

WORD JOURNEY: SUPPLEMENTARY LIST

Nail

Meanings

- Hardware used with a hammer (noun)
- Hard covering of the tip of finger or toe (noun)
- To fasten with nails - action of hammering (verb)

Common Expressions

hit the nail on the head (absolutely correct)
nail it (to achieve something difficult)
put another nail in your coffin (make things worse)

Head

Meanings

- Part of the upper body containing the brain (noun)
- Leader, principal teacher, chief of a company (noun)
- Best/most superior (adjective)
- To lead or divert in a different direction (verb)

Common Expressions

headbutt (to strike heads together)
headstrong (willful)
head and shoulders above the rest (superior)
hit the nail on the head (guess correctly, tell truth)
do a head count
head off at the pass (divert someone's attention)
... has a good head on his shoulders (sensible)

Ball

Meanings

- Bouncing toy or item used in sport (noun)
(tennis ball, netball, cricket ball, football)
- Formal dance (noun)
- Slang term for male genitals (noun)

Common Expressions

ball gown
ball game
have a ball (good time)
ball of energy
... won't play ball (won't do as others want)

Watch

Meanings

- a device that tells the time (noun)
- to observe/ look or guard (verb)
- rostered time on duty (watch)

Common Expressions

watch band
black-watch tartan (Scottish patterned weave)
watch out (be careful)
a watched pot never boils
not on my watch (don't misbehave if I'm in charge)

Branch

Meanings

- upper spreading part of a tree
- different offices of the same organization
e.g. a bank, insurance company, travel agent
- supplementary e.g. side road

Common Expressions

branching out in life (a new career/life choice)
branch of the family

Rough

Meanings

- texture (adjective)
- an area of thick grass on the golf course (noun)
- coarse behaviour (adjective)
- bad luck/difficult situation

Common Expressions

rough and tumble (physical skylarking)
going through a rough time
this is a rough neighborhood
rough and ready (relaxed easy going disposition)

Hot

Meanings

- temperature (adjective)
- spicy (adjective)
- stolen (adjective)
- current/trendy (adjective)
- sexy/attractive (adjective)

Common Expressions

hotplate
hot off the press (just published)
hot stuff (groovy)
hot and cold on an idea (uncertain)
selling like hot cakes
too hot to handle
hot potato (a situation no-one wants to deal with)
hot foot it (be in a hurry)
hot to trot (ready to go)

Chip

Meanings

- a memory component in electronic machine (noun)
- thin crisp snack food (noun)
- wedges of potato/French fries (noun)
- gambling token (noun)
- a small piece broken off an item (china/wood/glass)
- to break off a small piece (verb)
- a short sharp action played in golf or tennis (verb)

Common Expressions

chip off the old block (like your parents)
when the chips are down (things are not going well)
chipping away (continuing to work on a task/problem)
to have a chip on your shoulder (to feel resentful)

Back

Meanings

- part of the human body (noun)
- a position/place at the rear
- to reverse or go backwards (verb)
- to support someone's argument (verb)
- to bet or gamble (verb)
- back up (noun) - make a copy, understudy

Common Expressions

background
backpack
backyard
to stay in the background (to remain out of sight)
back stab/stab in the back (to do something hurtful)
back up the computer (save or make a copy of data)
can you back that up (support your position)
back down (apologize or change your point of view)
back to where we started (achieve nothing)
back of beyond (remote place)

Fly

Meanings

- a small two winged insect (noun)
- move through the air with wings (verb)
- hurry, travel swiftly (verb)
- the front fastening on trousers (noun)
- to travel in an aeroplane (verb)

Common Expressions

fly swat
fly by the seat of your pants (take risks)
fly off the handle (quickly become angry)
fly in the ointment (small irksome event)
fly a kite (try to gauge other's response)
gotta fly (in a hurry)
"fly me to the moon"
be a fly on the wall (observe from the sidelines)
fly by night (likely to be short lived)
as the crow flies (shortest direct route)

high flyer (a high achieving person)

Book

Meanings

- portable written text (noun)
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- bookmaker's collection of bets on a race/event (noun)
- to reserve a ticket (verb) e.g. on train, theatre
- police monetary fine for a misdemeanor (noun)
- The Book (noun) - reference to the Bible

Common Expressions

bookworm (a person who loves reading)
bookcase (shelves to house books)
do it by the book (perform task according to rules)
never judge a book by its cover (don't make judgments on appearance alone)
book of the word (God's word written in the Bible)
balance the books (make sure accounts add up)

