

## The United States – Glossary

**according to** preposition

used for saying where information or ideas have come from

**album** noun [countable]

a CD, record, or cassette with several songs or pieces of music on it

*Fans are eagerly awaiting the release of her first solo album.*

**average** adjective

like most others of the same type

*The average child spends around ten hours a week watching television.*

**beat** verb [transitive]

to defeat someone in a game, competition, election, or battle

*In 2000, George W Bush narrowly beat Al Gore in the election.*

**big** adjective

powerful or successful in a particular area of activity

**candidate** noun [countable]

one of the people competing in an election

**chewing gum** noun [uncountable]

a type of sweet, usually flavoured with mint, that you chew for a long time but do not swallow

**consume** verb [transitive]

to eat or drink something

**copy** noun [countable]

a single newspaper, book, CD, piece of software etc that is one of many that are all exactly the same  
*Her first album sold 100,000 copies.*

**foreign minister** noun [countable]

the government minister who is responsible for a country's relationships with foreign countries. The US title for a similar job is Secretary of State.

**gold medal** noun [countable]

a medal that is given to the winner of a race or competition. The person who comes second gets a silver medal, and the person who is third gets a bronze medal.

**main** adjective

most important, largest, or most frequently used

**military** adjective

relating to armies or armed forces and the way in which they are organized

**party** noun [countable]

an organized group of people who have similar ideas about the way in which a country should be governed, and who work together to try to persuade people to vote for them in elections: can be followed by a singular or plural verb

**percentage** noun [countable/uncountable]

a part of a larger number or amount that is not calculated exactly

**per head** phrase

for each person

**personnel** noun [plural]

the people who work for a company or organization, or who are members of a military force

**piece** noun [countable]

a part that has been cut, broken, or separated from something larger

**population** noun [singular]

the number of people who live in a particular area

**pop music** noun [uncountable]

a type of music, usually played on electronic instruments, that is popular with many people because it consists of short songs with a strong beat and simple tunes that are easy to remember. Pop music is often simply called pop.

**ranking** noun [countable]

a position on a list that shows how good someone or something is compared to others, especially how good someone is at a sport  
*Davenport still stands at number one in the world rankings.*

**solo** noun [countable]

a piece of music or a part of a piece of music that is performed by one person

**spectator sport** noun [countable]

a sport that a lot of people enjoy watching

**statistic** noun [plural]

a group of numbers that represent facts or that describe a situation