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# Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary



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## A

**advance guard** (also *ad'vānsed guard*) *noun* [C+sing./pl. v.] a group of soldiers who go somewhere to make preparations before other soldiers arrive

**advance ment** /əd'vānsmənt; NAmE -'vāns-/ *noun* (formal) **1** [U, C] the process of helping sth to make progress or succeed; the progress that is made: *the advancement of knowledge/education/science* **2** [U] progress in a job, social class, etc: *There are good opportunities for advancement if you have the right skills.*

**ad- van- cing** /əd'vɑ:nsɪŋ; NAmE -'vāns-/ *adj.* ~years/age used as a polite way of referring to the fact of time passing and of sb growing older: *She is still very active, in spite of her advancing years.*

**ad- van- tage** ③ /əd'vɑ:ntɪdʒ; NAmE -'væn-/ *noun, verb*

**noun** [C, U] **1** ① a thing that helps you to be better or more successful than other people: *a big/great/definite advantage* ◊ *an unfair advantage* (= sth that benefits you, but not your opponents) ◊ *She had the advantage of a good education.* ◊ *You will be at an advantage* (= have an advantage) *in the interview if you have thought about the questions in advance.* ◊ ~over sb *Being tall gave him an advantage over the other players.* **OPP disadvantage** **2** ② a quality of sth that makes it better or more useful: *A small car has the added advantage of being cheaper to run.* ◊ *One advantage of/One of the advantages of living in the country is the fresh air.* ◊ *Each of these systems has its advantages and disadvantages.* **OPP disadvantage** **3** [U] (in TENNIS) the first point scored after a score of 40–40: *Advantage Murray.*

**IDM** **be/work to your advantage** to give you an advantage; to change a situation in a way that gives you an advantage: *It would be to your advantage to attend this meeting.* ◊ *Eventually, the new regulations will work to our advantage.* **take advantage of sth/sb** **1** ① to make use of sth well; to make use of an opportunity: *She took advantage of the children's absence to tidy their rooms.* ◊ *We took full advantage of the hotel facilities.* **2** ② to make use of sb/sth in a way that is unfair or dishonest **SYN exploit**: *He took advantage of my generosity* (= for example, by taking more than I had intended to give). **to (good/best) advantage** in a way that shows the best of sb/sth: *The photograph showed him to advantage.* **turn sth to your advantage** to use or change a bad situation so that it helps you

**verb** ~sb (formal) to put sb in a better position than other people or than they were in before

**ad- van- taged** /əd'vɑ:ntɪdʒd; NAmE -'væn-/ *adj.* being in a good social or financial situation: *We aim to improve opportunities for the less advantaged in society.* **OPP disadvantaged**

**ad- van- ta- geous** /əd'vɑ:ntɪdʒəs/ *adj.* ~ (to sb) good or useful in a particular situation **SYN beneficial**: *A free trade agreement would be advantageous to both countries.* **OPP disadvantageous** ▶ **ad- van- ta- geous- ly** *adv.*

**ad- vent** /əd'vent/ *noun* **1** [sing.] the ~of sth/sb the coming of an important event, person, invention, etc: *the advent of new technology* **2** **Advent** [U] (in the Christian religion) the period of approximately four weeks before Christmas

**Advent calendar** *noun* a piece of stiff paper with a picture and 24 small doors with numbers on. Children open a door each day during Advent and find a picture or a piece of chocolate behind each one.

**ad- ven- ti- tious** /əd'ventɪ'ʃəs/ *adj.* (formal) happening by accident; not planned

**ad- ven- ture** ③ /əd'ventʃə(r)/ *noun* **1** ① [C] an unusual, exciting or dangerous experience, journey or series of events: *her adventures travelling in Africa* ◊ *When you're a child, life is one big adventure.* ◊ *adventure stories* **2** ② [U] excitement and the willingness to take risks, try new ideas, etc: *a sense/spirit of adventure.*

**WORDFINDER** adrenaline, attempt, challenge, enthusiasm, escapade, explore, excitement, kick, thrill

**ad-venture game** *noun* a type of computer game in which you play a part in an adventure

**ad-venture playground** *noun* (BrE) an area where children can play, with large structures, ropes, etc. for climbing on

