, I've been at a loose since I finished the book I was reading.'
- 'You weren't planning to go to Singapore on holiday, were you?'
'No. I got to the travel agent's and just decided to go there on a'
- 'I can't believe you built the Eiffel Tower out of matchsticks!'
'I guess I must have had a lot of on my hands.'
- 'Does Jenny ever move from in front of the TV?'
'I think she's in danger of becoming a bit of a couch'
- 'You've got a great suntan!'
'I went away for a few days to recharge my'

Word formation

M Complete the sentences by changing the form of the word in capitals.

- The cricket ground and the theatre make this a very area to live in. **DESIRE**
- My family have always gone in for traditional country, such as hunting, shooting and fishing. **PURSUE**
- What I like about Stravinsky's music is the complexity, which has a powerful effect on the listener. **RHYTHM**
- After ten matches, we had the record of played ten, won none, lost ten. **ENVY**
- I know you'd rather take your holiday in August, but when the boss is offering you extra days off, I don't think you can afford to be so **CHOOSE**
- You don't need to be quite so in your work, and you might find you enjoy it more if you take a little time off. **ZEAL**
- You don't have time to do all the sports you'd like to, so you're going to have to be a bit **SELECT**
- After dinner, we went for a stroll along the seafront. **LEISURE**
- We're only two weeks into the school holidays and already my children are **REST**
- I don't mind Annabel spending time on her computer, but playing this latest game has become almost an **OBSESS**

N Write a word formed from the words in the box in each gap.

available • do • motive • play • prefer • relax • satisfy • sport • stimulate • tend

Get Active with Marlston Council

As a local resident, you may already be aware of Marlston Council's 'Get Active' campaign. We'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of the campaign and to give you some simple tips to help you and your family get active.

- * It's impossible to (1) the importance of getting active as a family. We all have a (2) to start off with good intentions and then lose our (3) Playing and exercising together as a family can help you through those moments when you are (4) with your progress.
 - * Don't (5) it. Start with gentle exercise and work up to something more strenuous. Whatever your (6) activity, make sure that you're all comfortable doing it at that level. If necessary, switch to a more (7) activity until you're all in better shape.
 - * Children these days get a lot of (8) from the fast-moving worlds of television, the Internet and computer games. Make sure you find an activity that they'll find fun. Contact Marlston Council to find out about the (9) of facilities where you live.
 - * Playing a sport together will teach your children about fair play, (10) and working with others. But remember that it has to be fun or they'll soon lose interest.
- For further information, contact Marlston Council and ask to speak to someone from the 'Get Active' campaign.

O Some verbs form nouns using -ence, as in preference. Some form nouns using -ance. Put nouns formed from the following words in the correct category.

accept	attend	differ	ignore	occur	rely
allow	avoid	disturb	inherit	perform	resemble
annoy	clear	endure	insist	persist	resist
appear	correspond	exist	insure	reassure	tolerate
assist	depend	guide	interfere	refer	utter

-ance	-ence

P Complete the sentences using words formed in exercise O.

- Do you think you could help me? I'm having real problems with this and I think I need some
- There's such a close between Mikey and his father, don't you think?
- I use the Internet quite a bit now for looking up information and I don't really use the books on my shelves.
- The head teacher was walking past the classroom door when she heard a loud coming from inside.
- You need to be really fit to be able to complete an race like the marathon.
- You might feel like giving up, but keep practising and you'll be amazed at what a little can achieve.
- This football team has a proud tradition and has been in since 1890.
- There was a lot of from local people to the government's plans to knock down the stadium.

