

# angry

If you want to talk or write about someone being **angry**, there are lots of interesting words and phrases you can use. You must be careful when you use them though, because some of them are very informal. This means that although you might use these words and phrases with your friends, you would not use them in school exercises.

If someone is a little bit angry, they might be

**annoyed**  
**cross**  
**irritated**  
**displeased**

If someone is very angry, they might be

**mad**  
**hopping mad**  
**enraged**  
**furious**  
**irate**  
**raging**  
**beside themselves with anger**

If someone is in an angry mood, you could say that they

**are like a bear with a sore head**  
**got out of bed on the wrong side**

If someone loses their temper, you could say that they

**fly into a rage**  
**see red**  
**throw a tantrum**  
**lose their head**  
**blow their top**  
**blow a fuse**  
**fly off the handle**  
**hit the roof**

If you make someone angry, you

**make someone's blood boil**  
**drive someone mad**  
**drive someone up the wall**

If someone speaks angrily, they

**let fly**  
**rant and rave**  
**rage**  
**give someone a piece of their mind**  
**give someone the rough side of their tongue**

## Over to you

Can you make this piece of writing more lively by using some of the words and phrases above?

Dad was **angry** with me yesterday. He **became angry** when I broke the window. He **spoke angrily**, and told me I **made him angry**. He was **in an angry mood** for a long time afterwards.

Which words and phrases sound informal?

# bad

Often when you are writing you want to use a word that means **bad**. You have to be careful not to use the word **bad** too often, or your writing will become boring. You could try out some of the following words instead.

You can describe many different things as

**awful**  
**dreadful**  
**horrible**  
**terrible**  
**disagreeable**  
**atrocious**  
**nasty**  
**unpleasant**

bad behaviour, or someone who behaves badly

**naughty**  
**mischievous**  
**ill-behaved**  
**disobedient**  
**unruly**

a bad person

**evil**  
**wicked**  
**cruel**  
**mean**

a bad piece of homework

**poor**  
**unsatisfactory**  
**inferior**  
**inadequate**  
**unacceptable**

a bad day

**unpleasant**  
**unenjoyable**

something that is bad for you or the environment

**harmful**  
**damaging**  
**unhealthy**  
**destructive**  
**ruinous**

If you feel bad about something you have done, you could say you feel

**ashamed**  
**guilty**  
**sorry**  
**remorseful**  
**embarrassed**

a bad cold

**serious**  
**severe**  
**grave**

feel bad

**ill**  
**unwell**  
**sick**  
**poorly**  
**under the weather**

food that has gone bad

**rotten**  
**mouldy**  
**decayed**  
**sour**  
**off**

### Over to you

Can you change the word **bad** in these sentences to make it more clear what you mean?

I had a **bad** day at school today. I got into trouble for being **bad** and talking in class.

Then the teacher told me my English homework was **bad**. At playtime I had an apple that was **bad**.

# big

If you want to describe something **big**, you can spice up your writing by choosing words that create pictures in a reader's mind.

Think carefully about which word to choose. Be precise and choose the best word for the job.

You can describe most big things as

**large**

If something is very big indeed, you can describe it as

**huge**

**giant**

**enormous**

A big space or place could be

**immense**

**vast**

**infinite**

To describe a big person or creature who looks very strong, you could use

**bulky**

**hefty**

**hulking**

You could use these words to describe something very big, like a mountain or a building:

**massive**

**towering**

**gigantic**

**colossal**

**tremendous**

If something is important, like a big decision, you could describe it as

**important**

**significant**

**serious**

## Over to you

Can you change the word **big** in the writing below to make it more interesting?

The **big** singer appeared on stage in front of a **big** audience. He was a **big** man with a **big** voice. He saw his **big** reflection in a **big** mirror as he walked across the stage. He worried about his **big** appetite but he had a weakness for **big** steaks and **big** piles of chips.

Can you think of any informal words for **big** that you might use when speaking to your friends?

# cry

The word **cry** tells you very little about the action. If you use a word or phrase that tells you more about the way a person cries, it is much more interesting for your reader.

