**McGraw-Hill Education** 

# Essential ESL Dictionary

9,000+ words

for Learners of English





## McGRAW-HILL EDUCATION

## Essential ESL Dictionary

for Learners of English





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ISBN: 978-0-07-184019-4

MHID: 0-07-184019-2

The material in this eBook also appears in the print version of this title: ISBN: 978-0-07-184018-7,

MHID: 0-07-184018-4.

eBook conversion by codeMantra Version 2.0

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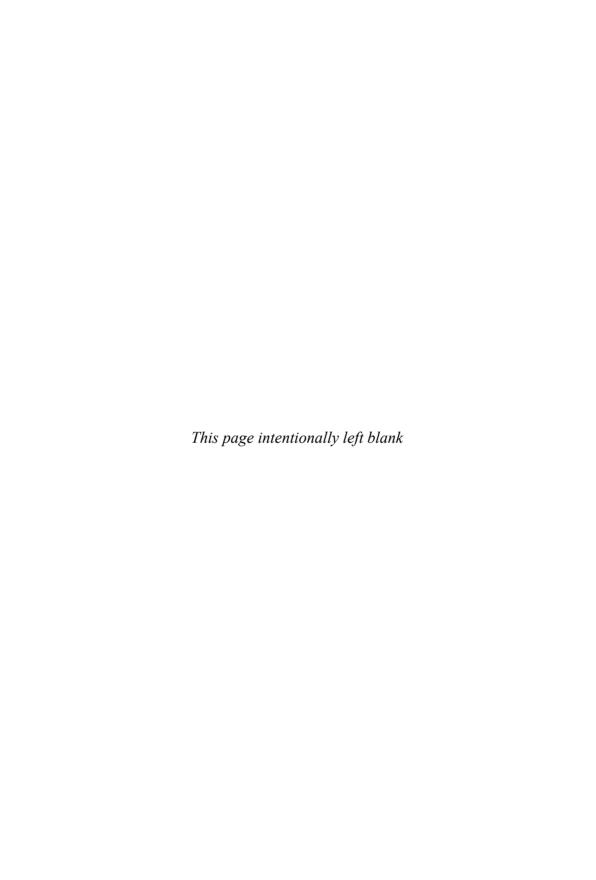
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### Preface

**McGraw-Hill Education:** Essential ESL Dictionary for Learners of English is an English dictionary especially designed for students who are studying English at elementary and intermediate levels. Its **approach** guarantees that all of the terms appearing in the subjects that are taught in English are contained in this dictionary, so that any lexical doubt which students may have regarding these subjects can be easily solved by consulting their dictionary. In addition, it contains **40 pages of thematic illustrations** especially designed to help students to learn vocabulary in a significant and contextualized way and to reinforce the key vocabulary and concepts found in their textbooks.

It also has many **usage notes** and **grammar boxes** which explain and clarify the main doubts and difficulties which arise for students in their English language learning process, and is supplied with a large number of illustrations to facilitate lexicon acquisition.

The dictionary also includes a **Conversation guide** which provides the user with examples of common conversations that occur in specific contexts, showing the vocabulary and language structures that students need to learn. This guide will help students to tackle successfully a wide range of communication situations.

### User's Guide

\*breakfast /'brek.fast/ [countable] The first meal of This sign indicates the most common words - the first vou the day: I always have breakfast in bed on Sundavs. need to learn. calyx /'keɪ.lɪks/ [countable] The sepals which together Key terms for the study form the layer that protects a flower in bud: The of school courses in English calvx is the outer part of the flower. 

The plural is "calvces" or "calyxes". ■ Compare with "corolla" (The petals which form the inner envelope of a flower). volcano us: /vaːlˈkeɪ.noʊ/ uK: /vɒlˈkeɪ.nəʊ/ [countable] A Phonetic transcription and hole where very hot rock comes out: The volcanoes pronunciation notes. of the United States are located along the West Coast. (All phonetic symbols ■ Be careful with the pronunciation of this word! "ca" are listed on page 11.) rhymes with "day". ■ The plural is "volcanoes". \*answer1 US: /'ænt.sə/ UK: /'a:nt.sər/ [countable] The response to a question: I've asked you a question and I want an answer. Grammatical category is shown in brackets answer<sup>2</sup> [verb] 1 To say something to somebody and not abbreviated. Headwords who has asked you a question: I asked her with different grammatical functions about Jim but she didn't answer. 2 to answer are separated by numbers. the door To open the door in answer to a knock or ring: I had to ring twice before they answered the door. 3 to answer the telephone To pick up the telephone in answer to a call: Can you answer the phone, Mark? I'm in the bathroom. compass /'kam.pas/ [countable] 1 An instrument that Clear and simple definitions shows direction: A compass has a pointer that always points north. 2 A metal or plastic instruseparated by a number ment which is used for drawing circles: If you and with examples change the angle of the compass, you can draw *circles of different size.* • In this use, we also say "compasses". ■ The plural is "compasses". ● See page 456. **stave** [countable] The five parallel lines on which musical notes are written in a score: The music teacher wrote the tune of the song on a stave on the whiteboard. See page 460. Irregular verbs forget, forgot, forgotten /far'get/, /far-/ [verb] Not with their forms