contrasting (adj) different from each other in a noticeable or interesting way: *They write in contrasting styles.*

cooperate (v) to work with other people to achieve a result that is good for everyone involved: *We can achieve more if we cooperate.*

correspond (v) to be the same as something else or very much like it: *The two accounts of the incident correspond with each other.*

dispute (v) to say that something such as a fact is not true or correct: *I'm not disputing the facts, just your interpretation of them.*

dispute (n) a serious disagreement, especially one between groups of people that lasts for a long time: *The dispute seems likely to continue.*

distinguish (v) to recognise the differences between things: *I couldn't distinguish between the expensive coffee and the cheap brand.*

diverse (adj) very different from each other: *Our English teacher knows a lot about quite a diverse range of subjects.*

divorce (v) to take legal action to end your marriage: *She divorced her husband about ten years ago.*

divorce (n) a legal way of ending a marriage: *I've been meaning to tell you for some time now that I'd like a divorce.*

equivalent (n) someone or something that has the same size, value, importance or meaning as someone or something else: *There's no equivalent for that word in English.*

equivalent (adj) of the same size, value, importance or meaning as something else: *We can either give you a refund or you can exchange the item for one of equivalent value.*

exclude (v) to deliberately not include something: *Excluding ourselves, we're inviting 18 people to the party.*

external (adj) coming from outside a place or organisation: *You'll be interviewed by an external examiner.*

external (adj) on or from the outside of something such as a building or someone's body: *This cream is for external use only.*

identify (v) to recognise someone and be able to say who they are: *The witness wasn't able to identify the man.*

identify with (v) feel that you can understand and share someone else's feelings: *I could really identify with the character of Melissa in the film.*

integral (adj) forming an essential part of something and needed to make it complete: *Learning to forgive is an integral part of growing up.*

integrate (v) to make someone become a full member of a group or society and be involved completely in its activities: *I think that people who come to this country should make an effort to integrate.*

interfere (v) to deliberately become involved in a situation and try to influence the way that it develops, although you have no right to do this: *Stop interfering in my relationship with Jane!*

intermediate (adj) in between two stages, places, levels, times, etc: *You can't become a pilot without going through a lot of intermediate steps along the way.*

intermediate (adj) at an academic level below advanced: *This course is aimed at intermediate learners.*

internal (adj) existing or happening inside an object, a building or your body: *We've decided to knock down one of the internal walls.*

intervene (v) to become involved in a situation in order to try to stop or change it: *The fight could have got ugly if the teacher hadn't intervened.*

intimate (adj) an intimate relationship is a very close personal relationship, especially a sexual one: *Martin seems to have problems being intimate with people.*

intimate (adj) relating to very private or personal things: *I record all my most intimate thoughts in my diary.*

involve (v) to include something as a necessary part of an activity, event or situation: *Getting your degree is going to involve quite a lot of hard work, you know.*

joint (adj) involving two or more people or done by them together: *We decided to open a joint bank account.*

liken (v) to say that someone or something is similar to someone or something else: *Mary likened herself to Bill Gates, and I suppose they have got one or two things in common.*

link (v) if people, things or events are linked, they are related to each other in some way: *Do you think this robbery is linked to the one that happened last week?*

link (v) to say or show that two things are related, or that one of the things causes the other: *The psychiatrist linked how I felt to the problems I'd had as a child.*

link (n) a connection between two or more people, places, facts or events, especially when one is affected or caused by the other: *There's a strong link between the power of the USA and the spread of English.*

merge (v) if two organisations merge, or you merge them, they combine to form one bigger organisation: *I might lose my job when the two businesses merge.*

mutual (adj) felt or done in the same way by each of two or more people: *John doesn't like me, and the feeling is mutual.*

negotiate (v) to try to reach an agreement by discussing something in a formal way, especially in a business or political situation: *We've managed to negotiate a discount of 20%.*

related (adj) if two or more things are related, there is a connection between them: *Your illness is related to the stress you are under at work.*

relative (adj) having a particular quality when compared to something else: *After the failure of his first film, the last one was a relative success.*

resemblance (n) if there is a resemblance between two people or things, they are similar, especially in their appearance: *Can you see the resemblance between me and my father?*