**ad-venturer** /əd'ventʃərə(r)/ *noun* **1** (old-fashioned) a person who enjoys exciting new experiences, especially going to unusual places **2** (often disapproving) a person who is willing to take risks or act in a dishonest way in order to gain money or power

**ad-venture some** /əd'ventʃəsəm; NAmE -tʃərs-/ *adj.* (NAmE) = ADVENTUROUS

**ad-ventur-ess** /əd'ventʃərəs/ *noun* **1** (old-fashioned) a woman who enjoys exciting new experiences, especially going to unusual places **2** (often disapproving) a woman who is willing to take risks or act in a dishonest way in order to gain money or power

**ad-ventur-ism** /əd'ventʃərɪzəm/ *noun* [U] (disapproving) a willingness to take risks in business or politics in order to gain sth for yourself

**ad-ventur-ous** /əd'ventʃərəs/ *adj.* **1** (NAmE also **ad-venture some**) (of a person) willing to take risks and try new ideas; enjoying being in new, exciting situations: *For the more adventurous tourists, there are trips into the mountains with a local guide.* ◊ *Many teachers would like to be more adventurous and creative.* **2** including new and interesting things, methods and ideas: *The menu contained traditional favourites as well as more adventurous dishes.* **3** full of new, exciting or dangerous experiences: *an adventurous trip/lifestyle* **OPP unadventurous** ▶ **ad-ventur-ous-ly** *adv.*

**ad-verb** /'ædvɜ:b; NAmE -vɜ:rb/ *noun* (grammar) a word that adds more information about place, time, manner, cause or degree to a verb, an adjective, a phrase or another adverb: *In 'speak kindly', 'incredibly deep', 'just in time' and 'too quickly', 'kindly', 'incredibly', 'just' and 'too' are all adverbs.* ② SEE ALSO SENTENCE ADVERB ▶ **ad-verbial** /'ædvɜ:biəl; NAmE -'vɜ:rb-/ *adj.*: *'Very quickly indeed' is an adverbial phrase.*

**ad-verbial particle** *noun* (grammar) an adverb used especially after a verb to show position, direction of movement, etc: *In 'come back', 'break down' and 'fall off', 'back', 'down' and 'off' are all adverbial particles.*

**ad- ver- sar- ial** /'ædvə'seəriəl; NAmE -və'seəriəl/ *adj.* (formal or specialist) (especially of political or legal systems) involving people who are in opposition and who make attacks on each other: *the adversarial nature of the two-party system* ◊ *an adversarial system of justice*

**ad- ver- sary** /'ædvəsəri; NAmE -vərsəri/ *noun* (pl. -ies) (formal) a person that sb is opposed to and competing with in an argument or a battle **SYN opponent**

**ad-verse** /'ædvɜ:s; əd'vɜ:s; NAmE -vɜ:rs/ *adj.* [usually before noun] negative and unpleasant; not likely to produce a good result: *adverse change/circumstances/weather conditions* ◊ *Lack of money will have an adverse effect on our research programme.* ◊ *They have attracted strong adverse criticism.* ◊ *This drug is known to have adverse side effects.* ▶ **ad-verse-ly** *adv.*: *Her health was adversely affected by the climate.*

**ad- ver- sity** /əd'vɜ:səti; NAmE -'vɜ:rs-/ *noun* [U, C] (pl. -ies) (formal) a difficult or unpleasant situation: *courage in the face of adversity* ◊ *He overcame many personal adversities.*

**ad-vert** ③ /'ædvɜ:t; NAmE -vɜ:rt/ *noun* (BrE, informal) = ADVERTISEMENT: *the adverts on television* ◊ *When the adverts came on I got up to put the kettle on.* ② **SYNONYMS** AT ADVERTISEMENT

**ad-vert-ise** ③ /'ædvɜ:təɪz; NAmE -vɜ:rt-/ *verb* **1** ① [I, T] to tell the public about a product or a service in order to encourage people to buy or to use it: *If you want to attract more customers, try advertising in the local paper.* ◊ ~sth

(as sth) The cruise was advertised as the 'journey of a lifetime'.