If someone suddenly starts crying, you could say that they

**burst into tears**

If someone is crying quietly, you might say that they

**weep**

**whimper**

**whine**

If someone is crying loudly, you can say that they

**bawl**

**cry their eyes out**

**howl**

**sob**

**wail**

There are other words for **cry** that give away how you feel about the person crying.

If you use these next words, it means that the person crying is annoying you, or you feel contempt for them. It might sound a little cruel if you use these words!

**blubber**

**snivel**

**turn on the waterworks**

## Over to you

Can you put some of these words to use? Try to replace the word **cry** in these sentences.

- 1 I heard my brother **cry** quietly on the stairs.
- 2 There was an awful noise as the people all **cried**.
- 3 She is always **crying** and it gets on my nerves.

Which of the words would not sound right in the sentences?

# eat

There are lots of different words that you can use in your writing instead of **eat**. These words will make your writing much more interesting, and really help you to build up a vivid picture of the situation you are describing.

When someone eats greedily or quickly, you can use these informal words:

**tuck in(to)**  
**gulp down**  
**bolt down**  
**wolf down**  
**scoff**  
**knock back**  
**polish off**  
**gobble**

If someone is eating noisily, you can say they

**crunch**  
**munch**  
**slurp**

You can use these words to describe how someone is chewing:

**munch**  
**gnaw**

If someone is not very hungry or is eating just a little at a time, you can say they

**peck**  
**pick**  
**nibble**

In more formal situations, you might say that people

**dine**  
**breakfast**  
**lunch**

## Over to you

Choose a word from above to make these sentences more interesting.

- 1 They were so hungry they couldn't wait to **eat** their dinner.
- 2 Callum's mum told him off for **eating** his cereal noisily.
- 3 The dog sat under a tree and **ate** an old bone.
- 4 She was feeling very ill and **ate** her food slowly.
- 5 'Guests will **eat** at eight o'clock in the banqueting hall,' announced the butler.

# fast

If you want to use a different word from **fast**, you could describe someone or the action they do as

**quick**  
**swift**  
**rapid**  
**brisk**

You could describe something such as a fast car using more informal words:

**speedy**  
**nippy**

If something happens fast and it is over quickly, you could say it is

**brief**  
**fleeting**

You could use these words create better pictures of someone or something moving, walking, talking or eating fast:

**briskly**  
**rapidly**  
**speedily**  
**swiftly**  
**at high speed**

You could use these informal phrases to describe the way someone does something:

**like a flash**  
**like a shot**  
**like the wind**

If someone is doing something fast because they are in a rush, they might do it

**hastily**  
**hurriedly**  
**rashly**  
**recklessly**

## Over to you

Can you use some of the words above to replace **fast** in the writing below?

I was late, so I ate my lunch **fast**. I **fast** explained to my mother where I was going, then walked **fast** down the garden path. Once I was round the corner, I started to run **fast** ...

# fat

There are other words for **fat** that give away how you feel about something.

If the person or thing you are describing looks pretty or cute, you might say they are

**chubby**  
**plump**

If you use these next words, it means you think the person or thing does not look very nice. It might sound a little cruel if you use these words!

**podgy**  
**tubby**

If you want to describe a fat person but not show your opinion, you might describe them as

**overweight**  
**stout**

## Over to you

Which words could you use instead of **fat** in these sentences?

- 1 The **fat** baby looked cute when she laughed.
- 2 They fed the dog too much, and it got too **fat** to run.
- 3 The doctor told my uncle he was a little bit **fat**.

Which of the words would not sound right in the sentences?

# frightened

You can show how **frightened** someone is by choosing the correct words.

These words are arranged from being quite frightened to being very frightened!

