

Unit 2

Adjectives (character)

aggressive	/ə'ɡresɪv/	aggressivo	Dolphins can become very aggressive when faced with food shortages.
cold-blooded	/kəʊld'blʌdəd/	a sangue freddo	Do you agree that dolphins can be cold-blooded killers?
cuddly	/kʌdli/	che invita all'affetto	Dolphins are not just the cuddly animals of our imagination.
cute	/kju:t/	grazioso	Experts insist they are not the cute , cuddly animals of popular imagination.
docile	/dəʊsaɪl/	docile	The ponies in the New Forest are very obedient and very docile .
ferocious	/fə'rəʊʃəs/	feroce	Wayne Preston argues that dolphins are neither dangerous nor ferocious .
inquisitive	/ɪn'kwɪzətɪv/	curioso	He says dolphins are inquisitive and playful.
lovely	/lʌvli/	grazioso	They wander around, completely free, and they're really, really lovely .
obedient	/ə'bi:diənt/	obbediente	The ponies in the New Forest are very obedient and very docile.
playful	/pleɪfl/	giocosso	People think of dolphins as cuddly, playful creatures.
tame	/teɪm/	addomesticato	Lionel Walter used to go to the seaside with his pet opossum and tame dingo.
vicious	/vɪʃəs/	pericoloso	Some animals can get quite vicious if they're frightened.

Verb idioms

add up	/æd 'ʌp/	essere coerente	His ideas on how to manage the problem just don't add up .
butt in	/bʌt 'ɪn/	intromettersi	She's forever butting in on other people's conversations.
clear up	/kliə 'ʌp/	chiarire	It's important to clear up any misunderstandings
draw the line	/drɔ: ðə 'laɪn/	porre un limite	We have to draw the line somewhere – we can't allow the numbers to keep on growing.
face	/feɪs/	dire la verità	Let's face it – foxes are a serious nuisance.
miss the point	/mɪs ðə 'pɔɪnt/	non afferrare l'essenziale	I'm sorry, but you're missing the point of what I'm saying.

Strong reactions

blow (your) top (v)	/bləʊ 'tɒp/	andar fuori dai gangheri	She really blew her top .
insane (adj)	/ɪn'seɪn/	pazzo	She's totally insane .
livid (adj)	/lɪvɪd/	pieno di livore	She was absolutely livid .
lose (your) temper (v)	/lu:z 'tempə/	perdere la pazienza	She lost her temper .
lunatic (n) C	/lu:nətɪk/	pazzo furioso	She's a complete lunatic .

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need (your) head examined	/ni:d hed ɪg'zæmɪnd/	aver bisogno di una visita psichiatrica	She needs her head examined .
round the bend (adj)	/raʊnd ðə bend/	fuori di testa	She's round the bend .
worked up (adj)	/wɜ:kɪt 'ʌp/	eccitato	She got really worked up .

Collocations with *get*

get along	/get ə'lɒŋ/	andare d'accordo	Tom and Trixie got along well from the start.
get around	/get ə'raʊnd/	muoversi	Tom gets around with the help of Trixie and a white stick.
get in touch with	/get ɪn 'tʌtʃ ,wɪð/	contattare	Get in touch with us on www.guidedogs.org.uk .
get involved	/get ɪn'vɒlvɪd/	interessarsi a	How did you first get involved in training guide dogs?
get on with it	/get 'ɒn wɪð ɪt/	continuare	Once my job's over the two of them can just get on with it .

Other words & phrases

abandon (v)	/ə'bændən/	rinunciare a	The solution is to abandon social niceties (irrelevant in the dark) and eat with your hands.
absurd (adj)	/əb'sɜ:d/	assurdo	The idea that foxes will attack children is totally absurd .
afloat (adj)	/ə'fləʊt/	a galla	Dolphins will help other injured dolphins by holding them afloat on the surface of the water.
anxious (adj)	/æŋkʃəs/	in ansia	An anxious mother dolphin will attack to protect her young.
assault (n) C	/ə'sɔ:lt/	aggressione violenta	Malcolm Hunter said he was horrified by the viciousness of the assault on the porpoise.
autistic (adj)	/ɔ:'tɪstɪk/	autistico	Dolphins can be ideal playmates for autistic children.
banish (v)	/'bænɪʃ/	bandire	Any dog with bad table manners was banished from the table!
baron (n) C	/'bærən/	barone	Lionel Walter (1868–1937) was the second Baron Rothschild.
bather (n) C	/'beɪðə/	bagnante	Local authorities have closed two beaches to bathers .
batter (v)	/'bætə/	colpire	One witness said the dolphins were battering the porpoise to death.
bite (v) / (n) C	/baɪt/	mordere (v); morso (n)	The dolphin turned on the girl, biting her on the arm.
break out (v)	/breɪk'aʊt/	scoppiare	Playful bites and gentle nose butts are just part of the game.
breed (v) / (n) C	/bri:d/	riprodursi (v); razza (n)	A fight broke out between residents and protestors.
bury (v)	/beri/	seppellire	Penguins breed well in zoos in cold countries.
			What kind of dog do they own? What are the most popular breeds ?
			Foxes dig holes in gardens to bury their food.