**WORDFINDER** cold-calling, leaflet, mailing, mailshot, marketing, poster, product placement, prospectus, publicize

**2** [I, T] to let people know that sth is going to happen, or that a job is available by giving details about it in a newspaper, on a notice in a public place, on the Internet, etc: ~ (for sb/sth) We are currently advertising for a new sales manager. ◊ ~sth We advertised the concert quite widely.

**3** [T] ~sth to show or tell sth about yourself to other people **SYN** publicize: I wouldn't advertise the fact that you don't have a work permit.

**ad-vertise-ment**  /əd'vɜːtɪsmənt/ *NAmE* /əd'vɜːtaɪz-/ *noun* **1** [C] (also informal **ad**) (also BrE, informal **ad-vert**) ~ (for sth) a notice, picture or film telling people about a product, job or service: Put an advertisement in the local paper to sell your car. ◊ **VISUAL VOCAB PAGE V3** ◊ **SEE ALSO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS 2** [C] (BrE also **ad-vert**) ~ for sth an example of sth that shows its good qualities: Dirty streets and homelessness are no advertisement for a prosperous society. **3** [U] the act of advertising sth and making it public

**▼ SYNONYMS**

**advertisement**

**publicity** • **ad** • **commercial** • **promotion** • **trailer**

These are all words for a notice, picture or film/movie telling people about a product, job or service.

**advertisement** a notice, picture or film/movie telling people about a product, job or service; an example of sth that shows its good qualities; the act of advertising sth and making it public: Put an advertisement in the local paper to sell your car. ◊ Dirty streets are no advertisement for a prosperous society.

**publicity** [U] the business of attracting the attention of the public to sb/sth such as a company, book, film/movie, film/movie star or product; the things that are done to attract attention: She works in publicity. ◊ There has been a lot of advance publicity for her new film.

**ad, advert** (informal) a notice, picture or film/movie telling people about a product, job or service: We put an ad in the local paper. ◊ an ad for a new chocolate bar

**commercial** an advertisement on television or on the radio.

**promotion** a set of advertisements for a particular product or service; activities done in order to increase the sales of a product or service: a special promotion of local products ◊ She works in sales and promotion.

**trailer** (especially BrE) a series of short scenes from a film/movie or television programme, shown in advance to advertise it.


**PATTERNS**

- (a/an) advertisement/publicity/ad/commercial/promotion/trailer for sth
- a TV/television/radio/cinema advertisement/ad/commercial/promotion
- to run/show a(n) advertisement/ad/commercial/trailer

**ad-vert-iser** /'ædvɜːtaɪzə(r); *NAmE* -vɜːt-ɪ/ *noun* a person or company that advertises

**ad-vert-ising**  /'ædvɜːtɪzɪŋ; *NAmE* -vɜːt-ɪ/ *noun* [U] the activity and industry of advertising things to people on television, in newspapers, on the Internet, etc: A good advertising campaign will increase our sales. ◊ Cigarette advertising has been banned. ◊ radio/TV advertising ◊ Val works for an advertising agency (= a company that designs advertisements). ◊ a career in advertising

**ad-vert-or-ial** /əd'vɜːtɔːriəl; *NAmE* -vɜːt-ɪ-/ *noun* an advertisement that is designed to look like an article in the newspaper or magazine in which it appears

**ad-vice**  /əd'vaɪs/ *noun* [U] ~ (on sth) an opinion or a suggestion about what sb should do in a particular situation: advice on road safety ◊ They give advice to people



with HIV and AIDS. ◊ Ask your teacher's advice/Ask your teacher for advice on how to prepare for the exam. ◊ We were advised to seek legal advice. ◊ Let me give you a piece of advice. ◊ A word of advice. Don't wear that dress. ◊ Take my advice. Don't do it. ◊ I chose it on his advice. ◊ **MORE LIKE THIS** 28, page R16

**▼ EXPRESS YOURSELF**

**Giving somebody advice**


There are a number of tactful ways of telling people what you think they should do:

- If I were you, I'd wait.
- I think you should/ought to see a doctor.
- Why don't you/Why not/Could you maybe ask Tom to help?
- If you want my advice/If you want to know what I think, I'd say it's better to tell him.
- I'd advise you to sell it now.

