

Back to school – Glossary

awful adjective

used for emphasizing how unpleasant someone or something is

There were these awful people sitting behind us who talked all through the movie.

bored adjective

feeling impatient or dissatisfied, because you are not interested in something or because you have nothing to do

Oh, I'm so bored!

boring adjective

not at all interesting, and making you feel impatient or dissatisfied

Our math teacher is so boring.

break noun [countable]

a rest from the work or job that you usually do

I could use a break.

elective noun [countable]

a course or class that you choose to do, rather than one that you must do

envious adjective

unhappy because you want very much to do something that someone else does or have something that they have

He was envious of the local boys who could see her every day.

forever adverb

for all time in the future, or for as long as you can imagine

They promised to love each other forever.

freedom noun [uncountable]

the right to do what you want, make your own decisions, and express your own opinions

Newspapers now enjoy much greater freedom under the new laws.

give someone a ride phrase

an occasion when someone takes you somewhere in their car.

I can give you a ride into town.

hang out phrasal verb

INFORMAL to spend time in a particular place or with particular people

She knew all the clubs where he usually hung out.

homework noun [uncountable]

work that a teacher gives a student to do outside of class

Have the kids done their homework?

issue noun [countable]

a problem that needs to be considered

A big issue in Oklahoma is that teachers are so underpaid.

mess around phrasal verb

INFORMAL to behave in a silly way, especially when you should be working or paying attention to something

Stop messing around – I'm serious about this!

mile noun [countable]

a unit for measuring distance, equal to 1,760 yards or 1.609 kilometers

miss verb [transitive]

to wish you still had something or could still do something

I'm missing our lunchtime drinks on Friday.

principal noun [countable]

the head of a school

a high school principal

separate verb [transitive]

to keep people or things apart from each other

The army was called in to help separate the warring factions.

sweet adjective

kind, gentle, or nice to other people

Caroline was the sweetest little girl I have ever taken care of.

switch off phrasal verb

INFORMAL to stop listening to someone or stop thinking about something

He just switches off and ignores me.

