

■ Power and social issues

Topic vocabulary: Power

see page 238 for definitions

aggression (n)	eliminate (v)	mainstream (n, adj)	society (n)
authority (n)	enforce (v)	master (v, n)	subject (v, n)
benign (adj)	entitled (adj)	minister (n)	subjective (adj)
bully (v, n)	exempt (adj)	monarch (n)	submit (v)
command (v, n)	former (adj)	prohibit (v)	summon (v)
conquer (v)	impose (v)	reign (v, n)	superior (adj)
consent (v, n)	inferior (adj)	reinforce (v)	undermine (v)
controversy (n)	intimidate (v)	reluctant (adj)	unrest (n)
dictator (n)	label (v, n)	resist (v)	victimise (v)
dominate (v)	liberate (v)	restrict (v)	vulnerable (adj)

Topic vocabulary: Social issues

see page 239 for definitions

abolish (v)	class (n)	heritage (n)	prejudice (n)
advocate (v)	community (n)	immigration (n)	prison reform (n phr)
alleviate (v)	convict (v, n)	industrial action (n phr)	privileged (adj)
bureaucracy (n)	corruption (n)	institution (n)	prosecute (v)
charity (n)	deterrent (n)	legislation (n)	state (n)

Phrasal verbs

back down	stop asking for something or stop saying that you will do something, because a lot of people oppose you	hit back	criticise someone who has criticised you; deliberately hurt someone who has hurt you
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	lock up	put someone in a prison; lock all the doors and windows of a building so that no one can get in
bring about	make something happen, especially to cause changes in a situation	opt out (of)	decide not to take part in something or stop taking part in it
crack down (on)	start dealing with someone or something much more strictly <i>crackdown</i> (n)	phase out	gradually stop using something
get in	be elected for a political job	push around	keep telling someone what to do in an unfair or unpleasant way
get off	not be punished severely or at all for something you have been accused of in court; have a particular period of time as a holiday; send something, for example in the post	single out	choose one person from a group for special attention
give in	stop competing or arguing and accept that you cannot win; if you give in to something, you can no longer control the feeling of wanting it	stand up to	not allow yourself to be treated badly, especially by someone in authority
		take over	take control of something; begin to do something that someone else was doing
		talk down to	talk to someone as if you think they are not as clever or important as you are

Phrases, patterns and collocations

arm	arm sb with, arm yourself against, take up arms (against), lay down (your) arms, up in arms (about), arms control, arms race	charge	charge sb with, charge sb for, take charge, (put) in charge (of), overall charge
authority	have the authority to do, grant sb the authority to do, have authority over, have sth on good authority, in authority, with authority, the authorities, local authority	class	class sb/sth as, social class, working/middle/upper class, ruling class, class system, class differences, class war

Phrases, patterns and collocations

crime commit/report/witness/solve a crime, fight/combat crime, the scene of a crime, organised crime, crime^{*} prevention, crime rate, crime wave

deny deny sb sth, deny a request, deny that, deny doing, deny having done, deny (all) responsibility for

example make an example of, set an example, follow an example, give an example, an example of, classic/prime example

force force sb to do, force sth on sb, force your way into/through, force a smile, with force, police force, armed forces

grant grant sth to, grant sb permission/authority, grant a request, grant sb's wish

law become law, break/follow/uphold the law, pass/amend/repeal a law, lay down the law, practise law, against the law, above the law, by/under law, law and order

lock lock sth in, lock horns with, under lock and key, locksmith

peer peer group, peer pressure

power take/seize/hold/exercise/exert/wield/abuse power, in power, beyond sb's power, power to do, power struggle, power structure, power base

prison go to prison, send sb to prison, in prison, prison term, prison sentence, prison reform, prison officer, open prison

provoke provoke sb into doing, provoke a reaction/protest/response, provoke outrage

right have a/the/no/every right to do, give sb the right to do, right and wrong, right in saying/thinking/believing, right (of sb) to do, equal rights, human rights, animal rights

rule break/bend/follow the rules, against the rules, as a rule, rule of law, rule of thumb, rules and regulations

sentence sentence sb to, pass sentence, serve a sentence (of five years, etc), prison sentence, death sentence

social social conditions, social contact, social security, social services, social call, social worker, social club, social life

subject subject sb to, bring up / get onto a subject, drop/change the subject, subject to, the subject of, British subject

Idioms

bury your head in the sand

ignore a problem or an unpleasant situation and hope that it will disappear

gain/get/have/take the upper hand

gain/get/have/take control or advantage over a person or situation

get/have your way

be allowed to have or do what you want

live and let live

if they are very different from your own

used for saying that you should accept other people's beliefs and way of life, even

pull (a few) strings

use your influence in order to get something you want or to help someone, especially when this is unfair

red tape

documents, rules or processes that cause delays

take the law into your own hands

punish someone in your own way without involving the police or the courts, often by doing something illegal yourself