Play

Meanings

- Move about in lively manner (verb)
- Create music (verb)
- Performance drama (noun)
- Have free movement
- Amuse oneself in sport (verb)
- Pretend (verb)

Common Expressions

playhouse, playroom, playground, playschool,
play it by ear (play music without the music)
play up (misbehave)
playboy (a man who has many girlfriends)
play the field (have a free choice of partners)
play off against each other (compete)
play down the situation (try to reduce the tension)
play by the rules
play fair (behave fairly)

Stand

Meanings

- Have or take an upright position (verb)
- Assume a stationary position (verb)
- A shelf or display case (noun)
- Represent an opinion or belief (verb - stand for)

Common Expressions

stand off, standoffish (reserved in manner)
grandstand, bandstand, handstand
stand-down (resign)
come to a standstill (stop moving)
take a stand, stand your ground
standup comedian (person tells jokes spontaneously)
standing room only
stand and deliver
stand up for yourself (be assertive)
stand by me (support me)
stand out in a crowd (to be noticeable)

Fire

Meanings

- Burning fuel (noun)
- To set alight (verb)
- To set off an explosive or weapon (verb)
- Strong emotion (noun)
- To dismiss an employee (verb)

Common Expressions

fire brigade, fire station, fireman
ready-aim-fire
fire and brimstone (reference to Hell/bad place)
all fired up (charged with emotion)
fire a question (bombard with questions rapidly)

Hand

Word Journey: Supplementary List

Hand

- Terminal part of the human arm (noun)
- To help or give (verb)
- A linear measurement of horse's height
- Pledge of marriage
- Helper (as in 'hired hand')
- cards held by person playing cards e.g. poker

Common Expressions

handout (free distribution)
handrail, hand towel, hand basin, handbag
Keep your hands off (do not touch or attempt action)
give your hand in marriage
handmade
right/left handed
hand it over
a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush
wash my hands of it (take no responsibility)
have a hand in it (make a contribution)
do it with one hand tied behind your back (do something effortlessly)

Tongue**Meanings**

- fleshy muscular part of the mouth (noun)
- an article of food (e.g. sheep's tongue)
- language of a particular nation (noun e.g. German tongue)
- strip of leather closing gap in front of shoe (noun)

Common Expressions

tongue tied (at a loss for words to speak)
tongue twister (a phrase which is difficult to say)
on the tip of my tongue (forgotten momentarily)
speak in tongues (speak in unrecognizable language)
the cat's got your tongue (lost for words, shy)
hold one's tongue (keep quiet)
lost your tongue (has nothing to say)
tongue in cheek (speak ironically)
Keep a civil tongue in your head (avoid rudeness)
bit my tongue (decided not to say something)

Light**Meanings**

- the natural agent that stimulates the sense of sight
- reference to skin colour (adjective)
- appearance of brightness (adjective)
- set burning (verb)
- not the correct weight (adjective)

Common Expressions

light house, light globe
traffic light, lighthouse, light rail,
lightweight (not heavy, little importance)
light hearted (feeling happy and carefree)
doing the light fantastic (quick movement/dancing)
make light of it (pretend it is not important)
light up my life (give happiness)
it's a bit on the light side (not enough content)
given light duties (less physical work than usual)
I have seen the light (now know what is correct)
Light years away (a long time ago or in the future)
Let there be light (Biblical reference to creation)

Stick**Meanings**

- thrust point into or through (verb)
- fasten with glue or tape (verb)
- protrude (verb) - stick up/out
- endure (stick it out) (verb)
- a broken piece of a tree or shrub (noun)

Common Expressions

stick 'em up (put your hands up)
stick in the mud (old fashioned)
stick out like a sore thumb (be obvious)
sticky situation/problem (difficult situation)
stick around (remain)

stick to you/me like glue (persistent)
stick to your guns (stay true to what you believe)
sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me

Roll

Meanings

- move/send in a direction by turning over and over (verb)
- official record or list (noun - e.g. electoral roll)
- a small individual loaf of bread
- undulate or sway (verb)
- flatten by passing roller over the top (verb)
- quick continuous beating of a drum, or thunder (noun)
- form into a cylinder (e.g. of material/fabric)

Common Expressions

rock and roll
a rolling stone gathers no moss
roll out the barrel (make the beer available)
a rolling sea
roll with the punches (take a situation as it comes)
it was a rollover (easy)
he was rolled (robbed)
bank roll (roll of bank notes, give financial support)
rolled his eyes
rolling around with laughter