People

acquaintance (n) someone you know a little, who is not a close friend: *He's not really a friend, more of an acquaintance.*

adopt (v) to decide to start using a particular idea, plan or method: *I adopted the method the coach showed me and I played far better.*

adopt (v) to take someone else's child into your family and legally make him or her your own child: *After two years in a children's home, Adam was adopted by a very nice young couple.*

ancestor (n) someone who is related to you who lived a long time ago: *My ancestors all came from the same part of China.*

citizen (n) someone who has the right to live permanently in a particular country and has the right to the legal and social benefits of that country as well as legal obligations towards it: *The man took out his passport to prove he was an American citizen.*

companion (n) someone who is with you: *The prize is a holiday for you and a companion.*

dependant (n) a child or other relative to whom you give food, money and a home: *I couldn't believe it when I heard how many dependants he's got.*

descendant (n) a relative of a person who lived in the past: *Did I tell you that I'm a descendant of Lord Byron?*

empathise (v) to understand how someone feels because you can imagine what it is like to be them: *I've had a similar experience, so I can empathise.*

extrovert (n) someone who is very confident, lively and likes social situations: *Michelle is such an extrovert and loves meeting new people.*

foster (v) to look after a child as part of your family for a period of time because the child's parents cannot look after them: *My parents have fostered lots of children over the years.*

guardian (n) someone who is legally responsible for another person such as a child, whose parents have died: *You need to get the form signed by a parent or guardian.*

introvert (n) someone who tends to concentrate on their own thoughts and feelings rather than communicating with other people: *I'm more of an introvert and prefer to spend time on my own.*

partner (n) someone that you do a particular activity with: *Nadine and I are partners at tennis sometimes.*

partner (n) someone that you live with and have a sexual relationship with: *The invitation is for me and my partner.*

peer (n) someone who is of the same age as another person: *What your peers think of you can be very important.*

predecessor (n) the person who had a job or official position before someone else: *I hope to avoid making my predecessor's mistakes.*

sibling (n) your siblings are your brothers and sisters: *The elder sibling in a family is often more successful in his or her career.*

spouse (n) a husband or wife: *Each spouse is responsible for paying their own income tax.*

stepmother/son/etc (n) someone's stepmother/son/etc is their mother/son/etc because of a second marriage, not because of a biological connection: *When my dad remarried, I didn't really get on with my stepmother.*

successor (n) someone who has a position after someone else: *I hope my successor enjoys the job as much as I have.*

sympathise (v) to behave in a kind way and show that you understand someone's problems: *Why can't you sympathise with people, instead of blaming them for their problems?*

Unit 26

Preference

addiction (n) a strong need that someone feels to regularly take an illegal or harmful drug: *I developed an addiction to the medicine my doctor had prescribed for me.*

adore (v) to love someone/something very much: *I absolutely adore Indian food!*

anticipation (n) a feeling of excitement about something enjoyable that is going to happen soon: *I waited in anticipation for the show to begin.*

appeal (v) to ask people to do something or to behave in a particular way, especially in a difficult situation: *The Minister has appealed for people not to panic.*

appeal (v) if something appeals to you, you like it or want it: *A holiday in Ireland doesn't really appeal to me.*

appeal (n) a quality that something has that makes people like it or want it: *It's difficult to explain the appeal of this book.*

appeal (n) a request for people to do something or to behave in a particular way: *Police have made an appeal for witnesses to come forward.*

arbitrary (adj) not based on any particular plan or done for any particular reason: *The choice of date for the wedding was just arbitrary.*

aspiration (n) something that you want to achieve, or the wish to achieve something: *One of my aspirations is to travel the world.*

bear (v) if you cannot bear something, you cannot accept or do it because it makes you very unhappy: *I can't bear waiting in queues.*

compulsory (adj) something that is compulsory must be done because of a rule or law: *This course is compulsory for all students.*