**ad-vice column** (*NAmE*) (BrE also 'agony column) *noun* part of a newspaper or magazine in which sb gives advice to readers who have sent letters about their personal problems

**ad-vice columnist** (*NAmE*) (BrE 'agony aunt/uncle) *noun* a person who writes in a newspaper or magazine giving advice in reply to people's letters about their personal problems

**ad-vis-able** /əd'vaɪzəbl/ *adj.* [not usually before noun] sensible and a good idea in order to achieve sth: Early booking is advisable. ◊ ~ to do sth It is advisable to book early. **OPP** inadvisable ▶ **ad-viso-abil-ity** /əd'vaɪzə'bɪləti/ *noun* [U]

**ad-vice**  /əd'vaɪz/ *verb* **1** [I, T] to tell sb what you think they should do in a particular situation: ~ (sb) against sth/against doing sth I would strongly advise against going out on your own. ◊ ~sb Her mother was away and couldn't advise her. ◊ ~sth I'd advise extreme caution. ◊ + speech 'Get there early,' she advised (them). ◊ ~sb to do sth Police are advising people to stay at home. ◊ I'd advise you not to tell him. ◊ ~that ... They advise that a passport be carried with you at all times. ◊ (BrE also) They advise that a passport should be carried with you at all times. ◊ it is advised that ... It is strongly advised that you take out insurance. ◊ ~doing sth I'd advise buying your tickets well in advance if you want to travel in August. ◊ **SEE ALSO** ILL-ADVISED, WELL ADVISED ◊ **SYNONYMS** AT RECOMMEND **2** [I, T] to give sb help and information on a subject that you know a lot about: ~ (sb) on/about sth/about doing sth We employ an expert to advise on new technology. ◊ She advises the government on environmental issues. ◊ ~ (sb) what, which, whether, etc ... The pharmacist will advise which medicines are safe to take. ◊ Your lawyer can advise you whether to take any action. **3** [T] (formal) to officially tell sb sth **SYN** inform: ~sb of sth Please advise us of any change of address. ◊ ~sb when, where, how, etc ... I will contact you later to advise you when to come. ◊ ~sb that ... I regret to advise you that the course is now full.

**ad-vised-ly** /əd'vaɪzədlɪ/ *adv.* (formal) if you say that you are using a word advisedly, you mean that you have thought carefully before choosing it

**ad-vice-ment** /əd'vaɪzmənt/ *noun* [U] (*NAmE, formal*) advice: the University Advice Center

**IDM** take sth under ad-vice-ment (formal) to think carefully about sth before making a decision about it: The judge has taken the matter under advisement.

**ad-viso-r** (also **ad-viso-r**) /əd'vaɪzə(r)/ *noun* a person who gives advice, especially sb who knows a lot about a particular subject: a financial adviser ◊ ~ (to sb) (on sth) a special adviser to the President on education

**ad-viso-ry** /əd'vaɪzəri/ *adj., noun*

■ **adj.** having the role of giving professional advice: an advisory committee/body/service ◊ He acted in an advisory capacity only.

■ **noun** (pl. -ies) (especially *NAmE*) an official warning that sth bad is going to happen: a tornado advisory

**com-pul-sive** /kəm'pʌlsɪv/ *adj.* **1** (of behaviour) that is difficult to stop or control: *compulsive eating/spending/gambling* **2** (of people) not being able to control their behaviour: *a compulsive drinker/gambler/liar* **3** that makes you pay attention to it because it is so interesting and exciting: *The programme made compulsive viewing.*  
▶ **com-pul-sive-ly** *adv.*: *She watched him compulsively.*  
◊ *a compulsively readable book*

**com-pul-sory** /kəm'pʌlsəri/ *adj.* that must be done because of a law or a rule **SYN** **mandatory**: *It is compulsory for all motorcyclists to wear helmets.* ◊ *English is a compulsory subject at this level.* ◊ *compulsory education/schooling* ◊ *compulsory redundancies* **OPD** **voluntary**  
▶ **com-pul-sorily** /kəm'pʌlsərəli/ *adv.*: *Over 600 workers were made compulsorily redundant.*