the powers that be

the people who control a situation

throw the book at sb

punish someone very severely

under sb's thumb

completely controlled by someone else

Word formation

aggression	aggressiveness, aggressor, aggressive(ly)	might	mighty, mightily
argue	argument, argumentative(ly), (un)arguable, arguably	moral	moralise, demoralise, (im/a)morality, moralist, morale, (im/a)moral, (im/a)morally
charity	charitableness, (un)charitable, (un)charitably	office	officiate, official(dom), officer, officious, (un)official(ly)
crime	(de)criminalise, criminal, criminality, criminally	permit	permission, permissiveness, permissible, permissive
dominate	domineer, domination, (pre)dominance, dominant, domineering, dominating, predominant(ly)	persuade	dissuade, persuasion, persuasiveness, persuasively(ly)
duty	dutiful(ly)	power	empower, overpower, empowerment, powerlessness, powerful(ly), powerless(ly)
example	exemplify, exemplification, exemplary	prejudice	(un)prejudiced, prejudicial
govern	misgovern, government, governor, governess, governing, governmental, ungovernable	provoke	provocation, provocatively(ly)
hard	harden, hardship, hardness, hardy, hardly	signify	(in)significance, (in)significant(ly)
indicate	indication, indicator, indicative		
institute	institutionalise, institution, institutional, institutionalised		

Topic vocabulary: Power

A Circle the correct word.

- The operation can only go ahead if the child's parents **consent** / **submit** to it.
- In Britain, prisoners are not **entitled** / **exempt** to vote in elections, but I think they should be allowed to.
- Colonel Wilson **commands** / **intimidates** over 5,000 men.
- We need to plan carefully to **eliminate** / **prohibit** all risk of failure.
- Queen Victoria saw many changes during her time as **dictator** / **monarch**.
- It's one thing having this law, but unless the police **enforce** / **reinforce** it, it's useless.
- I don't think I'll ever **master** / **reign** surfing.
- Our manager at work just tries to **bully** / **conquer** us all into doing what she wants.
- But surely the council don't have the **aggression** / **authority** to change the law, do they?
- Didn't the government foresee that there would be a lot of **controversy** / **unrest** in the papers about this latest proposal?

B Complete using the words in the box.

benign • former • inferior • mainstream • minister • reluctant
society • subjective • superior • vulnerable

- Bill Clinton, President of the United States, arrived in Beijing today.
- After years in small political parties, I gradually became more interested in politics.
- My boss doesn't know what he's doing, but I can't tell him that because he's to me.
- I was to help her, but I had no choice.
- You might think people want this law, but that's just your opinion and you don't have any facts to back it up.
- A dictator might appear, but you never know when they might start to abuse their power.
- We must do all we can to help those who are in a position.
- Each department is controlled by a, who is part of the government.
- Don't think I'm to you. I'm just as good as you are.
- I'm sick of worrying about what thinks and I'm just going to do what I want.

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

dominate • impose • label • liberate • resist • restrict • subject • summon • undermine • victimise

Power

We are (1) to many different forms of power. There are those forms of power that exist by law: the right of the government to (2) laws on a country and to (3) what we are allowed to do. There is also the right of courts to (4) people to appear to stand trial or to give evidence. There is also, of course, power on a more personal level. People are constantly struggling for power and social status. This might take the form of attempting to (5) a conversation, something that is relatively easy to (6) since it is so obvious. It is more difficult to (7) ourselves from other forms of social power. When we are (8) as 'this' or 'that' by other people and put into a category, that too is a form of power. Bosses at work might (9) their employees by making them work long hours. A parent might (10) their child's self-confidence with constant criticism. Power is everywhere and the more you understand it, the more you may be able to control it.

Topic vocabulary: Social issues

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

bureaucracy • community • convict • corruption • deterrent • institution
legislation • prejudice • reform • state

Crime and punishment

The demand for prison (1) has steadily increased as more and more people have come to see that locking people up in (2) simply doesn't reduce crime. Not only does it fail to act as a (3), but it does very little to help (4) readjust to life back in the (5) after they have served their time. Prisons are isolated places, where prisoners learn from other criminals, and where bullying, bribery and other forms of (6) spread. Once outside prison, offenders face (7), which tends to force them back into a life of crime. Even once the (8) recognises the need for change, it is notoriously slow. It usually demands new (9) to change the system, and while the slow processes of (10) go on, more and more lives are affected.

E 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's ridiculous to think that we should **advocate** passports and just let everyone go where they like.
- What I don't understand is why the government aren't doing the work that this **heritage** is doing.
- Don't you think that our library system is an important part of our national **action**?
- Unions are threatening industrial **class** unless the pay offer is increased.
- Do you **alleviate** capital punishment for very serious offences?
- Derren came from a working **immigration** background but eventually became a lord.
- Warning: We will **abolish** anyone caught shoplifting.
- I suppose I was **privileged** to go to private school, but I don't think about it much.
- More must be done to **prosecute** the suffering of the poorest in society.
- High levels of **charity** to Australia from Europe in the nineteenth century meant there was a rapid increase in its population.

Phrasal verbs

F Match to make sentences.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 No matter what I said, Chris refused to back | A in to this kind of blackmail from the workers. |
| 2 Hardly had they locked the shop | B off with just 100 hours' community service. |
| 3 Only radical action will bring | C in at this election because it doesn't make any difference. |
| 4 What annoys me is that the man got | D down from her position on abortion. |
| 5 The Prime Minister hit | E over the business and rearranged things. |
| 6 Things have certainly improved since you took | F up when the alarm went off. |
| 7 The authorities shouldn't give | G about the changes that we so desperately need. |
| 8 I don't care who gets | H back at her critics and claimed she had done nothing wrong. |

G Write a word in each gap so that each second sentence has a similar meaning to the first sentence.

