

Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary

Fourth Edition

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Ascendis EX1048
U.S. Patent No. 12,233,106

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107619500

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First published 1995 as *Cambridge International Dictionary of English*

This edition first published 2013 as *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary*
3rd printing 2013

Printed in India by Replika Press Pvt. Ltd

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-107-035157 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-107-685499 Paperback

ISBN 978-1-107-674479 Hardback with CD-ROM

ISBN 978-1-107-619500 Paperback with CD-ROM

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software that is designed to damage the way a computer works

mam /mæm/ noun [C] Northern English informal for mum

mama /mə'mɑ:/ (US) /'mɑ:mə/ noun [C] 1 UK old-fashioned or US informal a mother: [as form of address] *Can I have some more, Mama?* • *Where's your mama?* 2 US slang a woman, especially an attractive one: *There's a good-looking mama sitting at the bar.*

'mama's boy noun [C] US for mummy's boy

mamba /'mæm.bə/ noun [C] a very poisonous snake that lives mainly in caves or trees in parts of Africa

mammal /'mæm.əl/ noun [C] ⑤ any animal of which the female feeds her young on milk from her own body. Most mammals give birth to live young, not eggs: *Humans, dogs, elephants, and dolphins are all mammals, but birds, fish, and crocodiles are not.*

• **mammalian** /mə'meɪ.li.ən/ adj specialized mammalian evolution • *mammalian species*

mammary /'mæm.ər.i/ (US) /-ə-/ adj specialized relating to the breasts or milk organs

'mammary gland noun [C] specialized an organ in a woman's breast that produces milk to feed a baby, or a similar organ in a female animal

mammogram /'mæm.ə.grəm/ noun [C] (also **mammograph**) an X-RAY photograph of the breasts

mammography /mə'mɒɡ.rə.fi/ (US) /-'mɑ:grə-/ noun [U] the use of X-RAY photographs of the breasts to help discover possible cancers

Mammon /'mæm.ən/ noun [U] literary the force which makes people try to become as rich as possible and the belief that this is the most important thing in life

mammoth /'mæm.əθ/ adj; noun

► adj extremely large: *Cleaning up the city-wide mess is going to be a mammoth task.* • *It's a mammoth undertaking – are you sure you have the resources to cope?*

► noun [C] a type of large ELEPHANT, no longer in existence, that was covered in hair and had tusks

mammy /'mæm.i/ noun [C] 1 mainly US or Irish child's word mother 2 US offensive old-fashioned a black woman whose job is to take care of white children

man /mæn/ noun; verb; exclamation

► noun (plural **men** /men/) **MALE** ► 1 ⑤ [C] an adult male human being: *a young/tall man* • *men and women* • *the man in the green jacket* • *the men's champion in the 400 metres* • *Steve can solve anything – the man's a genius.* 2 [C] a male employee, without particular rank or title: *The gas company said they would send some men to fix the heating system.* • *The man from the BBC wrote some positive things about the movie.* • *The military expedition was made up of 100 officers and men.* • *Our man in Washington sent us the news by fax yesterday.* • old-fashioned *My man* (= male servant) *will show you to the door.* 3 a **marketing, advertising, etc.** man a man typical of or involved in marketing, advertising, etc. 4 [C] informal a husband or male sexual partner: *I hear she's got a new man.* • *Is there a man in her life?* 5 mainly US informal used when talking to someone, especially a man: *Hey, man, how are you doing?* 6 **man and wife** old-fashioned If a man and a woman are man and wife, they are married to each other. 7 **the man** [S] US slang a person or group that has power or authority, for example the police **PEOPLE** ► 8 ⑤ [U] the human race: *Man is still far more intelligent than the cleverest robot.* • *Man is rapidly destroying the Earth.* • *This is one of the most dangerous substances known to man.* • *Try to imagine*

what life must have been like for Neolithic man 10,000 years ago. 9 [C] literary or old-fashioned a person of either sex: *All men are equal in the sight of the law.* **OBJECT** ► 10 [C] any of the objects that are moved or played with in games such as **CHESSES**