**com-pul-sory 'purchase** *noun* [U, C] (BrE) an occasion when sb is officially ordered to sell land or property to the government or other authority: *a compulsory purchase order*

**com-pun-ction** /kəm'pʌŋkʃn/ *noun* [U] (also [C] in NAmE) ~ (about doing sth) (*formal*) a guilty feeling about doing sth: *She felt no compunction about leaving her job.* ◊ *He had lied to her without compunction.* ◊ (NAmE) *She has no compunctions about rejecting the plan.*

**com-pu-ta-tion** **AWL** /kəm'pjʊ'teɪʃn; NAmE 'kɑ:m-/ *noun* [C, U] (*formal*) an act or the process of calculating sth: *All the statistical computations were performed by the new software system.* ◊ *an error in the computation*

**com-pu-ta-tion-al** **AWL** /kəm'pjʊ'teɪʃənl; NAmE 'kɑ:m-/ *adj.* [usually before noun] using or connected with computers: *computational methods* ◊ *a computational approach*

**compu-tational lin-guistics** *noun* [U] the study of language and speech using computers

**com-pute** **AWL** /kəm'pjʊ:t/ *verb* ~ sth (*formal*) to calculate sth: *The losses were computed at £5 million.* ▶ **com-put-able** **AWL** *adj.*

**com-puter** **?** **AWL** /kəm'pjʊ:tə(r)/ *noun* an electronic machine that can store, organize and find information, do calculations and control other machines: *a personal computer* ◊ *Our sales information is processed by computer.* ◊ *a computer program* ◊ *computer software/hardware/graphics* ◊ *a computer error* ◊ *computer-aided design* ◊ **VISUAL VOCAB PAGE V56** ◊ **SEE ALSO** DESKTOP COMPUTER, MICROCOMPUTER, PERSONAL COMPUTER, SUPERCOMPUTER

**WORDFINDER** display, drive, keyboard, memory, platform, program, reboot, router, screen

**com-puter game** *noun* a game played on a computer

**com-pu-ter-ize** (BrE also -ise) /kəm'pjʊ:təraɪz/ *verb* **1** ~ sth to provide a computer or computers to do the work of sth: *The factory has been fully computerized.* **2** ~ sth to store information on a computer: *computerized databases* ◊ *The firm has computerized its records.* ▶ **com-pu-ter-iza-tion, -isa-tion** /kəm'pjʊ:təraɪ'zeɪʃn; NAmE -rə'z-/ *noun* [U]

**com-puter-'literate** (also **com-puter-ate** /kəm'pjʊ:tərət/) *adj.* able to use computers well ▶ **com-puter 'literacy** *noun* [U]

**com-puter 'science** *noun* [U] the study of computers and how they can be used: *a degree in computer science*  
▶ **com-puter 'scientist** *noun*

**com-put-ing** **AWL** /kəm'pjʊ:tɪŋ/ *noun* [U] the fact of using computers: *to work in computing* ◊ *to study computing* ◊ *educational/network/scientific computing* ◊ *computing power/services/skills/systems* ◊ **VISUAL VOCAB PAGE V56**

**com-rade** /kəm'reɪd; NAmE 'kɑ:m'reɪd/ *noun* **1** a person who is a member of the same COMMUNIST or SOCIALIST political party as the person speaking **2** (also **com-rade-in-'arms**) (*old-fashioned*) a friend or other person that you work with, especially as soldiers during a war: *They were old army comrades.* ◊ **WORDFINDER NOTE** AT FRIEND ▶ **com-rade-ly** /kəm'reɪdli; NAmE 'kɑ:m'reɪdli/ *adj.* **com-rade-ship** /kəm'reɪdʃɪp; NAmE 'kɑ:m'reɪd-ʃ/ *noun* [U] (*formal*): *There was a sense of comradeship between them.*