- They're gradually getting rid of the old-style passports.
They're out the old-style passports.
- Did you know that you can choose not to pay into the state pension scheme?
Did you know that you can out of the state pension scheme?
- The police are making a special effort to deal with illegal parking around here.
The police are down on illegal parking around here.
- Police officers in plain clothes tried to join the crowd and not be noticed.
Police officers in plain clothes tried to in with the crowd.
- You shouldn't let Stephanie bully you.
You should up to Stephanie.
- The press directed most of their criticism at the Deputy Prime Minister.
The Deputy Prime Minister was out for criticism by the press.
- I wish you wouldn't speak to me as if you were superior.
I wish you wouldn't down to me.
- Kyle got in trouble for bullying kids in the playground.
Kyle got in trouble for kids around in the playground.

H Some phrasal verbs with up, such as lock up, have meanings connected to 'fastening or restricting'. Tick the sentences where the phrasal verb has a meaning connected to 'fastening or restricting'.

- I heard on the news that terrorists have **blown** a train **up** in India.
- I think it's cruel to leave a dog **chained up** like that all day.
- It's freezing outside. **Do up** your coat before you go out.
- Sorry! I didn't mean to **mess** your room **up**, but I was looking for something.
- Why don't you **sew up** that hole in your jeans before you go out?
- The parcel was **taped up** so I had to use scissors to open it.
- I found a rope to **tie** the burglar **up** with and then I called the police.
- Can you help me? I can't **zip up** my top.

Phrases, patterns and collocations

I Write one word in each gap.

The Hoody

The hooded top, or 'hoody', has become something of a symbol of youth crime in Britain. It seems to get a mention whenever the newspapers get (1) the subject. Those wearing them are often classed (2) yobs or hooligans, even when they have done nothing (3) the law. The problem is that hoodies can easily hide their identity from CCTV cameras. Those (4) authority in some places such as shopping centres have even gone so far as to ban people wearing hoodies. They claim that the threat of crime (5) them the right to do it, but there is a danger that young people will actually be provoked (6) behaving in antisocial ways through rules like this. They may feel that those (7) power are discriminating against them, and that they refuse to listen when they deny (8) done anything wrong. It seems to be a classic example (9) older people feeling threatened by the fashions of the young. At the end of the day, what the members of their peer (10) think will always be more important to the young than what people running shopping centres think they should or shouldn't wear.

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

- We don't go out during the week as a , but we'll make an exception tonight.
People must be made to respect the of law, or we'll have anarchy.
A good of thumb is that you should allow 15 minutes per exercise in the exam.
- Did you hear that the guy who lives in the flat upstairs has been with burglary?
I couldn't believe they me three euros for a bottle of water!
The children ran out of the school gate and down the hill.
- We have it on good that they're thinking of closing the local office.
The professor spoke with on the subject of young people and crime.
Responsibility for running the prison has been taken out of the hands of the local
- The headteacher punished Aaron severely in order to make an of him.
Why can't you follow your brother's and go to university?
Give me one of a place round here where young people can go in the evenings.
- The politician all responsibility for the prison escape.
The authorities the couple's request to be allowed to stay in Britain.
I didn't believe Abigail when she knowing who had stolen the money.
- My parents have decided to lay down the so I can't come out this weekend.
This government's top priority is and order.
Have things improved since the Freedom of Information Act became ?

K Choose the correct answer.

- We all have to follow the rules, and none of us is the law.
A beyond B over C above D onto
- Apparently, before the fight some of the youths had themselves with knives.
A fitted B installed C armed D readied
- The woman was convicted and sentenced six months in prison.
A for B on C with D to
- Since it was a minor offence, Derek was sent to prison.
A an open B an easy C a soft D a weak
- A middle-aged man was seen running away from the of the crime.
A place B scene C location D point
- I work such long hours that I don't really have time for much of a life.
A friendly B outgoing C social D free
- Don't worry – the documents are safely lock and key at my place.
A under B in C on D within
- The most powerful force in a teenager's life is probably pressure.
A friend B peer C company D crowd
- We are pleased to inform you that we have decided to your request for British citizenship.
A give B grant C permit D donate
- We finally managed to our way through the crowd and reach the exit.
A create B insist C move D force

Idioms

L Complete using the words in the box.

book • hand • head • law • live • powers • strings • tape • thumb • way

- 1 You can't just bury your in the sand and hope that this problem goes away, you know.
- 2 My dad pulled a few and got me the job.
- 3 You can't just take the into your own hands and attack someone like that.
- 4 Ian's really under his boss's and isn't allowed to make any decisions himself.
- 5 It was a difficult game, but I eventually managed to gain the upper
- 6 Our neighbour's a bit strange, but and let live, I always say.
- 7 The that he have decided to ban skateboarding in the park.
- 8 I had to get through a lot of red, but I finally got the documents I needed.
- 9 If you let Vanessa have her own all the time, you'll spoil her.
- 10 This is the third time Heather's been caught – they're really going to throw the at her this time.

Word formation

M Use the word given in capitals at the end of the line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line.

