

**COMMON DENOMINATORS GUIDE**

We come up against a problem.	The hunter came up against an enormous bear.
The odds can be against us.	The odds are against the 'America' s' winning the championship.
We can be against something that is unfair or harmful.	Some people are against bullfighting.
We wear plain clothes when we aren't wearing a uniform.	The police wore plain clothes so as not to be recognised by the kidnapper.
When we make something plain, we make it clear.	He made it plain that he didn't love me anymore.
We say something in plain English so it's easy to understand.	I spoke to her in plain English to make sure she understood what I was talking about.
Dead centre means right in the middle.	The shot hit him dead centre and he dropped dead instantly.
At dead of night = in the middle of the night.	There was a loud crash at dead of night which scared the old lady half to death.
to be dead and buried = to be forgotten	The things you said to me are long dead and buried.
to speak volumes about= to make something very obvious	The way she dresses will speak volumes about her personality.
We speak up for someone to defend them.	Nobody should speak up for her if she says she didn't steal the money.
that there be no (.....) to speak of = there is very little of smthg.	He doesn't have much luck to speak of.
We often doubt if sthg. will (ever) happen.	I doubt if I'll ever see him again.
Smthg can be established beyond a reasonable doubt.	Her cheating on the exam was established beyond a reasonable work.
When we are in doubt, we are not sure of the result.	We were in doubt as to who would win the tournament.
to encourage competition=to make people compete	We must encourage competition amongst our students.
a phone- in competition=competing by phone	I've never played in a phone-in competition.
intense competition=strong competition	There will be intense competition during the world soccer championship.
We beat certain foods to change their consistency.	Beat the eggs carefully until they change colour.
If we beat someone to a place, we arrive first.	We rushed to the elevator, but my sister beat me to it as usual.
We beat someone at a game or competition.	Do you think you could beat me at chess?
under one's breath = in a whisper	He told me under his breath that he was afraid of the dark.
to take one's breath away= to surprise one very much	Her beauty simply took my breath away..
like a breath of fresh air=a pleasant occurrence	Knowing she had won the lottery was like a breath of fresh air.

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The one and only means someone very special.	The one and only 'Luis Miguel' is sick in hospital at the moment.
When we say 'if only' it means we regret doing smthg.	If only I had told him the truth, I wouldn't be in trouble now.
only to' means to do smthg for no purpose	He won the money only to lose it at a poker game the very same day.
to do a spot of smthg. =to do a little bit of smthg.	The woman decided to do a spot of housework before her husband arrived from work.
to spot smthg a mile off= that something is very obvious	You could spot her jealously a mile off just by looking at her face.
to spot a difference = to be able to tell the difference	Can you spot the difference between a hamster and a guinea pig.
a conviction= when the law accuses one of a crime	Because of his previous conviction, the prisoner wasn't allowed bail.
We speak with conviction when we are sure of what we are saying.	Don't speak with such conviction when you know you were cheating on the exam.
to carry little conviction=nobody believes what a person is saying	All her tears carried little conviction and the man turned around and left.
to bring out the best=to make someone behave in the best way	Her sound advice brought out the best in her son.
to bring back memories= smthg tha helps us remember smthg.	The smell of roses brought back memories of her long forgotten youth.
to bring someone back down to earth=to bring him back to reality	Losing most of his fans, brought him back down to earth.
to know smthg. by heart= to remember smthg completely	The teacher said it was a good thing that we didn't know our speech by heart.
to be in the know of = to be informed about smthg.	No one is in the know of how the prisoners were able to escape.
how was I to know=I had no idea	How was I to now that you were married.
to blow smthg up=to make smthg. bigger	Blow the picture up so we can see it in detail.
a body blow= provoking a strong impact	The death of her boyfriend was a real body blow.
to blow up in one's face=to go completely wrong	The whole situation could blow up in our faces, if we don't rub out all our finger prints.
the very (person) (thing) =the exact (person) (thing)	I know the vey remedy for your heartache.
my very own=nobody's but mine	It's wonderful to have my vey own car for the first time in my life.
the very same (smthg)= smthg identical to smthg else	My brother has the very same I-Phone as you do.
a person / thing is said to be= is famous for	This house is said to be haunted.
easier said than done=it's easier to speak about smthg than to do it	Finding an honest politician is easier said than done.
the less said the better= it is adviced not to talk about smthg	The less said about her divorce, the better.

**DERIVATIVES GUIDE**

<b>NOUN</b>	<b>VERB</b>	<b>ADJECTIVE</b>	<b>ADVERB</b>
finance	finance	financial	financially
occupation	occupy	occupational	§
exception	except	unexceptional	exceptional
excess	exceed	§	exceedingly
excitement	excite	overexcited	unexcitingly
anxiety	§	anxious	anxiously
beneficiary	benefit	beneficial	beneficently
astronomy/astronomer	§	astronomical	astronomically
action	act	hyper-active	actively
behaviour	behave	behavioural	behaviourally
bidder/bidding	bid	biddable	§
construction	construct	constructive	constructively
correspondent	correspond	corresponding	correspondingly
direction	direct	directive	directly
obscenity	§	obscene	obscenely
medicine	medicate	medicinal	medicianally
perception	perceive	perceptible	perceptively
persuasion	persuade	persuasive	persuasively
practice	practice	practical	practically
repetition	repeat	repetitive	repeatedly
rhythm	§	rhythmic	rhythmically
spectacle	§	spectacular	spectacularly
success	succeed	successful	successfully
termination	terminate	interminable	§
threat	threaten	threatened/threatening	threateningly

HOMOPHONES GUIDE

stationary-stationery	new-gnu	wheel-we'll	die-dye	grease-Greece
heel-he'll	suite-sweet	bears-bares	eye-I-aye	lessons-lessens
I'll-aisle	mourning-morning	you-ewe	four-fore-for	scent-sent-cent
read-red	tied-tide	waist-waste	in-inn	buoys-boys
awl-all	rough-ruff	pray-prey	hear-here	weight-wait
days-daze	dew-due	are-r	heart-hart	sum-some
night-knight	throne-thrown	yore-your-you're	by-bye-buy	hout-our
no-know	their-they're	roam-Rome	thyme-time	main-Maine
war-wore	Sunday-sundae	plain-plane	wear-ware	sunny-sonny
which-witch	ate-eight	flower-flour	flew-flu	stare-stair
eyed-I'd	sun-son	ore-or	so-sew-sow	very-vary
too-two-to	flee-flea	hares-hairs	deer-dear	weather-whether

CONFUSING WORDS AND STRCTURES GUIDE

beside / besides	maybe / may be	said / told	like / as / such as	affect / effect
fewer / less	sheep(s) / sheep (pl)	lose / loss / loose	in time / on time	sensitive / sensible
other/another/others	the amount of / a number of	dessert / desert	quiet / quite	despite / although
advise / advice	alike / like	specially / especially	between / among	whose / who's
stationery / stationary	personal / personnel	this / these	raise / rise	its / it's
child / children	death / dead	make / do	library / bookstore	lend / borrow
such/so/how/what a	complement/compliment	farther / further	sit / set	embarassed /ashamed

**Wishing you all the best in your future life. Work hard on the guide, and you will have no problem.**

**GOOD LUCK!**

**Miss Lorraine**