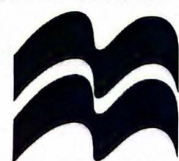


MACMILLAN
English
DICTIONARY

FOR ADVANCED LEARNERS



Macmillan Education
Between Towns Road, Oxford OX4 3PP
A division of Macmillan Publishers Limited
Companies and representatives throughout the world

ISBN

0 333 75288 0 (Cased edition)
0 333 96667 8 (Cased edition + CDROM)
0 333 95786 5 (Paperback edition)
0 333 96668 6 (Paperback edition + CDROM)
0 333 96481 0 (UK cased edition)
0 333 96846 8 (UK cased edition + CDROM)
0 333 96482 9 (UK paperback edition)
0 333 96847 6 (UK paperback edition + CDROM)
0 333 96666 X (CDROM)

Text © Bloomsbury Publishing Plc 2002
Illustrations © Macmillan Publishers Limited 2002

First published 2002

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Cover design by Conor Mangat of Boag Associates, London

Typeset by Selwood Systems, Midsomer Norton, Radstock,
United Kingdom

Printed and bound in China

2006 2005 2004 2003 2002
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Differences between British and American English: **couple**

In the UK, a **couple** of things or people nearly always means two of them: *I need a couple of eggs (=two eggs) for this cake.* In the US, a **couple** of may also mean two, but it often means any small number: *We're going out to a restaurant with a couple of friends (=a few friends).*

couple² /'kʌpl/ verb **1** [T usually passive] if one thing is coupled with another, they are combined and produce a particular effect: *Her intelligence, coupled with her experience, makes her a perfect candidate for the job.* ♦ **coupled with the fact that** *The weather, coupled with the fact that the trains were on strike, meant that few reporters turned up.* **2** [T usually passive] if one vehicle or part of a machine is coupled to another, they are joined so that they work together: *Two computer processors can be coupled.* ♦ **be coupled to sth** *A trailer was coupled to the tractor.* **3** [I] literary when animals couple, they have sex

couplet /'kʌplət/ noun [C] two lines of poetry that are next to each other: *a rhyming couplet*

coupling /'kʌplɪŋ/ noun **1** [C] an object used for joining two things together **1a.** [usually singular] a combination of two things **2** [C/U] literary sexual activity

coupon /'ku:pən/ noun [C] ★

1 a piece of paper that allows you to buy something at a reduced price: *This coupon gives £2 off the price of a meal.* **1a.** a piece of paper that allows you to buy something that is RATIONED

2 a piece of paper that you write your name and address on and send to someone, for example to enter a competition

courage /'kʌrɪdʒ/ noun [U] ★★ the ability to do something that you know is right or good, even though it is dangerous, frightening, or very difficult: *She has shown immense courage in opposing a corrupt and violent regime.* ♦ **have the courage to do sth** *I didn't have the courage to admit I was wrong.* ♦ **pluck up/summon up (the) courage** (=try to make yourself feel brave enough to do something) *Eventually I plucked up the courage and made an appointment with the doctor.* ♦ **it takes courage to do sth** *It took a great deal of courage to leave her friends.* **a.** the ability to be brave when you are in great pain: *He had faced his illness with great courage.*

have the courage of your (own) convictions to continue to say or do what you think is right, even when other people think you are wrong
take courage from sth to feel more confident and hopeful because of something
take your courage in both hands to decide to do something, even though you are nervous or frightened about it

courageous /kə'reɪdʒəs/ adj very brave and determined: *Frank fought a courageous battle against cancer.* ♦ **a courageous decision/step** — **courageously** adv

courgette /kə:'zet/ noun [C/U] BrE a long vegetable with dark green skin. AmE **zucchini** — picture → C11

courier /'kʊrɪə/ noun [C] **1** someone whose job is to deliver documents or parcels **2** BrE someone whose job is to help and look after tourists on an organized holiday

course¹ /kɔ:s/ noun [C] ★★★

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 series of lessons | 5 part of meal |
| 2 direction sth follows | 6 medical treatment |
| 3 action sb chooses | 7 area for sport |
| 4 way things develop | + PHRASES |

