

Lucky escapes – Glossary

bruise noun [countable]

a mark that you get on your body if you are hit or if you knock against something

climbing noun [uncountable]

the activity of climbing mountains and rocks for enjoyment and exercise

come to a halt verb phrase

to stop moving, or to stop a person or vehicle from moving

constriction noun [countable/uncountable]

the act of *constricting* (to become smaller or narrower, or to make something do this)

cushion noun [countable]

a layer that separates two objects and prevents one from hitting or touching the other

diameter noun [countable/uncountable]

MATHS a straight line that crosses a circle through the centre, or the length of this line

The dome is ten feet in diameter.

drag verb [transitive]

to pull someone strongly or violently when they do not want to go with you

expedition noun [countable]

long journey organized for a particular purpose, especially to a dangerous or distant place

fracture noun [countable]

a break or crack in a bone

She was admitted to hospital with fractures of both legs.

hammock noun [countable]

a bed consisting of a long piece of cloth or net tied at each end to posts or trees

injured adjective

hurt in an accident or attack

Peter brushed aside worries about his injured knee.

jaw noun [countable]

the lower part of your face that includes your chin and your bottom teeth

kayaking noun [uncountable]

an activity in which you move in a small covered *canoe* (narrow boat with a point at each end) with a single paddle that has two flat ends

open fire verb phrase

to start shooting a gun

Troops opened fire on the crowd.

paw noun [countable]

the foot of some animals such as cats, dogs, and bears

permit verb [transitive]

to allow someone to do something, or to allow something to happen

rifle noun [countable]

a large gun with a long barrel that you hold against your shoulder to fire

rucksack noun [countable]

a bag that you carry on your back, used when you are walking long distances or travelling to several different places

save someone's life verb phrase

to stop someone from dying

A man who was passing saved her life by pulling her out of the water.

self-defence noun [uncountable]

actions that you take or force that you use in order to protect yourself

Margaret claims she was acting in self-defence when she shot him.

shot noun [countable]

a bullet that is fired from a gun

The third shot hit the officer in the chest.

slide verb [intransitive]

to move smoothly and quickly across a surface

The doors slid open.

slip verb [intransitive]

if you slip, your feet slide accidentally and you lose your balance or fall over

slope noun [countable]

the side of a hill or a mountain

venom noun [uncountable]

poison produced by some animals, especially snakes and insects

wrap (a)round phrasal verb [transitive]

to put something around something else

He grabbed a towel to wrap round his waist.