A Reader Writes ...

We have all had the experience, I am sure, of feeling (1) in the face of civil servants. All nations need bureaucrats, but too many have become (2) and inflexible. While some carry out their jobs (3), others apply the letter of the law but not the spirit, and behave in an (4) manner, relying on computers and rules to tell them what is (5) and what is not. The number of civil servants has increased (6) under this current government, which I believe is a good (7) of where their priorities lie. I agree with Jack Turner (Letters, 16th May) that it is a (8) waste of taxpayers' money and I find his argument that we only need one third of them very (9) indeed. We in this country have (10) the biggest civil service in this part of the world and it is time something was done about it.

Yours sincerely,
A. P. Kennedy (Mrs)

POWER

INSTITUTE

DUTY

OFFICE

PERMIT

SIGNIFY

INDICATE

CRIME

PERSUADE

ARGUE

N Each of the words in bold is in an incorrect form. Rewrite them correctly.

- 1 The **domineering** view is that it's time this Prime Minister went
- 2 Since the factory closed, many people in the area have been living in **hardly**.
- 3 I find a lot of what is on TV these days offensive and **moralise**.
- 4 Did you know that you can claim **charity** donations against tax?
- 5 Peter gave the ball a **mightily** kick and sent it over the wall.
- 6 From what she said, I think Katie is **prejudicial** against black people.
- 7 Calm down! There's no need to get so **aggression** about the situation!
- 8 Verity won a prize at school for her **example** behaviour.
- 9 It's not often you see such agreement between the opposition and the **governor** party.
- 10 I'm sure Scott wouldn't have hit the other boy if he hadn't had some kind of **provocative**.
- 11 Lois can be so **arguable** sometimes and never seems to listen to the other person's point of view.
- 12 I know I'm successful, but I only got where I am today by working **hardly**.
- 13 I'm only telling you this **officialdom**, but it looks like you are going to be promoted.
- 14 This problem may seem **significance** to you, but I can assure you that the council takes it very seriously.
- 15 After the recent civil war, the country is almost **government** and crime rates have soared.
- 16 I managed to **persuasive** Mike from sacking you, but just be more careful next time.

O The prefix *mis-*, as in *misgovern*, can be used with some nouns and verbs to mean 'bad/badly' or 'wrong/wrongly'. Tick the words below which can form words using *mis-*.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 apply | 12 listen |
| 2 behave | 13 manage |
| 3 calculate | 14 organise |
| 4 conduct | 15 place |
| 5 direct | 16 print |
| 6 fire | 17 read |
| 7 fortune | 18 satisfy |
| 8 hear | 19 spell |
| 9 inform | 20 trust |
| 10 judge | 21 understand |
| 11 lead | 22 use |

P Complete the sentences using words formed in exercise O in the correct form.

- 1 Oh, I thought you said Saturday. I must have you.
- 2 I hope I never have the to meet that horrible man ever again!
- 3 The secretary was arrested for the club's money.
- 4 When I looked at the bill, I realised that they had it by nearly five per cent.
- 5 Now, be good. I don't want you to while Mrs Charlton is here.
- 6 I always 'potato' because I always think there's an 'e' on the end.
- 7 I used to think Molly was unfriendly, but I think I her and she's actually quite nice.
- 8 The gun and injured the soldier.

mock (v) to make someone or something look stupid by laughing at them, copying them, or saying something that is not kind: *Are you trying to mock me?*

neglect (n) the failure to give someone or something the care or attention they need: *There's an important need to protect children from abuse and neglect.*

neglect (v) to fail to look after someone when you are responsible for them: *What should we do about parents who neglect their children?*

neglect (v) to fail to do something that you should do: *He couldn't neglect his duties as an officer.*

peep (n) a quick look at something: *I'll just take a peep inside.*

peep (v) to look at something quickly and secretly, usually from a place where you think you cannot be seen: *She tried to peep through the gates to see the garden.*

peer (v) to look very carefully, especially because something is difficult to see: *She was peering through the window.*

prevent (v) to stop something from happening or stop someone from doing something: *Regular cleaning may help prevent infection.*

rejoice (v) to feel very happy about something, or to celebrate something in a happy way: *Montaigne seemed to rejoice in the humiliation of others.*

resent (v) to experience angry, unhappy feelings because you think you have been treated unfairly or without enough respect: *The girls in the family resented all the attention that Peter was getting.*

resolute (adj) extremely determined: *We're resolute in our determination to oppose these measures.*

smirk (n) an unpleasant smile: *Wipe that smirk off your face!*

smirk (v) to smile in an unpleasant way because something bad has happened to someone else, or because you think you have achieved an advantage over them: *I know you've won, but there's no need to smirk.*

snap (v) to suddenly lose control and become extremely angry or upset because a situation has become too annoying or difficult: *She was bound to snap under all that pressure.*

snap (v) to speak to someone in a sudden, angry way: *'What do you want now?' he snapped angrily.*

tactic (n) a particular method or plan for achieving something: *The governor's tactics involved accusing his opponent of being too liberal.*

terror (n) a strong feeling of fear: *Thousands of islanders fled in terror yesterday as the volcano erupted.*

terror (n) violence used for making people very frightened in order to achieve political aims: *This is a deliberate campaign of terror.*