Cold

Meanings

- low/cool temperature (adjective)
- not heated or having cooled after heat
- an upper respiratory tract infection (noun)
- lack warmth, excitement or passion (adjective)
- faint scent in hunting (the lead/ trail is cold)

Common Expressions

cold sore
feeling cold
hot and cold all over (feeling feverish)
give the cold shoulder (snub or ignore)
get cold feet (suddenly become unsure)
cold hearted (describing person who lacks warmth)
going cold on it (no longer enthusiastic)
going cold turkey (no rehearsal of action)

Turn

Meanings

- move on axis (verb)
- change from one side to the other
- change in form, condition or colour (leaves)
- rotatory motion (turn the handle)
- to shape on a lathe (verb)
- short walk, drive, stroll
- nervous shock (noun)
- opportunity coming successively (as in a game)

Common Expressions

turn the corner (literal meaning)
turncoat (changes allegiance)
turned green (felt unwell), (turned into a monster)
turn things around (make things better)
turn against (become hostile to)
take a turn around/in the garden
it gave me quite a turn
it's your turn, taking turns
turned away (rejected)
turned the corner (improvement in a situation)
took a turn for the worse (situation worsened)
turn off (not appealing), *turn on* (very appealing)
turn of phrase (articulate and expressive)

Nut

Meanings

- fruit with hard casing and edible kernel (noun)

Common Expressions

nutmeg, walnut

Word Journey: Supplementary List

- crazy person (noun)
- small lumps of coal, gold, butter
- small metal block to accommodate screw on a bolt

gone nutty, he is a nut case, going nuts (going crazy)
your nuts (that's a stupid idea)
we will nut it out (figure out something difficult)
a nutty professor (eccentric person)
nuts about it (very fond/passionate about it/you)

Hit

Meanings

- strike with a blow (verb)
- extremely popular (noun - e.g. music record)
- wound as with a gun shot (verb)

Common Expressions

hit and run accident (person responsible did not stop)
hit it off (get on well together)
hit the nail on the head (guess right/express truth)
hit the town (act as if at a party)
hit the jackpot (win)
hit-man (assassin)
hit the spot (meet a physical need)
hit and miss (do something without planning/care)
hit out (verbally/physically attack)

Ring

Meanings

- circlet of precious metal worn on the finger (noun)
- circular form of any material (noun)
- to summon (by phone, bell or other sound)
- to make a resonating sound with a bell or siren (verb)
- the resonating sound of a bell or siren (noun)
- cut into bark to kill tree (verb)
- circular enclosure or space e.g. circus /fight (noun)
- to circle or enclose (verb)

Common Expressions

ring finger (fourth finger of the hand)
run rings around (perform better than others)
I'll give you a ring (I will call you on the phone)
ringleader (person leading the group into trouble)
ringing in my ears (high pitch sound in ears)
ring-bark a tree
ring-master (person who introduces the circus acts)
ringside seat
do a ring around (check agreement of others by phone)
has dark rings around his eyes (looking tired)

Round

Meanings

- spherical or circular (adjective)
- bring to a complete or ordered state (verb)
- a visit for inspection (e.g. doctor visits hospital patients)
- the purchase of a drink for each person in group (noun)

Common Expressions

roundabout (traffic device)
round off the money
doing the rounds
I'll buy the next round
round shouldered (hunched over posture)
roundhead (Parliamentarian in 17th century civil war)
bring someone round (get someone to change opinion)
send the hat round (take up a money collection)
give someone the rounds of the kitchen (argue)
swings and roundabouts (end where you began after ups and downs)
round table conference (all group members contribute to discussion)

Bat

Meanings

- nocturnal mouse-like animal with membranous wings (noun)
- to wink an eye (verb)
- implement for striking a ball in cricket/baseball (noun)
- action of hitting the ball in game of cricket (verb)

Common Expressions

going batty (becoming odd, eccentric or forgetful)
he never batted an eyelid (showed no emotion)
batsmen
going in to bat (supporting a person's view/opinion)
off your own bat (do something without consultation)
has bats in the belfry (be crazy or eccentric)

Tie

Meanings

- cord or chain used for fastening (noun)
- attach or fasten (verb)
- cloth article worn around the neck (noun)
- equal or level in score or performance (noun and verb)
- to make a bow with string, lace etc(verb)

Common Expressions

tongue tied (not able to speak fluently/shy)
tied to her apron's strings (dependent on mother or woman)
tied up at the moment (busy)
tie your shoelaces,
blood tie, (strong emotional connection)
family ties (family obligations and responsibilities)