**uneasy** → **alarmed** → **afraid** → **terrified** → **petrified**

If you are a little bit frightened, you might feel

**uneasy**  
**anxious**  
**apprehensive**

If you are more frightened than that, you might feel

**afraid**  
**fearful**  
**scared**  
**alarmed**  
**shocked**

If you are very frightened, you might feel

**horrified**  
**terrified**  
**terror-stricken**  
**petrified**

Informal phrases for being frightened are

**scared out of your wits**  
**scared stiff**

Things you might do when you are frightened are

**panic**  
**tremble**  
**shudder**

Informal phrases for things you might do:

**shake like a leaf**  
**have your heart in your mouth**  
**freak out**

Something that frightens you might

**strike fear into your heart**  
**make your blood run cold**  
**scare the living daylights out of you**  
**make your hair stand on end**  
**make you jump out of your skin**

To create a frightening atmosphere in scary story, you could say it is

**spooky**  
**eerie**  
**grim**

## Over to you

Try using these words and phrases, just as this writer has done.

The humming started quietly – but then it grew louder as the sky darkened around him. He started to **tremble** then **shudder** as they started falling on him – not one, but thousands. He was **shocked** by the noise and could not move. It **struck fear into his heart** when he realized that his phone was dead ...

Here are some ideas to get you started!

- You are stuck in a lift.
- Your brakes fail as you cycle down a steep hill.
- You are swimming near shore when a shark appears.

# get

If you use the word **get** in your writing all the time, it is boring for the reader. There are many other words you could use instead.

get a job, letter or prize

**receive**  
**obtain**  
**gain**  
**earn**  
**win**  
**achieve**

get something for yourself

**fetch**  
**collect**  
**take**  
**catch**  
**capture**  
**seize**  
**grab**

get someone to do something

**coax**  
**persuade**  
**urge**  
**influence**

get an illness

**catch**  
**pick up**  
**develop**  
**come down with**

## Over to you

The word **get** is used in a lot of different phrases. There are examples of these on the left.

Then look at the sentences on the right, which use other words and phrases instead. Can you write them again yourself, using some of the other choices?

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>get across</b>    | Liverpool's coach tried to <b>impress upon</b> his team the importance of accurate passing.<br>Other choices: <b>communicate to</b> <b>convey to</b> |
| <b>get away from</b> | The Easter holidays are a great time to <b>leave</b> England and enjoy a warmer climate.<br>Other choices: <b>escape</b> <b>depart from</b>          |
| <b>get on</b>        | Many pop stars have <b>succeeded</b> in life – and become millionaires!<br>Other choices: <b>prospered</b> <b>fared well</b>                         |
| <b>get over</b>      | Footballers usually <b>recover from</b> bad injuries.<br>Other choices: <b>shake off</b> <b>survive</b>  |
| <b>get round</b>     | My brother was good at <b>winning over</b> my mum when he wanted to stay out late.<br>Other choices: <b>persuading</b> <b>coaxing</b>                |

# good

Often when you are writing you want to use a word that means **good**. You have to be careful not to use the word **good** too often, or your writing will become boring. You could try out some of the following words instead.

You can describe many different things as

**excellent**  
**superb**  
**wonderful**  
**pleasant**  
**nice**  
**lovely**

There are also many informal words for good:

**great**  
**cool**  
**smashing**  
**super**

a good piece of work

**satisfactory**  
**first-class**  
**first-rate**

someone who is a good friend

**true**  
**dependable**  
**kind**  
**considerate**  
**reliable**  
**thoughtful**  
**generous**

a good person

**honest**  
**virtuous**  
**trustworthy**  
**moral**  
**upright**

a good time

**enjoyable**  
**pleasing**

feel good

**happy**  
**cheerful**  
**content**

a good time to visit

**convenient**  
**suitable**  
**fitting**  
**appropriate**

someone who is good at something

**competent**  
**able**  
**capable**

**clever**  
**talented**  
**accomplished**  
**gifted**  
**expert**  
**skilled**  
**skilful**

good weather

**fine**  
**sunny**

someone whose behaviour is good

**well-behaved**  
**well-mannered**  
**polite**  
**obedient**  
**as good as gold**

have a good look

**thorough**  
**complete**  
**whole**

## Over to you

Some of these words have been used to write about a writer!  
Which other words could you use?