IDIOMS as one man formal If a group of people do something as one man, they do it together at exactly the same time: *As one man, the delegates made for the exit.* • **It's every man for himself** something that you say that means that everyone in a particular situation is trying to do what is best for themselves and no one is trying to help anyone else: *It might be a civilized place to shop at other times but come the January sales, it's every man for himself.* • **make a man (out) of sb** to cause a young man or boy to act like an adult and take responsibility: *A couple of years in the army should make a man of him.* • **man and boy** UK old-fashioned all a man's life: *From 1910 to 1970 he worked in that factory, man and boy.* • **be man enough to do sth** to be brave enough to do something: *He was man enough to admit he had made a mistake.* • **the man in the moon** (in children's stories) the human face that you can imagine you see when you look at the moon • **(as) man to man** If two men talk (as) man to man, they talk seriously and honestly together on an equal level. • **man's best friend** a dog • **man's inhumanity to man** the cruel behaviour that people show to each other: *Man's inhumanity to man never fails to shock me.* • **a man's man** a man who enjoys men's activities and being with other men: *Terry's what you'd call a man's man – I don't expect you'd find him at the ballet too many nights a week.* • **to a man** every person in a group: *There were 400 people at the meeting and they all, to a man, voted for the motion.* • **you the man!** US not standard used to praise a person who has done something well

► verb [T] (-nn-) To man something such as a machine or vehicle is to be present in order to operate it: *The phones are manned 24 hours a day.* • *Barricades were erected against the advancing government troops and they were manned throughout the night.* • *Man the pumps!* → See also **overmanned, undermanned, unmanned**

Note:

Many people find this use sexist and prefer to use other verbs such as 'operate' or 'staff'.

PHRASAL VERB **man up** informal used to tell someone that they should deal with something more bravely: *You need to man up and go get what you want.*

► exclamation informal used to express a strong emotion: *Man, we had a good time – we drank all through the night!*

-man /-mæn/, /-mən/ suffix having the nationality or job mentioned, or (of a group or vehicle) containing the number of people mentioned: *an Irishman* • *a policeman* • *businessmen* • *a five-man team* • *a two-man helicopter*

man-about-town noun [S] a man who spends a lot of time in fashionable places, doing fashionable things

manacle /'mæn.ə.kl/ verb [T] to put manacles around a person's legs or arms: *They had manacled her legs together.* • *His arm was manacled to a ring on the wall.*

manacles /'mæn.ə.klz/ noun [plural] two metal rings joined by a chain, used to prevent a prisoner from escaping by fastening the legs or arms

manage /'mæn.ɪdʒ/ verb **SUCCEED** ► 1 ⑤ [I or T] to succeed in doing something, especially something difficult: [+ to infinitive] *Did you manage to get any*

informal to talk about or complain about something a lot: *She's been making a lot of noise about moving to a new house.* • **make noises** UK informal **1** to show what you think or feel by what you say, without stating it directly: *She made very positive noises at the interview about me getting the job.* **2** (also **make a noise**) to complain or make trouble: *If things start going badly again, our members are sure to make noises.*

noiseless /'nɔɪz.ləs/ adj silent: *Above them an eagle circled in noiseless flight.* • **noiselessly** /-li/ adv

'noise pollution noun [U] noise, such as that from traffic, which upsets people where they live or work and is considered to be unhealthy for them: *to tackle/ease/reduce noise pollution*

noisome /'nɔɪ.səm/ adj literary very unpleasant and offensive: *a noisome stench*

noisy /'nɔɪ.zi/ adj **SOUND** **▷ 1** **A** making a lot of noise: *a noisy crowd of fans* • *noisy neighbours* **SIGNAL** **▷ 2** specialized having an unwanted change in signal, especially of an electronic device: *a noisy signal* • **noisily** /-zi.li/ adv • **noisiness** /-nəs/ noun [U]

nomad /'nəʊ.məd/ (US) /'nou-/ noun [C] a member of a group of people who move from one place to another rather than living in one place all of the time: *a tribe of Somali desert nomads* • **nomadic** /'nəʊ.məd.ɪk/ (US) /nou-/ adj *nomadic people/herdsmen* • *a nomadic life/existence*

