

Word/Phrase	Part of speech	IPA (UK)	IPA (US)	Definition	Sample sentence
Sustainability					
accumulate	verb	ə'kju:mjələt	ə'kjumjə,leɪt	to increase in quantity over a period of time	Medical evidence for the benefits of the procedure has been accumulating .
biodegradable	adjective	ˌbaɪəʊdɪ'greɪdəb(ə)l	ˌbaɪəʊdɪ'greɪdəb(ə)l	biodegradable substances can be separated into very small parts by bacteria so that they are not harmful to the environment	We put our food waste in a biodegradable bag.
carbon-neutral	adjective	'kɑ:bən 'nju:trəl	'kɑrbən 'nutrəl	a carbon-neutral activity, company, etc. balances the amount of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide it produces with actions that are designed to protect the environment, for example planting trees or using less electricity	The company plans to be fully carbon-neutral by next year.
consume	verb	kən'sju:m	kən'sʌm	to use a supply of something such as time, energy or fuel	The new light bulbs consume less electricity.
cut down	verb	kʌt daʊn		to cut through the trunk of a tree in order to make it fall to the ground	Trees are still being cut down at an alarming rate.
cut down	verb	kʌt daʊn		to reduce an amount of something	We're trying to cut down on our electricity use.
depletion	noun	dɪ'pli:ʃən	dɪ'plɪʃən	a reduction in the amount of something or the number of things	The depletion of forests may mean the country risks losing all its woodlands.
exploitation	noun	ˌeksplɔɪ'teɪʃ(ə)n		the process of making use of something so that you gain as much as possible from it	The exploitation of natural resources for economic growth is problematic.
offset	verb	'ɒf,set	ˌɔf,set	to balance the effect of something, with the result that there is no advantage or disadvantage	Falling sales in Thailand were offset by strong performances in other markets.
plant	verb	plɑ:nt	plænt	to put trees, plants or seeds in soil or the ground so that they will grow there	I've planted a small apple tree in the backyard.
renewable	adjective	rɪ'nju:əb(ə)l	rɪ'nuəb(ə)l	renewable energy and natural materials replace themselves by natural processes, so that they are never completely used up	The wood in our furniture all comes from renewable sources.
zero-emission	adjective	'ziərəʊ ɪ'mɪʃən	'ziərəʊ ɪ'mɪʃən	a zero-emission activity sends no gas, light or heat into the air	Everything is grown organically on a zero-emission farm.
Forming verbs from adjectives					
enable	verb	ɪn'eɪb(ə)l		to give someone the ability or opportunity to do something	This will enable users to conduct live video conversations.
endanger	verb	ɪn'deɪndʒə(r)	ɪn'deɪndʒər	to put someone or something into a situation where they might be harmed or damaged	The hospital is accused of endangering patients' lives.

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enlarge	verb	ɪnˈlɑː(r)dʒ	ɪnˈlɑrdʒ	to make something bigger	I sent the photos back to the lab to be enlarged .
ensure	verb	ɪnˈʃʊː(r)	ɪnˈʃʊr	to make certain that something happens or is done	Our new system ensures that everyone gets paid on time.
equalize	verb	ˈiːkwəlaɪz	ˈikwəˌlaɪz	to make something the same in size, amount or importance for everyone in a place or for all the members of a group	The plan is to equalize spending for all school districts.
finalize	verb	ˈfaɪnəlaɪz		to make the final decisions or arrangements concerning something	We still need to finalize a few details.
formalize	verb	ˈfɔː(r)məlaɪz	ˈfɔrməˌlaɪz	to make something such as a plan, system or agreement official	The French president signed an agreement formalizing his country's contribution of 2 million dollars.
lengthen	verb	ˈleŋθ(ə)n		to become longer or to make something longer	The shadows slowly began to lengthen .
purify	verb	ˈpjʊəɪfaɪ	ˈpjʊrəfaɪ	to make something clean by removing dirty or harmful substances from it	The rooms are fitted with systems that purify the air and water.
shorten	verb	ˈʃɔː(r)t(ə)n	ˈʃɔrt(ə)n	to become shorter or to make something shorter	We propose shortening the working week from five to four days.
simplify	verb	ˈsɪmplɪfaɪ		to make something less complicated or difficult	Simplify your life by shopping online.
solidify	verb	səˈlɪdɪfaɪ		to become solid or to make something solid	When the mixture begins to solidify , shape it into balls.
strengthen	verb	ˈstreŋθ(ə)n		to make something stronger so that it will take more weight or force without breaking	The bridge will need to be strengthened .
tighten	verb	ˈtaɪt(ə)n		to turn something such as a screw or a lid until it is tight and you cannot turn it any more	I need to tighten the back wheel on my bike.
visualize	verb	ˈvɪʒʊəlaɪz	ˈvɪʒuəˌlaɪz	to form a picture of someone or something in your mind	Try to visualize how the house will look when it's finished.
Verb–noun collocations					
bring benefits	verb phrase	bɹɪŋ ˈbenɪfɪts		to provide advantages	The new recreation center will bring lasting benefits to the community.
do more harm than good	verb phrase	duː mɔː hɑːm ðæn ɡʊd	du mɔr harm ðæn ɡʊd	to make a situation worse instead of better	Strenuous exercise can sometimes do more harm than good .
do your best	verb phrase	dəʊ jɔː best	du jʊər best	to try as hard as you can in order to achieve something	I don't know if I can finish the whole job in one day, but I'll do my best .

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perpetuate a myth	verb phrase	pə'petʃʊeɪt ə 'prɒbləm	pə'petʃə,weɪt ə 'prɒbləm	to make a myth continue	Stereotypes only perpetuate unhelpful myths .
seize the initiative	verb phrase	sɪz ði ɪ'nɪʃɪətɪv	sɪz ði ɪ'nɪʃətɪv	to take the opportunity to take action before other people do	Our opponents have seized the initiative in this area.
seize the opportunity	verb phrase	sɪz ði ˌɒpə'tjuːnɪti	sɪz ði ˌɑpər'tunəti	to act quickly in order to use an opportunity that may not be available later	Seize the opportunity to visit this beach before it becomes more famous.
take shape	verb phrase	teɪk ʃeɪp		to develop into something that can be recognized	The idea began to take shape about two years ago.
take the time	verb phrase	teɪk ðə taɪm		to make the effort to do something	Take the time to learn a few useful phrases before you go overseas.