content (adj) happy and satisfied with your life: *I'm quite content working here.*

craving (n) a very strong feeling of wanting something: *I had a sudden craving for chocolate ice cream.*

decline (v) to say politely that you will not accept something or do something: *The Prime Minister declined to answer questions.*

decline (v) to become less or worse: *The service in this hotel has really declined over the last couple of years.*

dedicated (adj) spending all your time and effort on something: *Kelly's very dedicated to her job and should go far.*

delight (v) to give someone a lot of enjoyment or pleasure: *I was delighted by the decision.*

desire (v) to want something: *It's quite common for people to desire what they can't have.*

desire (n) a strong feeling of wanting to have or do something: *She had a strong desire to work in the media.*

devote (v) to spend a lot of time or effort doing something: *Gordon's absolutely devoted to his kids.*

devote (v) to use something such as money for a particular purpose: *The government has devoted £10 million to the project.*

differentiate (v) to see or show a difference between things: *I'm colour blind so I have problems differentiating between red and green.*

envy (v) to have the unhappy feeling of wanting to be like someone else or have what they have: *Carla's brother envied her success and wealth.*

envy (n) the unhappy feeling you have when you want very much to do something that someone else does or have something that they have: *Envy can destroy a relationship.*

fancy (v) to want to have or do something: *Where do you fancy going tonight?*

fascination (n) the state of being very interested in something or attracted by something: *Carol's always had a fascination with insects.*

favour (v) to support an idea and believe that it is better than other ideas that have been suggested: *I favour the first suggestion.*

favour (v) to help someone and give them an advantage in an unfair way: *It's not fair to favour one student over another.*

favour (n) something that you do for someone in order to help them: *I don't suppose you could do me a favour, could you?*

greedy (adj) wanting more money, things or power than you need: *Maybe being sick will teach you not to be so greedy next time.*

impulse (n) a sudden strong feeling that you must do something: *I couldn't resist the impulse to kiss her.*

inclined (adj) feeling that you want to do something: *I am inclined to agree with you.*

liking (n) a feeling of enjoying or liking something: *I developed a liking for Chinese food when I lived there.*

mediocre (adj) average or below average in quality: *The restaurant was quite expensive, and the food was only mediocre.*

motive (n) the reason you do something: *What was the murderer's motive?*

mundane (adj) ordinary and not interesting or exciting, especially because it happens too regularly: *I'm thinking of changing jobs because working in the office has become quite mundane.*

obsessed (adj) considering someone or something as so important that you are always thinking about them, in a way that seems extreme to other people: *Oliver is totally obsessed with football.*

optional (adj) something that is optional is available or possible if you want it, but you do not have to have it or do it: *The sunroof is optional on this car, so you have to pay extra.*

passion (n) a strong enthusiasm or interest: *Alice had a passion for cooking.*

praise (v) to express strong approval or admiration for someone or something, especially in public: *I felt proud when the teacher praised my work.*

praise (n) an expression of strong approval or admiration: *Praise usually works far better than criticism.*

resolve (v) to make a formal decision, usually after a discussion and a vote at a meeting: *The company resolved to appoint a new managing director.*

sacrifice (v) to give up something important or valuable so that you or other people can do or have something else: *We've had to sacrifice a lot to put our children through private school.*

sacrifice (n) the act of giving up something important or valuable so that you or other people can do or have something else: *We all have to make sacrifices now that both your mother and I are out of work.*

strive (v) to make a lot of effort to achieve something: *You won't achieve your goals unless you strive towards them.*

taste (n) the ability to judge if something is good or bad in things like art, fashion and social behaviour: *Michael really has no taste in clothes.*

tempting (adj) used for describing something that makes you feel you would like to have it or do it: *It's very tempting to blame the government for everything that goes wrong.*

urge (v) to advise someone very strongly about what action or attitude they should take: *I would urge you to speak to a lawyer.*