1 a series of lessons or lectures in an academic subject or a practical skill: *a drama/secretarial/Spanish course* ♦ **in an introductory course in economics** ♦ **do/take a course** *You could do a language course abroad.* ♦ **run/offer a course** *The school runs courses for beginners.* ♦ **be on a course** *She's on a time management course this week.*

2 the direction that a vehicle, especially a ship or plane, is travelling in or plans to travel in: *The captain had to change course quickly.* ♦ **on/off course** (=going/not going in the planned direction) *The oil tanker veered off course and hit a rock.* **2a.** the direction in which a river flows: *Several villages along the course of the river were flooded.*

3 the things that you choose to do in a particular situation: **course of action** *What course of action do you recommend?* ♦ **the best/safest etc course is to do sth** *The safest course is to avoid alcohol.*

4 the way that things develop over a period of time: **course of events** *In the normal course of events, he would have left and thought no more about it.* ♦ **the course of history** *a speech that changed the course of history*

5 one of the parts of a meal: **first/main course** *I had prawns, followed by steak for my main course.* ♦ **three-course/four-course etc meal** *They do a two-course lunch for £4.99.*

6 a medical treatment that someone is given over a period of time: ♦ **of** *The treatment involves a course of steroid injections.*

7 an area of land or water where races take place: *The mountains are the most difficult part of the course.* **7a.** a GOLF COURSE: *an 18-hole course*

in/during/over the course of sth while something is happening or continuing: *The insurance covers you if you are injured in the course of your employment.* ♦ **During the course of the morning** *I learned a lot about the project.*

in the course of time after some time has passed: **EVENUALLY:** *Don't worry, it will all become clear in the course of time.*

on course for sth/to do sth very likely to achieve something or have a particular result: *The company is on course to make its worst-ever losses this year.*

run/take its course to develop in the usual way and reach a natural end: *The doctor said we just had to let the disease run its course.*

→ COLLISION, DUE¹, OF COURSE

Words frequently used with **course**

adjectives correspondence, intensive, introductory, refresher, residential, vocational

1

course² /kɔ:s/ adv spoken OF COURSE: *'She's not in love with me.'* — *'Course she is. It's obvious.'*

course³ /kɔ:s/ verb **1** [I] to flow somewhere in large amounts: *Tears coursed down his cheeks.* ♦ **Fear sends** *adrenalin coursing through your veins.* **1a.** if an emotion or physical feeling courses through you, you suddenly feel it strongly: *Anger coursed through him.* **2** [I/T] to use dogs to chase RABBITS or HARES as a sport

coursebook /'kɔ:s,bʊk/ noun [C] BrE a book that is designed to be used in class by students taking a particular course of study: **TEXTBOOK**

coursework /'kɔ:s,wɜ:k/ noun [U] school work that a student must do as part of a course of study, with the mark that they achieve forming part of their exam result: *English/Maths/History coursework*

court¹ /kɔ:t/ noun ★★★

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 for cases/trials | 4 in name of buildings |
| 2 area for sport | 5 courtyard |
| 3 (place for) king/queen | + PHRASES |

1 [C/U] a place where trials take place and legal cases are decided, especially in front of a judge and a JURY or a MAGISTRATE: **COURT OF LAW, LAW COURT:** *in court* *The letter was read aloud in court.* ♦ **appear in court** *Duggan will appear in court on Monday.* → **COURT OF APPEAL** **1a.** the court [singular] the people in a court, especially the judge and JURY: *A police officer told the court that he had seen Brown leaving the house.* ♦ **the evidence before the court** (=being considered by the court) **1b.** [only before noun] done by a court or relating to a court: *They are dropping their court case against him.* ♦ **She got a court injunction banning her husband from her home.** **1c.** [U] used for referring to the process of taking a legal action against someone: **go to court** (=begin a court case) *She threatened to go to court if he did not pay up.* ♦ **take sb to court** (=begin a case against someone) *Lynn took her employers to court for compensation.* ♦ **come to court** (=start to be discussed in court) *It took five years for the case to come to court.* ♦ **settle out of court** (=agree to pay someone in order to avoid a court case) *Mr Lodge settled out of court for £50,000.* **1d.** the courts [plural] the system of courts that decide legal cases: *You can always try to get your money back through the courts.* ♦ *The courts ruled that the company are entitled to make a fair profit.*

2 [C] an area marked with lines where some sports are