Word Quest 1

List 20 · Describing things 1

Vocabulary and example	Write it

above prep./adv. /əˈbʌv/

higher than something

Use it with: above the door · above zero · above average

There's a clock **above** the classroom door.

ahead adv. /əˈhed/

in front; also, in the future

Use it with: go ahead · ahead of · straight ahead **Tip:** Go ahead means "Yes, you can start."

The road **ahead** was closed, so we turned back.

among prep. /əˈmʌŋ/

in the middle of a group of three or more

Use it with: among friends · among other things **Tip:** Use "between" for two things, "among" for more than two.

I found my cat **among** the boxes in the garage.

average adj./n. /ˈævrɪdʒ/

normal or usual; also, the number you get by adding and dividing

Family: averages **Use it with:** on average · above average · the average age

The **average** student sleeps seven hours a night.

awful adj. /ˈɔːfl/

very bad

Family: awfully (adv.) **Use it with:** an awful day · feel awful · smell awful

The weather was **awful**: rain all week.

bad adj. /bæd/

not good

Family: worse · worst · badly (adv.) **Use it with:** bad weather · too bad · not bad **Tip:** Not bad means quite good.

Eating sweets before bed is a **bad** idea.

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basic adj. /ˈbeɪsɪk/

simple and important; the first thing you need

Family: basics (n.) · basically (adv.) **Use it with:** basic skills · the basics

You need some **basic** English before you travel.

beautiful adj. /ˈbjuːtɪfl/

very nice to look at

Family: more beautiful · beauty (n.) **Use it with:** a beautiful day · a beautiful view **Tip:** Spelling: b-e-a-u-tiful.

The lake was so **beautiful** at sunset.

behind prep. /bɪˈhaɪnd/

at the back of

Use it with: behind the door · fall behind · leave behind

My little brother hid **behind** the curtain.

beside prep. /bɪˈsaɪd/

next to

Use it with: beside the window · beside the road **Tip:** Don't confuse with "besides" (also, as well).

Come and sit **beside** me.

best adj. /best/

better than all the others

Family: good · better **Use it with:** my best friend · the best way · do your best

This is the **best** day of my life!

black adj./n. /blæk/

the darkest colour, like the night sky

Family: blacker · blackest **Use it with:** black hair · black and white

My cat is completely **black** except for one white foot.

Vocabulary and example	Write it

boring adj. /ˈbɔːrɪŋ/

not interesting

Family: bored (adj.) · bore (v.) **Use it with:** a boring lesson · really boring **Tip:** Boring describes the thing; “bored” is how you feel. “I’m bored”, not “I’m boring”.

The film was so **boring** that I fell asleep.

bottom n. /ˈbɒtəm/

the lowest part of something

Family: bottoms **Use it with:** at the bottom of · the bottom of the page

The keys fell to the **bottom** of the swimming pool.

bright adj. /braɪt/

full of light; also, clever

Family: brighter · brightest · brightly (adv.) **Use it with:** bright light · bright colours · a bright student

The sun is too **bright**: I need sunglasses.

center n. /ˈsentə/

the middle of something

Family: centers · central (adj.) **Use it with:** the city center · in the center of **Tip:** American spelling; British English writes “centre”.

There’s a fountain in the **center** of the park.

contain v. /kənˈteɪn/

to have something inside

Family: contains · contained · container (n.) **Use it with:** contain sugar · contain information

This bottle **contains** a strange green drink.

develop v. /dɪˈveləp/

to grow or change over time; to make something new

Family: develops · developed · development (n.) **Use it with:** develop a skill · develop a plan

Babies **develop** very quickly in their first year.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

difference n. /ˈdɪfrəns/

the way that things are not the same

Family: differences · differ (v.) **Use it with:** the difference between · make a difference **Tip:** Make a difference means have a good effect.

Can you see the **difference** between these two pictures?

different adj. /ˈdɪfrənt/

not the same

Family: differently (adv.) **Use it with:** different from · very different **Tip:** Say “different from”, not “different with”.

My twin and I have very **different** hobbies.

easy adj. /ˈiːzi/

not difficult

Family: easier · easiest · easily (adv.) **Use it with:** easy to do · take it easy **Tip:** Take it easy means relax.

The first question was **easy**, but the second was not.