urge (n) a strong feeling of wanting or needing to do something: *I suddenly felt an urge to run from the room.*

welcome (v) to say that you are pleased to accept or consider something such as an opportunity or a question: *We welcome the government's proposals.*

welcome (adj) if you are welcome or a welcome visitor at a place, people are pleased that you are there: *We were made to feel very welcome.*

worthwhile (adj) if something is worthwhile, it is worth the time, money or effort that you spend on it: *Why don't you watch less TV and do something more worthwhile with your time?*

yearn (v) to want something a lot, especially something that you know you may not be able to have: *Many people yearn to retire to the country, but not everyone manages it.*

Leisure activities

absorbing (adj) something absorbing is so entertaining that you give it all your attention: *The film was so absorbing that time simply flew by.*

casual (adj) relaxed and informal: *The party is quite casual, so don't dress too formally.*

exhilarating (adj) making you feel extremely happy, excited and full of energy: *The funfair was really exhilarating.*

fatigue (n) a feeling of being extremely tired, either physically or mentally: *Fatigue can lead to mistakes.*

idle (adj) not doing anything, when there are things that you should do: *Don't just sit there being idle – there's housework to be done.*

idle (adj) workers who are idle have no work: *The company is losing money all the time the workers are idle.*

indulge (v) to allow yourself to have or do something that you enjoy: *I decided to indulge myself and had a holiday in the Bahamas.*

lifestyle (n) the type of life you have, for example the type of job or house you have or the type of activity you like doing: *This product is ideal for today's busy lifestyles.*

leave (n) a period of time away from your job or the armed forces: *My brother comes out of the army on leave next week.*

outing (n) a short journey that you take for enjoyment: *Let's have an outing to the beach this weekend.*

pastime (n) something that you do regularly for fun in your free time: *I need to find a pastime that doesn't demand a lot of money.*

pursue (v) to follow a course of activity: *I'm thinking of pursuing a career in medicine.*

recreation (n) things that you do to enjoy yourself: *Sport can be a very social form of recreation.*

respite (n) a short period of rest from having to deal with a difficult or unpleasant situation: *We had a few days of respite from the hot weather, but it soon got warmer again.*

sedentary (adj) involving a lot of sitting and not much exercise: *I've got quite a sedentary job, so I like to go to the gym once a week.*

socialise (v) to spend time with other people socially, for example at a party: *We seem to have done a lot of socialising this month.*

solitude (n) the state of being completely alone, especially when this is pleasant or relaxing: *There's nothing like the peace and solitude you get when you're fishing.*

tedious (adj) boring and continuing for too long: *I couldn't believe how tedious that meeting was!*

trivial (adj) not very interesting, serious or valuable: *Fran always seems to think that her problems are important, while yours are quite trivial.*

unwind (v) to begin to relax after you have been working hard or feeling nervous: *I like to unwind with a good book in the evenings.*

venue (n) the place where an activity or event happens: *Have they chosen a venue for the wedding yet?*

Phrasal verbs database

add up to combine to produce a particular result or effect: *These new measures do not add up to genuine reform.*

add up to if separate amounts add up to a total amount, together they form that total: *His business expenses add up to around £4,000 a year.*

answer back reply rudely to someone who has more authority than you: *I got into trouble for answering the teacher back.*

ask out invite someone to go with you to a cinema, restaurant, etc because you want to start a romantic or sexual relationship with them: *Fred asked Vanessa to go out with him but she said no.*

back down stop asking for something or stop saying that you will do something, because a lot of people oppose you: *I'm not going to back down just because a few people disagree with me.*

back up give support to someone by telling other people that you agree with them *backup* (n): *I didn't believe Simon's story until Janice backed him up.*

back up make a copy of information on your computer *backup* (n): *Make sure you back all your data up, just in case you get a virus.*

black out make a place dark by turning off all the lights, for example so that the enemy cannot see a place at night *blackout* (n): *The whole city was blacked out for nights on end during the war.*