'no-man's-land noun **1** [S or U] an area or strip of land that no one owns or controls, such as a strip of land between two countries' borders, especially in a war: *to be lost/stranded/stuck in no-man's-land* • *They found themselves trapped in the no-man's-land between the two warring factions.* **2** [S] a situation or area of activity where there are no rules or which no one understands or controls because it belongs neither to one type nor another: *The families of people who die in custody are in a legal no-man's-land when they try to discover what went wrong.*

nom de plume /'nɒm.də'plu:m/ (US) /'nɑ:m-/ noun [C] (plural **noms de plume**) a **pen name**

nomenclature /'nɒm.en.klə.tʃər/ (US) /'nou.men.kleɪ.tʃər/ noun [C or U] specialized a system for naming things, especially in a particular area of science: *(the) nomenclature of organic chemicals*

nominal /'nɒm.i.nəl/ (US) /'nɑ:.mə-/ adj **NOT REALLY** **▷ 1** in name or thought but not in fact or not as things really are: *She's the nominal head of our college – the real work is done by her deputy.* **SMALL** **▷ 2** describes an amount of money that is very small compared to an expected price or value: *a nominal sum/charge* **GRAMMAR** **▷ 3** relating to a noun • **nominally** /-i/ adv *The province is nominally independent.*

nominalization specialized (UK usually **nominalisation**) /'nɒm.i.nəl.ə'zeɪ.ʃən/ (US) /'nɑ:.mə-/ noun [U] the process of making a noun from a verb or adjective

nominate /'nɒm.i.neɪt/ (US) /'nɑ:.mə-/ verb [T] **SUGGEST** **▷ 1** **③** to officially suggest someone for an election, job, position, or honour: *He's been nominated by the Green Party as their candidate in the next election.* • *Would you like to nominate anyone for/as director?* **2** **③** to say officially that a film, song, programme, etc. will be included in a competition for a prize: *The film was nominated for an Academy Award.* **CHOOSE** **▷ 3** to officially choose someone for a job or to do something: *She was nominated as the delegation's official interpreter.* • [+ to infinitive] *President Yeltsin nominated acting prime minister Sergei Kiriyenko to head the government.*

nomination /'nɒm.i'neɪ.ʃən/ (US) /'nɑ:.mə-/ noun [C or U] **SUGGESTION** **▷ 1** **③** the act of officially suggesting

someone or something for a job, position, or prize: *There have been two nominations for the new job.* **CHOICE** **▷ 2** the act of officially choosing someone for a job or position: *The nomination of Judge Watkins as head of the inquiry was a surprise.*

nominate /'nɒm.i.nə.tɪv/ (US) /'nɑ:.mə.nə.tɪv/ noun, adj specialized (being) a particular form of a noun in some languages that shows the noun is the subject of a verb

nominee /'nɒm.i'ni:/ (US) /'nɑ:.mə-/ noun [C] **SUGGESTION** **▷ 1** someone who has been nominated for something: *All nominees for Treasurer will be considered.* **CHOICE** **▷ 2** a person who is officially chosen for a position or job

non- /nɒn-/ (US) /nɑ:n-/ prefix used to add the meaning 'not' or 'the opposite of' to adjectives and nouns: *non-sexist* • *non-racist* → Compare **dis-**, **in-**, **un-**

'non-addictive adj describes a drug that does not make people who take it want to take more of it regularly

nonagenarian /'nɒn.ə.dʒə'neɪ.ri.ən/ (US) /'nɑ:.nə.dʒə'ner.i-/ noun [C] a person who is between 90 and 99 years old • **nonagenarian** adj

'non-aggression noun [U] formal a situation in which countries or groups avoid fighting each other: *a non-aggression pact*

'non-alcoholic adj describes a drink that does not contain alcohol: *non-alcoholic beer*

'non-aligned adj If a country is non-aligned, it does not support or depend on any powerful country or group of countries.

