

Word/Phrase	Part of speech	IPA (UK)	IPA (US)	Definition	Sample sentence
Conceptual metaphors					
bright	adjective	braɪt		a bright person is intelligent and usually young and likely to do well at school or in their careers	As one of the brightest students in the class he usually gets the best grades.
cool down	phrasal verb	ku:l daʊn	kul daʊn	to become or to cause someone to become, less angry or excited	Just try to cool down and think rationally.
defend your position	verb phrase	dɪ'fend ʒə: pə'zɪʃən	dɪ'fend ʒər pə'zɪʃən	to say things to support an opinion that is being criticized	She had to defend her position when her colleague disagreed.
fiery temper	noun	'faɪəri 'tempə	'faɪəri 'tempər	someone with a fiery temper becomes angry very easily and quickly	Be careful how you speak to him, because he has a fiery temper .
hot-tempered	adjective	ˌhɒt 'tempə(r)d	ˌhɑt 'tempərd	becoming angry very easily	He is too hot-tempered – he really needs to control himself.
in the dark	phrase	ɪn ðə dɑ:k	ɪn ðə dark	not knowing very much about something, because other people are keeping it a secret from you	We are still very much in the dark about how the money was lost.
invest time	verb phrase	ɪn'vest taɪm		to use time with the goal of gaining a future advantage	She invested a lot of time into choosing the right course.
shed some light on	verb phrase	ʃed səm laɪt ɒn	ʃed səm laɪt ɒn	to provide new information that helps you understand something	I had hoped that he would be able to shed some light on the problem.
shoot down	phrasal verb	ʃu:t daʊn	ʃut daʊn	to refuse to even consider something such as an idea or a plan	He shot down every proposal that we presented to him.
stay cool	phrase	steɪ ku:l	steɪ kul	remain calm and relaxed	It's important to stay cool even if you're provoked.
Science and research					
conclude	verb	kən'klu:d	kən'klud	to decide that something is true after looking at all the evidence you have	After examining all the evidence, we concluded that his claim was false.
conduct an experiment	verb phrase	'kɒndʌkt ən ɪks'perɪmənt		to perform a scientific test to find out what happens to someone or something in particular conditions	Researchers now need to conduct further experiments .
demonstrate	verb	'demən,streɪt		to show clearly that something is true or that it exists	The study demonstrates that cigarette advertising does encourage children to smoke.
findings	noun	'faɪndɪŋz		information that you discover or opinions that you form after doing research	The government seems to have ignored the findings of its own report.
hypothesize	verb	haɪ'pɒθə'saɪz	haɪ'pəθə'saɪz	to suggest a possible explanation for something based on the information you have, but without knowing whether the explanation is really true	With no witnesses, the police can only hypothesize as to what exactly happened.

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participant	noun	pɑː(r)'tɪsɪpənt	pɑr'tɪsɪpənt	someone who takes part in something	It was argued that he was a willing participant in the crime.
social norms	noun	'səʊʃl nɔː(r)m	'soʊʃl nɔrm	standards of behavior that are accepted in a particular society	Each culture develops its own social norms .
speculate	verb	'spekjʊleɪt	'spekjə,leɪt	to consider or discuss why something has happened or what might happen	We can only speculate on the reasons for his sudden resignation.
Thinking					
absent-minded	adjective	'æbsənt 'maɪndɪd		likely to forget things or to think about something different from what you should be thinking about	I'm getting more absent-minded as I get older.
common sense	noun	'kɒmən sens	'kɑmən sens	the ability to use good judgment and make sensible decisions	Let's use a little common sense to solve this problem.
curious	adjective	'kjʊəriəs	'kjʊriəs	someone who is curious wants to find out about something	Children are curious about animals and how they live.
eccentric	adjective	ɪk'sentrɪk		someone who is eccentric usually behaves in slightly strange or unusual ways	She acts very unconventionally sometimes so people describe her as eccentric .
eureka moment	noun	jʊə'ri:kə 'məʊmənt	jʊ'rikə 'moʊmənt	the moment where you find the answer to a problem	Finding that short cut was a real eureka moment .
overthink	verb	,əʊvə'θɪŋk	,oʊvər'θɪŋk	to think about something too much or in too much detail	Falling in love should be natural – don't overthink it.
troubleshoot	verb	'trʌb(ə)lʃu:t	'trʌb(ə)lʃʊt	to try to deal with a problem or difficulty	They brought someone in from outside the company to help troubleshoot .
wishful thinking	noun	,wɪʃf(ə)l 'θɪŋkɪŋ		a belief that something that you want to be true is true	She was sure he'd forgiven her – or was that just wishful thinking ?