Health

administer (v) to give someone a drug or medical treatment: *The drugs are administered intravenously.*

admit (v) to take someone into hospital for medical treatment: *After collapsing, she was rushed to hospital, where she was admitted.*

agony (n) great pain: *William fell to the ground, writhing in agony.*

agony (n) a strong and unpleasant feeling, especially great worry or sadness: *Waiting for the results was agony.*

antidote (n) a substance that prevents a poison from having bad effects: *It's a snake bite. Quick – get the antidote!*

consultant (n) a senior doctor in a hospital who is an expert in a particular medical subject: *She's a consultant cardiologist.*

diagnosis (n) a statement about what disease someone has, based on examining them: *Her doctor made a diagnosis of appendicitis.*

inoculate (v) to protect someone against a particular disease by injecting a medicine containing a small amount of the disease into them, so that their body becomes immune to it: *None of the family had been inoculated against diphtheria.*

irritation (n) a painful feeling in a part of the body, often with red skin or swelling: *Some drugs can cause stomach irritation.*

numb (adj) a part of your body that is numb has no feeling: *After hours of sitting on the floor, her legs had gone numb.*

numb (adj) not able to react or to show your emotions, often because of an extreme shock: *I was numb with fear.*

nursing home (n phr) an institution where old people live when they are too old or ill to look after themselves without help: *My grandmother's moving into a nursing home next week.*

paralysis (n) the loss of the ability to move your body or a part of it, usually because of an injury or illness: *The syndrome can lead to sudden paralysis.*

plaster (n) a thin piece of cloth or plastic that is sticky on one side, and that you put on your skin to cover a cut: *I've cut my finger. Have you got a plaster?*

plaster (n) if a part of someone's body is in plaster, it has a hard cover around it to protect a broken bone: *One man had his leg in plaster, having broken it in an accident.*

prescribe (v) if a doctor prescribes a drug or treatment, they say you should have it: *The drug should not be taken unless prescribed by a doctor.*

prevent(at)ive medicine (n phr) medical examinations, treatments, advice, etc intended to prevent illness or discover it before it becomes serious: *The government should invest more in preventive medicine.*

prognosis (n) a doctor's opinion about the way in which a disease or illness is likely to develop: *What's the prognosis, doctor?*

sick leave (n phr) a period of time during which you do not work because you are ill: *Mr Jenkins is away on sick leave today.*

side effect (n phr) an effect of a medicine that is not intended and could be unpleasant: *The treatment has no significant side effects.*

syringe (n) a needle fitted to a plastic tube, used for taking blood from your body or for putting medicine or drugs into it: *Take the syringe and inject the patient.*

vaccine (n) a substance put into the body, usually by injection, in order to provide protection against a disease: *Is there an effective vaccine for meningitis?*

ward (n) a large room in a hospital with beds for people to stay in: *Jo is a staff nurse working on the maternity ward.*

Unit 20

Power

aggression (n) an angry feeling that makes you want to attack or defeat someone else: *You're going to have to learn to control your aggression.*

authority (n) the power to make decisions or tell people what to do: *You don't have the authority to do that.*

benign (adj) kind and nice: *He might seem benign, but keep an eye on him.*

bully (v) to frighten or hurt someone who is smaller or weaker than you: *The boss just tries to bully everyone in the office.*

bully (n) someone who frightens or hurts someone who is smaller or weaker than they are: *I was a bit of a bully when I was at school.*

command (v) to officially order someone to do something: *The general commanded the army to attack.*

command (n) an official order: *The dog understands my every command.*

conquer (v) to take control of land or people using soldiers: *The Spanish conquered South America in the sixteenth century.*

conquer (v) to gain control of a situation or emotion by making a great physical or mental effort: *I tried hard to conquer my fear.*

consent (v) to give approval for something: *You can't go on the school trip unless your parents consent to it.*

consent (n) permission to do something: *The police shouldn't be allowed to enter your house without your consent.*

controversy (n) a disagreement, especially about a public policy or a moral issue that a lot of people have strong feelings about: *There's a lot of controversy surrounding the new law.*

dictator (n) someone who uses force to take and keep power in a country: *How did the dictator come to power?*

dominate (v) to control something or someone, often in a negative way, because you have more power or influence: *Don't allow him to dominate the conversation all the time.*

eliminate (v) to get rid of something that is not wanted or needed: *Will we ever eliminate the threat from pollution?*

enforce (v) to make sure that a law or rule is obeyed by people: *It'll be impossible to enforce the new law.*

entitled (adj) having the right to do something: *Students are entitled to a special discount on books.*

exempt (adj) allowed to ignore something such as a rule, obligation or payment: *At the moment, women are exempt from national service.*

former (adj) used for describing someone or something that had a particular job, title, status, etc in the past, but not now: *The former Prime Minister of India is visiting the UK.*

impose (v) to introduce something such as a new law or new system, and force people to accept it: *These rules are being imposed without anyone's opinion being asked.*

inferior (adj) not as good as something else: *Street markets often sell inferior quality electrical goods.*

intimidate (v) to deliberately make someone feel frightened especially so that they will do what you want: *Richard often tries to intimidate people.*

label (v) to use a word or phrase to describe someone or something, especially one that is not completely fair or true: *Don't label all young people in the same way.*