'non-alignment noun [U] the condition or principle of being non-aligned

'non-believer noun [C] a person who has no religious beliefs

'non-bio adj (also **non-bio'logical**) UK describes a washing powder or liquid that does not contain ENZYMES (= special chemical substances) to help clean clothes

nonce /nɒns/ (US) /nɑ:ns/ noun [C] slang a person who commits a crime involving sex, especially sex with a child

'nonce word noun [C] a word invented for a particular occasion or situation

nonchalant /'nɒn.ʃəl.ənt/ (US) /'nɑ:n.ʃə'lɑ:nt/ adj behaving in a calm manner, often in a way which suggests you are not interested or do not care: *a nonchalant manner/shrug* • **nonchalance** /'nɒn.ʃəl.əns/ (US) /'nɑ:n.ʃə'lɑ:ns/ noun [U] • **nonchalantly** /-li/ adv

'non-combatant noun [C] a person, especially in the armed forces, who does not fight in a war, for example a priest or a doctor • **'non-combatant** adj [before noun] *non-combatant troops/ships*

noncommittal /'nɒn.kə'mɪt.əl/ (US) /'nɑ:n.kə'mɪt-/ adj not expressing an opinion or decision: *The ambassador was typically noncommittal when asked whether further sanctions would be introduced.* • **noncommittally** /-i/ adv

non compos mentis /'nɒn.kɒm.pəs'men.tɪs/ (US) /'nɑ:n.kɑ:m.pɒs'men-/ adj [after verb] describes someone who is unable to think clearly, especially because of mental illness, and therefore not responsible for their actions

nonconformist /'nɒn.kən'fɔ:.mɪst/ (US) /'nɑ:n.kən'fɔ:r-/ noun [C] **1** someone who lives and thinks in a way that is different from other people **2** (also **Nonconformist**) a member of a Christian group



that is Protestant but does not belong to the Church of England • **nonconformist** *adj* **nonconformist behaviour** • a **Nonconformist minister** • **nonconformity** /-mə.ti/ (US) /-mə.ti/ *noun* [U] (also **nonconformism** /-mɪ.zəm/) *Her clothes were an immediate signal of her nonconformity.*

non-con'tributory *adj* refers to a financial plan or agreement for an employee that is completely paid for by the employer: a **non-contributory insurance policy** • a **non-contributory pension plan**

non-'dairy *adj* containing nothing that is made from cow's milk: **non-dairy drinks** made from soya milk • **non-dairy recipes**

non-de,nomi'national *adj* not connected with a particular religious DENOMINATION → Opposite **denominational**

nondescript /'nɒn.di.skript/ (US) /'nɑ:n-/ *adj* very ordinary, or having no interesting or exciting features or qualities: *The meteorological bureau is in a nondescript building on the outskirts of town.*

none /nʌn/ *pronoun* ③ not one (of a group of people or things), or not any: *None of my children has/have blonde hair.* • 'I'd like some more cheese.' 'I'm sorry there's none left'. • 'Have you any idea how much this cost?' 'None at all/None whatsoever'. • *She went to the shop to get some oranges but they had none.*

IDIOMS **have none of sth** formal to refuse to accept, agree with, or support something: *She tried to persuade him to retire, but he would have none of it.* • **none other than sb/sth** formal said when you want to show that someone or something is a surprising or exciting choice or example: *The first speech was given by none other than Clint Eastwood.* • **none the worse, better, richer, etc.** ② not any worse, better, richer, etc. than before: *Luckily, the horse seemed none the worse for his fall.* • *Small investors like myself are probably none the richer after handing over their financial affairs to professional advisers.* • **none too formal** ② not very: *He seemed none too happy/pleased at the prospect of meeting the family.*

