

Reasons to be cheerful? – Glossary

anxious adjective

worried because you think something bad might happen

His silence made me anxious.

assumption noun [count]

something that you consider likely to be true even though no one has told you directly or even though you have no proof

Your argument is based on a completely false assumption.

beyond (your) wildest dreams phrase

much better than you imagined or hoped

doom and gloom phrase

a feeling that a situation is very bad and without hope

environmental adjective

relating to the natural world and the effect that human activity has on it

The Minister discussed environmental issues.

freedom of speech noun [uncount]

the legal or natural right to say what you believe is true, without being prevented or punished

generation noun [count]

a group of people in society who are born and live around the same time

People retiring today are wealthier than the previous generation.

global warming noun [uncount]

the slow increase in the temperature of the Earth caused partly by the greenhouse effect increasing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere

grumble verb

to complain, especially continuously and about unimportant things

Children always grumble about school dinners.

indefinitely adverb

for a period of time that has no fixed end

It will keep indefinitely in a sealed container.

long face noun [count]

a sad, disappointed, or serious expression on someone's face

There were some long faces in the hall when the results were read out.

long-term adjective

continuing to exist, be relevant, or have an effect for a long time in the future

a good long-term investment

media noun [uncount]

radio, television, newspapers, the Internet, and magazines, considered as a group

Both political parties have accused the media of bias.

natural resources noun [plural]

valuable substances such as wood and oil that exist in a country's land and sea

obsessed adjective

considering someone or something as so important that you are always thinking about them, in a way that seems extreme to other people

privileged adjective

having advantages and opportunities that other people do not have, because you have a lot of money or high social status

Cynthia had a very privileged upbringing.

quality of life noun [uncount]

the enjoyment of life at a basic level, which includes being happy and healthy, rather than having lots of money

scandal noun [uncount]

talk or reports in the newspapers or on television about shocking events involving important people

He was tired of the endless stream of scandal offered by the tabloid press.

short-term adjective

lasting for a short period of time

trend noun [count]

a gradual change or development that produces a particular result

wealth noun [uncount]

a large amount of money and other valuable things

They used some of their wealth to build

magnificent town halls.

worrying adjective

causing you to feel worried

The most worrying trend is the sharp decline in young readers.