label (n) a word or phrase that is used to describe someone or something, especially one that is not completely fair or true: *I wish people wouldn't try to put a label on me.*

label (n) a piece of paper or material fastened to an object that gives information about it: *I don't know what's in this tin because the label has come off.*

liberate (v) to give someone the freedom to do what they want, for example by taking them out of a situation in which their behaviour is controlled: *Leaving school and getting a job really liberated me.*

mainstream (n) ideas, methods or people that are considered ordinary or normal and accepted by most people: *Life can be more difficult if you're not part of the mainstream.*

mainstream (adj) considered ordinary or normal and accepted or used by most people: *Most mainstream politicians have dismissed the suggestion.*

master (v) to learn something thoroughly so that you know it or can do it very well: *It took me over ten years to master the piano.*

master (n) a man who has control over servants or other people who work for him: *Servants should show respect to their master at all times.*

minister (n) an official in charge of a government department in the UK and other countries: *The Minister responsible for this decision should resign.*

monarch (n) a king or queen: *The monarch represents the country abroad.*

prohibit (v) to officially stop something from being done, especially by making it illegal: *The sale of lottery tickets to children is prohibited.*

reign (v) if a king or queen reigns, they officially rule a country: *Queen Victoria reigned during a time of great change.*

reign (n) the period of time when a king or queen rules a country: *What's the longest reign of any king or queen?*

reinforce (v) to make an idea, belief or feeling stronger: *Stories like this in the media reinforce the idea that all young black men are criminals.*

reluctant (adj) not willing to do something: *I'm reluctant to invite Tracy to the wedding.*

resist (v) to oppose or fight against someone or something: *The Prime Minister resisted a lot of pressure to change his mind.*

resist (v) to stop yourself from doing something that you would very much like to do: *I can't resist chocolate!*

restrict (v) to keep something within strict limits: *Many parents restrict the number of hours their children watch TV.*

society (n) people in general living together in organised communities, with laws and traditions controlling the way they behave towards one another: *People have much more freedom in today's society.*

subject (v) to make someone experience something unpleasant: *They subjected the poor prisoner to torture.*

subject (n) an idea, problem, situation, etc that you discuss or write about: *What subject have you chosen for your essay?*

subject (n) someone who lives in a country that is controlled by a king or queen: *I'm proud to be a British subject.*

subjective (adj) based on your own feelings and ideas and not on facts: *That's just your subjective opinion.*

submit (v) to accept that someone has defeated you or has power over you: *The boy only stopped hitting me when I submitted.*

summon (v) to officially order someone to come to a place, especially a court of law: *She was summoned to appear before the court.*

superior (adj) better than someone or something else in quality or skill: *His early work is vastly superior to the later pieces.*

undermine (v) to make something or someone become gradually less effective, confident or successful: *This unfortunate incident undermines all the hard work we've put in.*

unrest (n) angry or violent behaviour by people who are protesting against something: *Politicians held a special meeting to discuss the unrest in the country.*

victimise (v) to treat someone in a deliberately unfair way: *It's not right to victimise someone in that way.*

vulnerable (adj) someone who is vulnerable is weak or easy to hurt physically or mentally: *I felt quite vulnerable walking home late at night.*

Social issues

abolish (v) to officially get rid of a law, system, practice, etc: *The law was abolished in 1963.*

advocate (v) to publicly support a particular policy or way of doing things: *Do you advocate corporal punishment in schools?*

alleviate (v) to make something less painful, severe or serious: *These measures are designed to alleviate suffering among the elderly.*

bureaucracy (n) a complicated and annoying system of rules and processes: *I started to set up my own business but there was too much bureaucracy.*

charity (n) an organisation to which you give money so that it can give money and help to people who are poor or ill, or who need advice and support: *There are one or two charities that I make regular donations to.*

class (n) one of the groups into which people in a society are divided according to their family background, education, job or income: *My family are very middle class in a lot of ways.*

community (n) the people who live in an area: *Politics should begin in the local community.*

convict (v) to prove in a court of law that someone is guilty of a crime: *He was convicted of murder.*

convict (n) someone who is in prison because they have committed a crime: *Two convicts have escaped from the local prison.*

corruption (n) dishonest or illegal behaviour by officials or people in positions of power, especially when they accept money in exchange for doing things for someone: *They've started an investigation into corruption.*

deterrent (n) something that makes people decide not to do something by making them realise that something unpleasant could happen to them: *I think capital punishment serves as a deterrent.*

heritage (n) the art, buildings, traditions and beliefs that a society considers important to its history and culture: *It's important that we preserve our national heritage.*

immigration (n) the process in which people enter a country in order to live there permanently: *Is the level of immigration actually rising, or is it falling?*

industrial action (n phr) a protest in which workers show that they disagree with a policy of their employer, for example by striking: *Unless something changes, we'll be taking industrial action.*

institution (n) a large organisation such as a bank, hospital, university or prison: *It's hard spending all your life inside an institution like a children's home.*

legislation (n) a law or set of laws: *There is already legislation to prevent that.*

prejudice (n) an unreasonable opinion or feeling, especially the feeling of not liking a particular group of people: *Many women have had to deal with prejudice in the workplace.*

prison reform (n phr) changes intended to make the prison system fairer or more effective: *I'm a great believer in prison reform.*

privileged (adj) having advantages and opportunities that other people do not have, because you have a lot of money or high social status: *I suppose I come from quite a privileged background.*

prosecute (v) to officially accuse someone of a crime and ask a court of law to judge them: *The police decided not to prosecute and let him off with a warning.*

state (n) the government of a country: *The health system is the state's responsibility.*