Roald Dahl was a **gifted** writer and an **accomplished** storyteller.  
His **wonderful** books have been translated into many languages.  
He was **talented** in other ways too – he won first prize for growing an orchid!

# happy

You can show how **happy** someone is by choosing the correct word.

These words are arranged from being quite happy to being extremely happy about something!

**glad** → **pleased** → **delighted** → **joyful** →  
**overjoyed** → **elated** → **thrilled** → **ecstatic**

Someone who is in a happy mood could also be

**jolly**  
**merry**  
**cheerful**

These words help readers to picture a character who has happy feelings:

**satisfied**  
**content**  
**untroubled**  
**unconcerned**  
**light-hearted**  
**in a good mood**

These phrases that show a person is very happy:

**walking on air**  
**thrilled to bits**  
**over the moon**  
**in high spirits**  
**tickled pink**

## Over to you

Read the paragraph below. Can you replace the word **happy** with another word or phrase?

The lost soldiers were **happy** when they stumbled upon the clear pool. They drank until they were **happy** and were then **happy** to sit on the rocks and wait for someone to find them. Someone did

...

# hate

It is very easy to say that someone **hates** something, but you can choose a different word that will describe how someone truly feels.

If you don't really hate something, but you do not like it:

**dislike**

If you dislike something very much indeed:

**abhor**

**despise**

**detest**

**loathe**

## Over to you

Replace the word **hate** in the sentences below with more precise or powerful verbs.

### Arachnophobia!

She loved Autumn but **hated** evenings when, out of the corner of her eye, she caught the movement of the creatures she **hated** most of all – spiders. She really **hated** them!

# laugh

The word **laugh** tells you very little about the action. If you use a word or phrase that tells you more about the way a person laughs, it is much more interesting for your reader.

If someone laughs in quiet way, they might

**chuckle**

If someone is laughing loudly or in an enthusiastic way, they might

**chortle**

**guffaw**

**roar with laughter**

There are other words for **laugh** that tell you more about what the person is feeling or thinking.

If someone laughs in a silly way, you might say that they

**giggle**

If someone laughs in a nervous way, you might say that they

**titter**

If someone laughs in an unkind or unpleasant way, you might say that they

**cackle**

**snigger**

## Over to you

Can you put some of these words to use? Try to replace the word **laugh** in these sentences.

- 1 Danny **laughed** quietly to himself when he remembered the joke.
- 2 The comedian was so funny he made the audience **laugh**.
- 3 I was very embarrassed and started to **laugh**.
- 4 The witch **laughed** as she cast her evil spell.

Which of the words would not sound right in the sentences?

# like

Be specific in your writing and do not use the word **like** all the time. If you can, use words that describe more clearly how you are feeling.

These words show how much you really like a person, or something such as a pet:

**admire**  
**care for**  
**be fond of**

If you want to show that you like them very much indeed, you could use the words

**adore**  
**cherish**  
**hold dear**

These words show how much you really like something or like doing something:

**appreciate**  
**enjoy**  
**be keen on**  
**delight in**

## Over to you

In this piece of writing, could you use some better words instead of **like**?

I **like** my dad, and he **likes** to cook us food that we **like** for dinner. After dinner I **like** taking my dog out for a walk. She is called Breeze, and I **like** her very much.

# lots

If you use **a lot** or **lots** too much in your writing, it is boring. Try using other words instead.

**a large amount**  
**a great number**  
**many**  
**a great deal**  
**plenty**  
**countless**  
**numerous**

Informal words are words you might use with your friends, but not in your school work. Here are some informal words for **lots**:

**oodles**  
**tons**  
**masses**  
**heaps**  
**stacks**  
**loads**  
**piles**  
**hundreds**  
**thousands**  
**millions**  
**trillions**

You can have fun with these words:

**There were oodles of noodles**

**tons of suns**

**heaps of sheets**

**stacks of shacks**

**piles of stiles**

**hundreds of drums!**

## Over to you

Choose a word carefully to replace **lot** or **lots** in these sentences, and create a clearer picture:

- There were **lots** of coins in the box.
- There was **lots** of noise in the school hall.
- There were **a lot** of medals pinned to his shirt.
- There were **a lot** of people in the queue. nice

# nice

**Nice** is one of the words which is used too often in English, because it can mean so many things.

You can use other words instead to create a picture of:

someone nice to know

**friendly**  
**kind**  
**generous**  
**polite**  
**sweet**  
**pleasant**  
**good-natured**  
**thoughtful**  
**helpful**  
**considerate**  
**likeable**  
**charming**

a nice-looking person or thing

**good-looking**  
**beautiful**  
**lovely**  
**exquisite**  
**smart**  
**stylish**  
**elegant**  
**glamorous**  
**fashionable**

nice weather

**fine**  
**pleasant**  
**wonderful**  
**sunny**

a nice event or day out

**enjoyable**  
**interesting**  
**lovely**

nice food

**delicious**  
**tasty**  
**mouth-watering**

There are lots of informal words to describe nice food:

**scrumptious**  
**scummy**  
**yummy**

## Over to you

Which advert would sell more biscuits?

- This is a **nice** biscuit with a **nice** filling.
- This is a **yummy** biscuit with a **scrumptious** filling.

This description of Count Dracula (before he turns into a vampire!) is improved by choosing some of the words from the lists above.

He was a **nice** (polite) man who was **nice** (charming) in every respect. The **nice** (sweet) lady whose party he was attending loved his **nice** (elegant) clothes and his **nice** (fashionable) hairstyle. She was disappointed when he said that he was unable to attend the opening of the **nice** (lovely) swimming pool at lunchtime the next day – he said that he had other things to do.

# run

There are many words you can use instead of **run**. All of the words below describe how someone is moving. They can help you to create a much clearer picture of what is happening.

These words describe someone moving in a hurry:

**charge**  
**career**  
**tear**  
**dash**  
**hurry**  
**rush**  
**race**  
**speed**  
**dart**  
**fly**

These words describe someone moving nervously, or with short steps, like a small animal:

**scuttle**  
**scamper**  
**scurry**

These words describe how you might run in a race or competition:

**sprint**  
**jog**

These words are for running away:

**escape**  
**flee**  
**run off**  
**bolt**

There are many informal words which mean run away:

**scoot**  
**scarper**  
**beat it**  
**clear off**  
**make off**  
**take off**

## Over to you

Can you put some of these words to use? Which words could you use instead of **run** in these sentences?

- 1 As soon as the bell rang, the excited children **ran** down the school corridor and into the playground.
- 2 The sudden thunderstorm sent the shoppers **running** into shops for shelter.
- 3 When he heard the starting pistol the athlete **ran** down the track.
- 4 The robbers **ran away** from the bank with a hoard of gold and jewels.
- 5 '**Run away**' shouted the angry woman to the stray cat in her garden.

# sad

If someone is a little sad, you could use these words:

**unhappy**  
**heavy-hearted**  
**downcast**  
**dejected**  
**blue**  
**doleful**  
**downhearted**  
**despondent**  
**tearful**  
**glum**  
**gloomy**  
**low**

If someone is very sad, you could use these words:

**sorrowful**  
**upset**  
**distressed**  
**depressed**  
**grief-stricken**  
**miserable**  
**crestfallen**  
**woebegone**

words to use for a sad book or a sad film

**poignant**  
**touching**  
**heart-rending**  
**depressing**

words to use to about sad news

**painful**  
**upsetting**  
**distressing**  
**grievous**  
**unfortunate**  
**lamentable**  
**serious**  
**grave**  
**tragic**  
**sorry**  
**regrettable**  
**disastrous**

## Over to you

Make your reader feel sorry for the character in this story by using some of these words instead of **sad**:

She turned her **sad** face to me and spoke in a **sad** way about what had happened. I became **sad** too on hearing her **sad** account. **Sad**, we both left the scene.

