

Using a dictionary

1 Read the statements about using a dictionary. Tick (✓) the ones that are true for you.

- 1 I use a monolingual dictionary (English only) written for my level to look up words I don't know.
- 2 I use a bilingual dictionary (English into another language) to look up words I don't know.
- 3 I use an online dictionary to look up words I don't know.

2 Look at the dictionary entries for three words from Units 9 and 10 of the Student's Book. Match each numbered extract (1-9) to the information in the Study tip (a-i).

STUDY TIP

Monolingual dictionaries can be very useful. They tell you how to spell a word and its meaning, and they can also give you this information:

- a words which are the most frequently used at your level
- b the 'class' or 'function' of a word (e.g. adjective, noun)
- c words with a similar and opposite meaning to the word you're looking up
- d the pronunciation of a word
- e word combinations or phrases
- f different meanings of the same word
- g an example sentence using the word you're looking up
- h information about the grammar of a word
- i if a noun is countable or uncountable

information /ˌɪnfə(r)'meɪʃ(ə)n/ noun [U] ★★★
 knowledge or facts about someone or something: We're not allowed to give you any **information about** our client's medical records. ♦ We were able to get the **information** we needed from the Internet. ♦ He gave us a very interesting **piece of information**. ♦ If you require any further information, do not hesitate to contact me.

information is never used in the plural and cannot be used with **an**: I've just discovered an interesting **piece of information** (NOT an interesting information) about the company. ♦ Do you have **any information** about local attractions? ♦ I found **some information** on the Net about cheap flights to Egypt

fair /feə(r)/ adj ★★★

- 1 treating all equally
- 2 reasonable
- 3 quite large in amount
- 4 light in colour
- 5 not very good
- + phrases

1 if a situation is fair, everyone is treated equally and in a reasonable way ≠ UNFAIR: *free and fair elections* ♦ **it is not fair to sb** *it wouldn't be fair to the others if she's paid more.*

2 reasonable and morally right: *a fair wage/deal/price* ♦ **it is (not fair) to do sth** *It is not fair to blame him for our mistakes.*

3 used for emphasizing that an amount, size or number is large: *We walked 3 miles to school, which is a fair distance.*

4 fair hair is BLONDE (=light yellow or very light brown in colour ≠ DARK

5 not bad, but not very good = AVERAGE

build¹ /bɪld/ (past tense and past participle **built** /bɪlt/) verb ★★★

1 (I/T) to make a building or any other large structure putting its parts together: *Do you know when this house was built?* ♦ *They're building a new bridge over the river.* ♦ *The cabin was built of logs.*

2 (T) to develop something: *He set out to build a business empire and succeeded.*

3 (I/T) to increase, or to make something increase: *The company has worked hard to build sales.*

PHRASAL VERBS

build sth in/into something to make something part of a plan, system or calculation: *The cost of hiring equipment is built into the price.*

build on/upon sth to do something in addition to what you have already achieved: *We need to build on the ideas we have had so far.*

build (sth) up same as **build**¹: *These exercises are good for building up leg strength.*

build (sth) up same as **build**¹: *Stevens played a key role in building up the company.*

build up to sth to prepare for something: *She'd been building up to telling them she was leaving.*

build² /bɪld/ noun (singular) the size and shape of someone's body: *He was of medium build and about my height.*

Words often used with build

- Adjectives often used with **build** (noun)
- muscular, solid, stocky, sturdy + BUILD: used about someone with a big body
 - slender, slim, wiry + BUILD: used about someone with a thin body

3 Use the dictionary entries in 2 to correct the underlined mistake in each sentence.

- 1 Last year, my father builds a garage next to our house.
- 2 The man was very stocky. He was so thin that he could get through a very small window.
- 3 Do you have any informations about the city?
- 4 My grandparents built in their company over 40 years.
- 5 My teacher had fair hair last year but this year she's changed it to blonde.
- 6 You can read an information about this inventor on the website.

4 Look at the dictionary entry for the word *fair* in 2. Write each meaning of *fair* and an example sentence of your own in the table.

fair (adj)	
Meaning	Example sentence
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

5 Find a word you don't know in a monolingual English dictionary. Write each meaning of the word and example sentences of your own in the table below.

.....	
Meaning	Example sentence
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

6 What will you use a dictionary for in the future? Write three ideas below.

In the future, I will use a dictionary to:

- 1
- 2
- 3