Unit 22

Quality

aggravate (v) to make something bad become worse, especially a situation or a medical condition: *His headache was aggravated by all the noise.*

better (v) to achieve a better result than someone or something: *Bradman's average score of 96 has never been bettered.*

better (v) to improve something: *It's an important step towards bettering relations between the two countries.*

blemish (n) a mark or spot that spoils the appearance of something: *The painting was spoiled for me by a blemish on the frame.*

chaos (n) a situation in which everything is confused and in a mess: *There have been severe floods, bringing chaos to the region.*

cheapen (v) to make someone or something seem less valuable or respected: *This type of advertising cheapens the image of the brand.*

contaminate (v) to make something dirty, polluted or poisonous by adding a chemical, waste or infection: *Industrial sewage continues to contaminate our beaches.*

decay (v) to make or become gradually worse in quality, or weaker in power or influence: *Too much sugar will decay your teeth.*

decline (v) to become less or worse: *The number of people buying their own homes has declined.*

defective (adj) not made correctly or not working correctly: *The car was found to have defective brakes.*

detrimental (adj) harmful or damaging: *Overexposure to sunlight can have a detrimental effect on the skin.*

devastate (v) to seriously damage or completely destroy something: *Western India was devastated by a huge earthquake.*

devastate (v) to make someone feel very shocked and upset: *Mary's sisters were devastated by her disappearance.*

enhance (v) to improve something, or make it more attractive or more valuable: *The measures taken should considerably enhance the residents' quality of life.*

evaluate (v) to think carefully about something before making a judgment about its value, importance or quality: *The performance of each employee is evaluated once a year.*

exacerbate (v) to make a problem become worse: *Complaining will only exacerbate an already difficult situation.*

exquisite (adj) extremely beautiful and delicate: *It was an exquisite hand-painted vase from China.*

first-rate (adj) of the highest quality: *The service is first-rate.*

flaw (n) a mistake or fault in something that makes it useless, less effective or less beautiful: *There are serious flaws in the way we train our teachers.*

ideal (adj) of the best or most suitable type: *The fair provides an ideal opportunity for job seekers and employers to meet.*

ideal (adj) as good as you can imagine, and probably too good to be real: *In an ideal world there would be no poverty.*

inadequate (adj) not enough or not good enough for a particular purpose: *We are trying to provide basic education with inadequate resources.*

invaluable (adj) extremely useful: *The Internet is an invaluable resource for students.*

optimum (adj) best or most suitable within a range of possibilities: *The warm water provides the optimum conditions for breeding.*

optimum (n) the best or most suitable situation, level or amount: *The optimum we should be producing is 100 units per hour.*

outclass (v) to be much better than someone or something else: *The team was completely outclassed by the opposition.*

prime (adj) most important, most suitable or of the highest quality: *Our prime concern was the safety of our customers.*

redeeming feature (n phr) a positive quality which improves something that is not very good by including something that is good: *Smith's only redeeming feature is that he knows his job.*

refurbish (v) to improve a room or a building by cleaning and painting it, adding new furniture or equipment, etc: *They're planning to refurbish the teachers' room.*

reinforce (v) to make an idea, belief or feeling stronger: *The latest figures reinforce the view that economic growth is slowing.*

reinforce (v) to make a building, structure or object stronger: *Crews started work today to reinforce the seriously damaged bridge.*

renovate (v) to make something old look new again by repairing and improving it, especially a building: *The council's planning to renovate the old fire station.*

rotten (adj) something that is rotten has decayed: *There was a horrible smell of rotten eggs.*

rotten (adj) of a low quality, standard or ability: *She's a rotten singer.*

rusty (adj) a rusty metal object is covered in rust: *I don't know why you bought that rusty old car.*

satisfactory (adj) good enough to be accepted in a particular situation: *I have still not received a satisfactory answer to my question.*

satisfactory (adj) enjoyable and pleasing: *This new arrangement proved highly satisfactory to us all.*

shambles (n) something that is very badly organised and does not operate effectively: *Government corruption has left the economy in a shambles.*

shoddy (adj) shoddy work, services or products are of a very low standard: *The work they did on the new road was very shoddy in places.*

sound (adj) involving the use of good judgment, and therefore likely to be effective: *Administrators should make sure the programmes are legally sound.*

sound (adj) thorough: *You'll need a sound understanding of basic teaching skills before you enter the classroom.*

stale (adj) stale food such as bread is old and no longer fresh: *Wrap the bread up well or it'll go stale.*

streamline (v) to improve a business, organisation, process, etc by making it more modern or simple: *We need to streamline the whole process.*

strengthen (v) to make something stronger: *The bridge will need to be strengthened.*

surpass (v) to be better or greater than something else, or better than what was expected or hoped for: *Winning the gold medal surpassed my wildest dreams.*

ultimate (adj) happening at the end of a process or activity: *The incident affected the ultimate outcome of the war.*