**Con.** *abbr.* (in British politics) CONSERVATIVE (1)

**con** /kɒn; NAmE kɑ:n/ *noun, verb*

■ **noun** (*informal*) **1** [sing.] (also BrE, *formal* 'confidence trick') (also NAmE, *formal* 'confidence game') a trick; an act of cheating sb: *The so-called bargain was just a big con!* ◊ (BrE) *a con trick* ◊ (NAmE) *a con game* ◊ *He's a real con artist* (= a person who regularly cheats others). ◊ **SEE ALSO** CONMAN, MOD CONS **2** [C] = CONVICT **IDM** **SEE PRO n.**

■ **verb** (-nn-) (*informal*) to trick sb, especially in order to get money from them or persuade them to do sth for you: ~ sb (into doing sth) *I was conned into buying a useless car.* ◊ ~ sb (out of sth) *They had been conned out of £100,000.* ◊ ~ your way into sth *He conned his way into the job using false references.* ◊ **SYNONYMS** AT CHEAT

**con-a-tion** /kə'neɪʃn/ *noun* [U] (*philosophy, psychology*) a mental process that makes you want to do sth or decide to do sth ▶ **con-a-tive** /'kɒnətɪv; NAmE 'kɑ:n-/ *adj.*

**con-cat-e-na-tion** /kən'kæte'neɪʃn/ *noun* (*formal*) a series of things or events that are linked together: *a strange concatenation of events*

**con-cave** /kɒn'keɪv; NAmE kɑ:n'k-; 'kɑ:n-/ *adj.* (of an outline or a surface) curving in: *a concave lens/mirror* **OPD** **convex**

**con-cav-ity** /kɒn'kævəti; NAmE kɑ:n-/ *noun* [pl. -ies] (*specialist*) **1** [U] the quality of being concave (= curving in) **2** [C] a shape or place that curves in

**con-ceal** /kən'si:l/ *verb* (*formal*) to hide sb/sth: ~ sb/sth *The paintings were concealed beneath a thick layer of plaster.* ◊ *Tim could barely conceal his disappointment.* ◊ *She sat down to conceal the fact that she was trembling.* ◊ ~ sb/sth from sb/sth *For a long time his death was concealed from her.* ◊ **SYNONYMS** AT HIDE ◊ **SEE ALSO** ILL-CONCEALED

**con-ceal-er** /kən'si:lə(r)/ *noun* [U, C] a skin-coloured cream or powder used to cover spots or marks on the skin or dark circles under the eyes ◊ **VISUAL VOCAB PAGE V49**

**con-ceal-ment** /kən'si:l'mənt/ *noun* [U] (*formal*) the act of hiding sth; the state of being hidden: *the concealment of crime* ◊ *Many animals rely on concealment for protection.*

**con-cede** /kən'si:d/ *verb* **1** [T] to admit that sth is true, logical, etc: + **speech** 'Not bad,' she conceded grudgingly. ◊ ~ (that) ... *He was forced to concede (that) there might be difficulties.* ◊ ~ sth *I had to concede the logic of this.* ◊ ~ sth to sb *He reluctantly conceded the point to me.* ◊ ~ sb sth *He reluctantly conceded me the point.* ◊ **it is conceded that ...** *It must be conceded that different judges have different approaches to these cases.* ◊ **SYNONYMS** AT ADMIT

#### ▼ EXPRESS YOURSELF

##### Conceding a point

When you want to show that the other person has convinced you with their argument, at least partially, you can concede:

- **Yes, I suppose you're right.** (*especially BrE*)
- **Yes, I guess you're right.** (*especially NAmE*)
- **Yes, I see what you mean.**
- **OK, I take/see your point about the expense, but I still think it's worth it.**
- **Well, I guess you've got a point there.**
- **OK, that's a good point.**
- **No, possibly/I guess not.**
- **I suppose not.** (*BrE*)
- **Well, yes, OK. I hadn't really appreciated/understood that before.**
- **Well, I can't/won't argue with that.**
- **That's true. We'll need to take that into consideration.**

**2** [T] to give sth away, especially unwillingly; to allow sb to have sth: ~ sth (to sb) *The President was obliged to concede power to the army.* ◊ *England conceded a goal immediately after half-time.* ◊ ~ sb sth *Women were only conceded full voting rights in the 1950s.* **3** [I, T] ~ (defeat) to admit that you have lost a game, an election, etc: *After losing this decisive battle, the general was forced to*

airports are heavily congested. **2** (medical) (of a part of the body) blocked with blood or MUCUS