black out suddenly become unconscious: *He had blacked out as his car hit the tree.*

blend in if someone or something blends in, they are similar to the other people, objects, buildings, etc around them, and so they seem appropriate or you do not notice them: *The building doesn't really blend in very well with the others around it.*

blurt out say something suddenly and without thinking about the effect it will have, usually because you are nervous or excited: *She blurted out his name, then gasped as she realised what she'd done.*

board up cover a window or door with wooden boards: *We boarded the house up because we knew a bad storm was coming.*

break down divide something such as a total amount into separate parts *breakdown* (n): *The amount doesn't seem quite so bad when you break it down into monthly payments.*

break up break something to make smaller pieces: *Break that old wardrobe up; then I can put it on the fire.*

break up if a meeting or other event breaks up, or if you break it up, it ends and people leave: *The meeting finally broke up after three hours.*

break up if two people break up, they end their relationship: *When did Diana and James break up?*

brighten up if the weather brightens up, it becomes sunnier: *It's brightening up, at last.*

brighten up start looking or feeling happier: *Sarah brightened up considerably as she thought of Emily's words.*

brighten up start to have more colour or light, give something more colour or light: *You could brighten up that skirt with a red blouse.*

bring about make something happen, especially to cause changes in a situation: *It's not something we can bring about overnight.*

bring out make someone or something show a quality that they have: *That dress really brings out the green in your eyes.*

bring out produce a new product and start to sell it: *They've brought out a new 3D video camera.*

bring together create a situation in which people meet and do something together, especially when they would not usually do so: *The attack on the city really brought people together.*

brush up (on) practise and improve your skills or knowledge of something: *I took a class to brush up (on) my German before the trip.*

build up gradually develop: *Many popular writers built up their reputations during the war.*

build up increase or make something increase: *The food industry needs to build up consumer confidence again.*

build up make someone bigger, healthier and stronger, especially by making them eat more *build-up* (n): *You need lots of fresh fruit to help build you up.*

build up talk about someone or something in a very positive way so that people are impressed with them: *They've built him up to be something that he isn't.*

bump into accidentally hit against something: *It was dark and I bumped into the table.*

bump into meet someone unexpectedly: *Guess who I bumped into in town?*

buy off give someone money so that they do not act against you: *Efforts to buy her off have failed.*

buy out pay money to your business partner so that you can control all of a business you previously owned together *buyout* (n): *The other directors have offered to buy me out.*

buy up buy large amounts of something or all of it that is available: *Developers have been buying up old theatres and converting them into cinemas.*

cancel out stop something from having any effect: *These headphones cancel out any other noise so all you can hear is the music.*

carry over take something that you earn or are given in one year or period of time into the next one *carry-over* (n): *You are not allowed to carry over holiday entitlement from one year into the next.*

catch on become popular or fashionable: *Sports drinks have caught on as consumers have become more health-conscious.*

catch on understand: *He didn't catch on at first.*

centre around if something centres around someone or something, or you centre something around them, they are its main subject of attention or interest: *The book centres around a woman who becomes an astronaut.*

chance upon find or see someone or something when you did not expect to: *We chanced upon a charming little restaurant.*

change around move things so that they are in different places or positions: *My friends had changed all the furniture in my room around as a joke.*

change into stop being in one state, condition or form and start being in another, or make something do this: *The film was about a man who changes into a werewolf during the full moon.*

change into take off the clothes or a piece of clothing you are wearing and put on different ones: *Let me just change into something a bit more comfortable.*

change out of take off the clothes or a piece of clothing you are wearing and put on different ones: *Come inside and change out of those wet things.*

check out examine someone or something in order to be certain that everything is correct, true or satisfactory: *I've been taking loads of photographs, just to check out the camera.*

check out if information checks out, you feel that it is true after examining it: *Their story just didn't check out.*