# say

This is another word which means to **say**:

**remark**

If someone is asking a question, you could say that they

**ask**  
**inquire**  
**question**

If they are asking in an angry way, they might

**demand**

If someone is answering a question, you could say that they

**reply**  
**respond**

If they are answering in an angry way, they might

**retort**

If someone is giving information, they might

**state**  
**tell**  
**inform**  
**communicate**  
**mention**

Using words other than **said** in your stories give clues about people's feelings.

These words are for saying something with a laugh. They might suggest a happy character:

**laughed**  
**chuckled**  
**giggled**

These words are for saying something while crying or complaining. They would suggest an unhappy character:

**complained**  
**whimpered**  
**sobbed**  
**moaned**  
**whined**

These words are for saying something quietly:

**whispered**

These words are for saying something loudly. They might suggest an angry character:

**shouted**  
**shrieked**  
**yelled**

## Over to you

Can you put some of these words to use? Which words could you use instead of **said** in these sentences?

- 1 'Come here!' she **said**.
- 2 'Help me,' she **said**.
- 3 'Get out of here!' she **said**.
- 4 'Don't speak to me ever again!' he **said**.
- 5 'Come here!' she **said**.
- 6 'Hey!' she **said**.

# slow

The words below also tell you something about a person or creature and how they are moving. Although they are all words you can use instead of **slow**, they paint pictures of very different characters!

These words describe a slow pace. They help us to picture a relaxed person or creature:

**leisurely**  
**gradual**  
**steady**  
**unhurried**  
**relaxed**

These words also describe a slow pace, but this time they suggest someone is finding things hard going:

**ponderous**  
**plodding**  
**sluggish**

These words show that you do not approve of the way a person acts:

**lazy**  
**idle**  
**tardy**

These words show that someone is taking their time with a task to do it properly:

**careful**  
**cautious**  
**deliberate**  
**painstaking**

## Over to you

Can you change the word **slow** in the sentences below to improve them?

The climber was determined to reach the snowy peak ahead of him; he made **slow** progress but this paid off. Carefully he took the last **slow** steps to the top of the peak and unfurled his country's flag ...

# small

Instead of using the word **small**, choose a word that tells your reader exactly what you mean.

To describe a small human, creature, or house, you could use the words

**little**  
**short**  
**petite**  
**mini**  
**pocket-sized**

To describe something very small, you could use the words

**tiny**  
**minute**  
**miniature**

These words suggest that something is small and not strong:

**puny**  
**slight**

You could use these words to describe a small amount that is not enough:

**scanty**  
**meagre**  
**paltry**  
**limited**  
**inadequate**  
**insufficient**  
**trifling**

You could use these words to describe a small problem that is not important:

**unimportant**  
**petty**  
**insignificant**  
**minor**  
**negligible**

## Over to you

Could you use some of these words in the sentences that follow?

- 1 The \_\_\_\_\_ creature walked across the table.
- 2 Tinkerbell's \_\_\_\_\_ figure appeared at the window.
- 3 Tom Thumb was a \_\_\_\_\_ boy.
- 4 She was \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ but her voice was powerful and filled the hall!
- 5 She thought that £5 was a \_\_\_\_\_ amount to pay for chocolates.
- 6 Children used to work in coalmines for a \_\_\_\_\_ amount of money.

# thin

The words below can all be used to describe someone who is **thin**. As well as painting a more detailed picture, they can also tell your reader how you feel about someone.

A person who is thin or dainty in a healthy or attractive way can be described as

**lean**  
**slim**  
**slender**  
**slight**

These words can describe someone who is tall and thin:

**lanky**  
**spindly**

These words describe someone who is probably a bit too thin. They are not very polite ways of describing someone:

**skinny**  
**bony**  
**gaunt**  
**skeletal**  
**scraggy**  
**scrawny**

Someone who is unhealthily or dangerously thin could be described as

**emaciated**  
**underweight**  
**undernourished**

## Over to you

Choose a word carefully to replace **thin** in the following sentences.