ultimate (adj) as good or as bad as possible: *The house provides the ultimate luxury retreat.*

worsen (v) to become worse, or to make something worse: *The weather worsened, and temperatures fell.*

wreck (n) something that has been badly damaged: *The car was a wreck after the accident.*

wreck (v) to severely damage: *The town has been wrecked by the bombing.*

The arts

abstract (adj) abstract art expresses the artist's ideas or feelings rather than showing the exact appearance of people or things: *I'm not very keen on abstract paintings.*

abstract (n) an abstract painting or design: *You're not supposed to understand what it is; it's an abstract!*

auction (n) a public occasion when things are sold to the people who offer the most money for them: *They bought the paintings at auction in 1989.*

audition (n) a short performance in which you sing, dance or act so that someone can decide if you are good enough to perform in a particular play, concert, etc: *I've got an audition for the school play tomorrow.*

bestseller (n) a book that many people buy: *His first novel was a bestseller.*

collector's item (n phr) a rare or valuable object that collectors want to own: *Do you think this watch is a collector's item?*

curator (n) someone whose job is to look after the objects in a museum: *Ask the curator – he'll be able to tell you more about it.*

fine art (n phr) objects such as paintings that are created to be looked at because they are beautiful or interesting (note: the fine arts = activities in which people create beautiful or interesting objects, for example painting and sculpture): *I'm thinking of studying fine art at university.*

installation (n) a piece of art that consists of several different objects or pictures arranged to produce a particular effect: *There's an interesting installation at the Tate Gallery at the moment.*

lines (n pl) the words that an actor says in a performance: *He forgot his lines.*

lyrics (n pl) the words of a song: *I've written the music but haven't written any lyrics yet.*

masterpiece (n) an excellent painting, book, piece of music, etc, or the best work of art that a particular artist, writer, musician, etc has ever produced: *Vertigo is the film widely regarded as Hitchcock's masterpiece.*

paperback (n) a book with a cover made of thick paper: *His collection of poetry is now out in paperback.*

period (adj) typical of a particular historical time: *Will you be wearing period costumes in the play?*

period (n) a particular time in history: *Their collection is confined solely to the Roman period.*

priceless (adj) very valuable and impossible to replace: *These are priceless jewels.*

recital (n) a performance of music or poetry: *Are you coming to the piano recital tonight?*

retrospective (adj) relating to or considering things that happened in the past: *The show takes a retrospective look at the 1970s.*

retrospective (n) an exhibition that includes examples of a particular artist's work from their whole career: *I really want to go to the Norman Rockwell retrospective.*

score (n) the music written for a film, play, etc: *Who wrote the musical score for Star Wars?*

sketch (n) a drawing made quickly that does not have many details: *Draw a rough sketch of the dog.*

sketch (n) a short funny scene performed within a longer show: *She toured Europe with a programme of songs and sketches.*

sketch (v) to draw a picture quickly and with few details: *I'll just sketch a rough outline of the house.*

work of art (n phr) something such as a painting or sculpture that is of very high quality: *There are many priceless works of art in the Louvre.*

work of art (n phr) something that is made or done in a skilful or attractive way: *Her house is a real work of art.*

worthless (adj) not having any value or good qualities, or not useful: *The country's currency is nearly worthless.*

Unit 24

Relationships

adjacent (adj) next to or near something else: *The theatre is adjacent to the library.*

attach (v) to fasten or join one thing to another: *You need to attach these two parts.*

bond (v) to fix two things firmly together, usually with glue, or to become fixed in this way: *It's not easy to bond plastic and metal together.*

bond (n) the way that two surfaces are stuck together, usually with glue: *The bond should be strong enough to support quite a lot of weight.*

bond (n) something that gives people or groups a reason to love one another or feel they have a duty to one another: *We were at school together, so there's quite a strong bond between us.*

coexist (v) to live or exist at the same time or in the same place: *Two different species of bear coexist in this area.*

coherent (adj) a coherent statement is reasonable and sensible: *You need to rewrite your essay so that your argument is more coherent.*

compatible (adj) likely to have a good relationship because of being similar: *I suppose Lisa and I just weren't compatible.*

comprise (v) to consist of two or more things: *The country comprises a number of independent areas.*

compromise (v) to solve a problem or end an argument by accepting that you cannot have everything that you want: *Young children have to learn how to compromise.*

compromise (n) a way of solving a problem or ending an argument in which both people or groups accept that they cannot have everything they want: *You'll just have to find a compromise.*

conflict (v) if different ideas or opinions conflict, they cannot all be right or cannot all happen: *This statement conflicts with what the Prime Minister said earlier.*

conflict (n) angry disagreement between people or groups: *Many people have died in the conflict.*

confront (v) to go close to someone in a threatening way: *A man in a suit confronted me as I tried to enter the building.*

confront (v) to deal with a difficult situation: *It's best to just confront the problem head on.*

consistent (adj) not changing in behaviour, attitudes or qualities: *He might be strict, but at least he's consistent.*

contradict (v) to say that the opposite of what someone has said is true: *I wish you wouldn't contradict me all the time.*

contradict (v) if one statement, piece of evidence, story, etc contradicts another, they disagree and cannot both be true: *What the witness said contradicted the accused man's story.*