**con-ges-tion** /kən'dʒestʃən/ *noun* [U] **1** the state of being crowded and full of traffic: *traffic congestion and pollution*  
 ▷ **COLLOCATIONS AT TOWN** **2** (medical) the state of part of the body being blocked with blood or MUCUS: *congestion of the lungs* ◊ *medicine to relieve nasal congestion*

**con'ges-tion charge** *noun* (BrE) an amount of money that people have to pay for driving their cars into the centre of some cities as a way of stopping the city centre from becoming too full of traffic ▶ **con'ges-tion charging** *noun* [U]

**con-glom-er-ate** /kən'glɒməreɪt; NAmE -'glɑ:m-/ *noun* **1** [C] (business) a large company formed by joining together different firms: *a media conglomerate* **2** [sing.] (formal) a number of things or parts that are put together to form a whole **3** [U] (geology) a type of rock made of small stones held together by dried CLAY

**con-glom-er-ation** /kən'glɒmə'reɪʃn; NAmE -'glɑ:m-/ *noun* **1** [C, usually sing.] a ~ (of sth) (formal) a mixture of different things that are found all together: *a conglomeration of buildings of different sizes and styles* **2** [U] the process of forming a conglomerate or the state of being a conglomerate

**con-grats** /kən'græts/ *noun* [pl.] (informal) = CONGRATULATIONS

**con-grat-u-late** /kən'grætʃuleɪt/ *verb* **1** ʔ ~sb (on sth) to tell sb that you are pleased about their success or achievements: *I congratulated them all on their results.* ◊ *The authors are to be congratulated on producing such a clear and authoritative work.* **2** ~yourself (on sth) to feel pleased and proud because you have achieved sth or been successful at sth: *You can congratulate yourself on having done an excellent job.*

#### ▶ EXPRESS YOURSELF

#### **Congratulating somebody on an achievement or a family event**

When someone tells you some good news about their family, or what they have done, you can congratulate them:

- **Congratulations on your engagement!** *I hope you'll be very happy.*
- **Well done for passing your driving test.** (BrE)
- **Good job on passing your exams.** (NAmE)
- *I hear you did very well in your exams/you've got a new job/you've had a baby—congratulations!* (BrE)
- *Jo tells me you're getting married—congratulations!*

Responses:

- **Thank you very much.**
- **Oh, thanks!**

**con-grat-u-la-tion** /kən'grætʃu'leɪʃn/ *noun* **1** ʔ **congratulations** [pl.] a message congratulating sb (= saying that you are happy about their good luck or success): *to offer/send your congratulations to sb* **2** ʔ **Congratulations!** used when you want to congratulate sb: *'We're getting married!' 'Congratulations!'* ◊ *Congratulations on your exam results!* **3** ʔ [U] the act of congratulating sb: *a letter of congratulation*

**con-grat-u-la-tory** /kən'grætʃu'leɪtəri; NAmE kən'grætʃələtəri/ *adj.* expressing congratulations: *a congratulatory message*

**con-gre-gate** /kɒŋgrɪgeɪt; NAmE 'kɑ:ŋ-/ *verb* [I] to come together in a group: *Young people often congregate in the main square in the evenings.*

**con-gre-ga-tion** /kɒŋgrɪ'geɪʃn; NAmE 'kɑ:ŋ-/ *noun* [C +sing./pl. v.] **1** a group of people who are gathered together in a church to worship God, not including the priest and CHOIR: *The congregation stood to sing the hymn.*  
 ▷ **COLLOCATIONS AT RELIGION** **2** a group of people who regularly attend a particular place of worship ▶ **con-gre-ga-tion-al** /-ʃənəl/ *adj.*

**Con-gre-ga-tion-al-ism** /kɒŋgrɪ'geɪʃnəlɪzəm; NAmE 'kɑ:ŋ-/ *noun* [U] a type of Christianity in which the congregation of each church is responsible for its own affairs  
 ▶ **Con-gre-ga-tion-al** *adj.* **Con-gre-ga-tion-al-ist** *noun*