- 1 The dancers warmed up for the big show. They had been practising for months and were **thin** and supple.
- 2 My brother is tall and **thin**. He's much taller than me.
- 3 Alison has been on a diet for ages. I think she should stop soon as she's looking too **thin**.
- 4 She discovered the brown and white mongrel wandering the streets. Although he was filthy and **thin**, he licked her hand and wagged his tail.

# thing

'Throw me my things!' screamed the diver, but the boy was confused and didn't know that he meant the breathing apparatus.

Instead of using the word **thing**, choose a word that tells your reader exactly what you mean.

something you can use

**gadget**  
**tool**  
**implement**  
**instrument**  
**machine**  
**apparatus**

something of interest in a place or a book

**feature**  
**detail**  
**fact**  
**idea**  
**thought**  
**factor**

something that happens

**incident**  
**event**  
**occurrence**  
**affair**  
**happening**  
**phenomenon**

## Over to you

Can you use some of these words in the following sentences?

- 1 He was an excellent handyman because he always had the right \_\_\_\_\_ for the job.
- 2 The \_\_\_\_\_ was designed by Stevenson and it still works today.
- 3 The best \_\_\_\_\_ of the house is the huge garden.
- 4 I know a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ about what happened.

# very

There are many words you can use instead of **very**:

**extremely**  
**incredibly**  
**remarkably**  
**highly**  
**unbelievably**  
**particularly**  
**exceptionally**  
**exceedingly**  
**absolutely**  
**noticeably**  
**unusually**

Try using these words when you want to say that someone is very good at something:

- Ronaldo is an **unbelievably** talented footballer.
- Picasso was an **exceptionally** skilled painter.
- Mozart was an **extremely** able musician from the age of six.
- Queen Elizabeth I was an **exceedingly** clever queen.

## Over to you

This story is boring because the person telling it keeps using the word **very**. Use the list of words above to make it more interesting.

I was **very** annoyed that my mum had given my brother a **very** large sum of money. Then I was **very** angry when, after he had spent it all, he stole my purse. I was **very** shocked to see my brother stealing. He is a **very** wicked boy!

# walk

If you want to describe someone when they are walking, there are lots of interesting words you can use. Make sure you choose your words carefully to give an accurate description of what is happening.

If someone is walking slowly, you could say that they

**amble**  
**saunter**  
**wander**  
**stroll**

If someone is walking quietly and they don't want to be heard or seen, they might

**tiptoe**  
**creep**  
**shuffle**

Someone walking with big steps could

**stride**  
**lope**  
**strut**  
**swagger**

Someone walking with heavy steps might

**plod**  
**stomp**  
**tramp**  
**trample**  
**trudge**

If you go for a brisk walk, especially in the countryside, you might

**hike**  
**ramble**  
**trek**  
**march**

If someone walks with difficulty, you could say they

**hobble**  
**limp**  
**stumble**  
**stagger**  
**lurch**

Someone who is nervous or who is impatient might

**pace**

## Over to you

Can you replace the word **walk** in these sentences with one of the words from the list above?

- 1 Isabel and Sam **walked** slowly down the lane with their mum.
- 2 Mum **walked** past the baby's room – she didn't want to wake him up.
- 3 On Sundays I love to go for a long **walk** in the mountains.
- 4 'Ouch!' screamed James as he stubbed his toe. He **walked** over to a chair and sat down, nursing his foot.

# want

You can use these words instead of **want**:

**feel like**  
**fancy**  
**wish for**

These words mean you want something very much indeed:

**desire**  
**crave**  
**hanker after**  
**pine for**  
**long for**  
**yearn for**  
**hunger for**  
**thirst for**

This meaning of want means you need something:

**need**  
**require**  
**demand**  
**lack**

## Over to you

Some of these words and phrases could be used to sell things. Can you pick them out?

- 1 Have you ever longed for the perfect holiday – a long sandy beach, palm trees, blue seas?

Well, whatever you yearn for can be yours – you are just one phone call away from paradise!

- 2 One taste of our chocolate ice cream and you will hunger for more.