nonentity /'nɒn'en.ti.ti/ (US) /'nɑ:'nen.tə.ti/ *noun* 1 [C] disapproving a person without strong character, ideas, or influence: *She was once a political nonentity, but has since won a formidable reputation as a determined campaigner.* 2 [U] the fact that something or someone is not known about because of not having any strong character, ideas, or influence: *This collection of essays is saved from nonentity by the stature of the contributors.*

nonetheless /'nʌn.ðə'les/ *adv* (also **nevertheless**) ④ despite what has just been said or done: *There are serious problems in our country. Nonetheless, we feel this is a good time to return.*

non-e'vent *noun* [C usually singular] informal a disappointing occasion which was not interesting, especially one which was expected to be exciting and important: *The party turned out to be a bit of a non-event – hardly anybody turned up.*

non-e'xistent *adj* ③ describes something that does not exist or is not present in a particular place: *Government funding of alternative healthcare is virtually non-existent.*

non-'fat *adj* Non-fat food contains no fat: **non-fat milk/yogurt**

non-'fiction *noun* [U] writing that is about real events and facts, rather than stories that have been invented → Compare **fiction**

non-'flammable *adj* describes something that cannot burn or is very difficult to burn

non-inter'vention *noun* [U] the practice of refusing to get involved in a situation, especially in a disagreement between countries or within a country: *a policy of non-intervention*

non-ne'gotiable *adj* **NOT DISCUSSED** ▷ 1 Something that is non-negotiable cannot be changed by discussion: *The terms of this agreement are non-negotiable.* **CHEQUE** ▷ 2 specialized A non-negotiable CHEQUE cannot be exchanged for money and must be paid into a bank account. **FINANCIAL PRODUCT** ▷ 3 specialized A non-negotiable financial product cannot be bought and sold: *Time deposits are non-negotiable deposits that are maintained in a bank for a specified period of time.*

'no-no *noun* [C usually singular] informal something that is thought to be unsuitable or unacceptable: *Total nudity is still a definite no-no on most of Europe's beaches.*

no-'nonsense *adj* [before noun] practical and serious, and only interested in doing what is necessary or achieving what is intended, without silly ideas or methods: *a no-nonsense manner/leader* • *a no-nonsense approach to child-rearing*

non-'payment *noun* [U] a failure to pay money that is owed: *non-payment of taxes*

nonplussed /'nɒn'plʌst/ (US) /'nɑ:n-/ *adj* surprised, confused, and not certain how to react: *I was completely nonplussed by his reply.*

non-'profit *adj; noun*

► *adj* [before noun] not intended to make a profit, but to make money for a social or political purpose or to provide a service that people need: *We are a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of ocean mammals.*

► *noun* [C] an organization whose aim is to make money for a social or political purpose or to provide a service that people need, rather than to make a profit

non-'profit-making *adj* **non-profit**

non-prolife'ration *noun* [U] the controlling of the spread and/or amount of something, especially nuclear or chemical weapons: *a non-proliferation treaty*

non-'resident *noun* [C] a person who is not staying or living in or at a place: *The hotel bar is open to non-residents.* • **non-'resident** *adj* *During the summer the town has a large non-resident population of holiday-makers.*

non-re'turnable *adj* describes something which cannot be returned: *a non-returnable deposit* • *These bottles are non-returnable.*

nonsense /'nɒn.səns/ (US) /'nɑ:n.səns/ *noun* 1 ② [S or U] an idea, something said or written, or behaviour that is silly or stupid: *This report is nonsense and nothing but a waste of paper.* • *The accusations are (absolute/complete/utter) nonsense.* • *Nonsense/Don't talk nonsense! She's far too ill to return to work!* • *You mustn't upset your sister with any more nonsense about ghosts.* • [+ to infinitive] *It's (a) nonsense to say that he's too old for the job.* 2 [U] language which cannot be understood because it does not mean anything: *The translation of the instructions was so poor they were just nonsense.*

IDIOMS **make (a) nonsense of sth** UK ② to make something appear stupid or wrong, or to spoil something: *His repeated lack of promotion makes nonsense of the theory that if you work hard you'll be successful.* • **not stand any nonsense** (UK also **stand**