to remember something: Don't forget we're having

a test on Monday.

\*Call<sup>2</sup> us: /ka:l/ uK: /kɔ:l/ [verb] 1 To attract somebody's attention by shouting: Somebody called my name from the other end of the room. 2 To telephone: I called Jane to invite her to go to the movies with me but she wasn't in. 3 to be called To have a name: What is this animal called in English? 4 to call collect On the phone, to ask the person you are calling to pay for the call: When I was in Europe this summer I called collect every week to talk to my parents.

■ In British English they say "reverse the charges".

▶ PHRASAL VERBS · to call back To return a telephone call or to call again: He said he'd call me back when he got home. · to call on To visit: We'll call on you tomorrow evening. · to call off To stop

something that had been planned: As it was raining, we had to call off the game.

\* people /'pir.pl/ [plural noun] More than one person: How

many people shall we invite to the party? Be careful!
"People" is a countable noun. We say: "There are many people here". (We don't say: "There is many people here").

\*library /'laɪ.brər.i, -bri/ [countable] A place where you can borrow or read books: The library in our school has all kinds of books. The plural is "libraries". Compare with "bookstore" (a shop where you

can buy books). 

See picture at street.

\*tooth /tu:θ/ [countable] 1 One of the hard parts in your mouth: I'm going to have one of my back teeth taken out tomorrow. 2 tooth decay The process of going bad of a tooth: Eating too many candies can cause tooth decay. ■ The plural is "teeth".

\* big /big/ [adjective] Large or important: An elephant is big, a mouse is small. ■ The comparative form is "bigger" and the superlative form is "biggest".

③ See pictures at opposite and a piece of...

**chemist's** /'kemɪst/ [countable] See **pharmacy**. ■ This word is British English.

viviparous /vɪ'vɪp.ər.əs/ us: /-ə-/ [adjective] Giving birth to live young that have developed inside the body of the mother: Mammals are all viviparous.

Compare with "oviparous" (born from an egg outside the mother). See page 427.

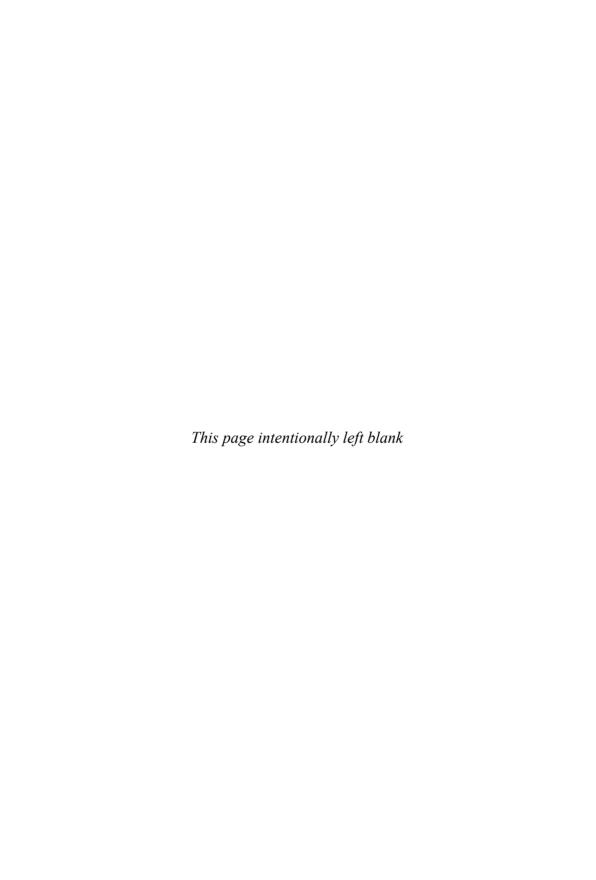
Clear distinction between idioms and phrasal verbs

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