**con-gress** /kɒŋgrɛs; NAmE 'kɑ:ŋgræs/ *noun* **1** ʔ [C] a large formal meeting or series of meetings where representatives from different groups discuss ideas, make decisions, etc: *an international congress of trades unions* **2** ʔ [C+sing./pl. v.] **Congress** (in the US and some other countries) the name of the group of people who are elected to make laws, in the US consisting of the Senate and the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: *Congress will vote on the proposals tomorrow.* ▷ **COLLOCATIONS AT POLITICS**

**WORDFINDER** caucus, electoral college, House of Representatives, nomination, president, primary, running mate, senate, swing state

**3** [C+sing./pl. v.] used in the names of political parties in some countries: *the African National Congress*

**con-gres-sion-al** /kən'grɛʃənəl/ *adj.* [only before noun] related to or belonging to a congress or the Congress in the US: *a congressional committee/bill* ◊ *the midterm Congressional elections*

**con-gres-s-man** /kɒŋgrɛsmən; NAmE 'kɑ:ŋgræs-/ **con-gres-s-woman** /kɒŋgrɛswoman; NAmE 'kɑ:ŋgræs-/ *noun* (often **Congressman**, **Congresswoman**) (pl. -men /-mən/, -women /-wɪmɪn/) (also **con-gres-s-person**, **Congress-person** /-pɜ:sn; NAmE -pɜ:rsn/) a member of Congress in the US, especially the House of Representatives ▷ **MORE LIKE THIS** 25, page R16

**con-gru-ent** /kɒŋgruənt; NAmE 'kɑ:ŋ-/ *adj.* **1** (geometry) having the same size and shape: *congruent triangles* **2** ~ (with sth) (formal) suitable for sth; appropriate in a particular situation ▶ **con-gru-ence** /'kɒŋgruəns; NAmE 'kɑ:ŋ-/ *noun* [U]

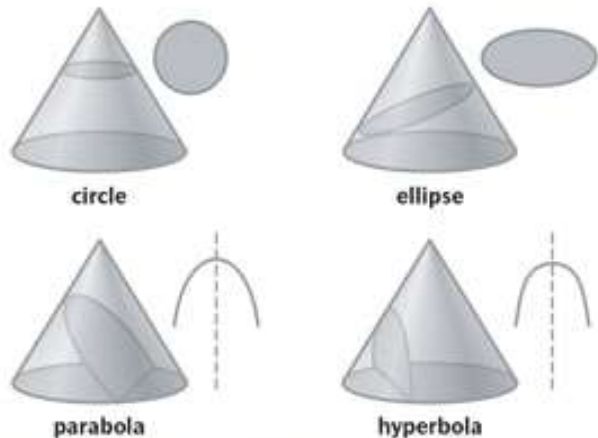
**con-ic** /'kɒnɪk; NAmE 'kɑ:nɪk/ *adj., noun* (geometry)

■ *adj.* of or related to a CONE

■ *noun* = CONIC SECTION

**con-ic-al** /'kɒnɪkəl; NAmE 'kɑ:n-/ *adj.* shaped like a CONE

#### **conic sections**



**con-ic 'section** (also **conic**) *noun* (geometry) a shape formed when a flat surface meets a CONE with a round base

**con-ifer** /'kɒnɪfə(r); 'kəʊn-; NAmE 'kɑ:n-; 'kəʊn-/ *noun* any tree that produces hard dry fruit called CONES. Most conifers are EVERGREEN (= have leaves that stay on the tree all year). ▷ **VISUAL VOCAB PAGE V5** ▶ **con-ifer-ous** /kə'nɪfərəs/ *adj.*: *coniferous trees/forests*

**con-ject-ure** /kən'dʒektʃə(r)/ *noun, verb*

■ *noun* (formal) **1** [C] an opinion or idea that is not based on definite knowledge and is formed by guessing **SYN** guess: *The truth of his conjecture was confirmed by the newspaper report.* **2** [U] the forming of an opinion or idea that is not based on definite knowledge: *What was going through the killer's mind is a matter for conjecture.* ▷ **SEE ALSO** GUESSWORK ▶ **con-ject-ur-al** /kən'dʒektʃərəl/ *adj.*