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busker (n) C	/ˈbʌskə/	suonatore di strada
calf (n) C	/kɑːf/	piccolo
carriage (n) C	/ˈkærɪdʒ/	carrozza
clash (v) / (n) C	/klæʃ/	scontrarsi (v);
		scontro (n)
common sense (n) U	/ˈkɒmən sens/	buon senso
convinced (adj)	/kənˈvɪnst/	convinto
crawl (v)	/krɔːl/	trascinarsi
cruel (adj)	/kruːəl/	crudele
cull (n) C	/kʌl/	selezione
curtsey (v)	/kɜːtsi/	inchinarsi
deliberate (adj)	/dɪˈlɪb(ə)rət/	intenzionale
dig (v)	/dɪɡ/	scavare
dingo (n) C	/ˈdɪŋɡəʊ/	dingo
disabled (adj)	/dɪsˈeɪbld/	disabile
disappointedly (adv)	/dɪsəˈpɔɪntɪdli/	con disappunto
eagle (n) C	/ˈiːɡl/	aquila
earl (n) C	/ɜːl/	conte
eccentric (adj)	/ɪkˈsentrɪk/	eccentrico
estate (n) C	/ˈiːsteɪt/	tenuta
face facts	/feɪs ˈfæktz/	affrontare la realtà
fellow (adj)	/ˈfeləʊ/	compagno
fence (n) C	/fens/	barriera
flock of	/ˈflɒk əv/	stormo di

Ben was a **busker** and he played the mouth organ while his dogs did all kinds of tricks.

A dolphin **calf** is a young dolphin.

Rothschild once drove all the way to London in a zebra-drawn **carriage**.

Angry residents **clashed** with the protesters as they presented a petition to the mayor calling for urgent measures to be taken to reduce the number of foxes living in our town.

Urban fox lovers arrested in town hall **clash**!

It is **common sense** to observe wild animals at a distance and we should respect their privacy and natural habitat.

We are **convinced** that fox numbers need to be controlled.

Every day, she would walk the streets of New Orleans, sometimes **crawling** on her hands and knees.

Do you think that it is **cruel** to kill foxes?

Why is the association calling for a **cull** on urban foxes in the area?

Women servants had to **curtsey** whenever they saw the bird.

Wayne Preston claims the article contains **deliberate** misinformation.

Foxes **dig** holes in gardens to bury their food.

Lionel Walter used to go to the seaside with his pet opossum and tame **dingo**.

Dolphins and their handlers can help **disabled** children overcome their handicaps.

Wayne Preston signs his letter 'Yours **disappointedly**'.

The **eagle** is a bird of prey.

To put it mildly, Francis Henry Egerton, eighth **Earl** of Bridgewater (1756–1829), liked dogs.

Do you think these three pet owners were mad or just **eccentric**?

He was convinced that his late father Robert had returned as a turkey on the family **estate** at Cookesborough.

He lives in a dream world – he needs to learn to **face facts**.

They are actually very caring of their **fellow** dolphins.

You can keep foxes out by putting up fox-proof **fences**.

When he began university, he took with him a **flock of** several dozen kiwis.

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foreseeable (adj)	/fɔːsiːəbl/	immediato	I will not buy any more copies of your newspaper in the foreseeable future.
fox (n) C	/fɒks/	volpe	Residents claim foxes are a pest and a health hazard.
gap (n) C	/gæp/	varco	Guide dogs need to be able to decide, for example, if a gap in the crowd is too narrow.
gel together	/dʒel tə'geðə/	essere affiatato	I always feel that a dog and owner really gel together after two years.
get rid of	/get 'rɪd əv/	eliminare	We are not suggesting that we get rid of foxes all together.
guinea pig (n) C	/ˈɡɪni ˌpɪɡ/	porcellino d'India	A hungry fox will eat pet rabbits and guinea pigs .
habitat (n) C	/ˈhæbɪtæt/	habitat	It is common sense to observe wild animals at a distance and we should respect their privacy and natural habitat .
hazard (n) C	/ˈhæzəd/	rischio	They claim they are a pest and a health hazard , as well as being a potential danger to pets and children.
hit it off	/hɪt ɪt 'ɒf/	avere un buon rapporto	Some dogs and owners hit it off straight away – others take longer.
horrific (adj)	/hɒ'rɪfɪk/	raccapricciante	'At first, they just looked like they were having fun,' he said, 'but then I realized that the dolphins were battering the porpoise to death. It was horrific .'
hound (n) C	/haʊnd/	segugio	A ' hound ' is another name for a dog.
hutch (n) C	/hʌtʃ/	gabbia	A hungry fox will break into hutches and eat pet rabbits.
inaccurate (adj)	/ɪn'ækjʊrət/	impreciso	Wayne Preston claims that the article is not only insensitive but inaccurate .
incident (n) C	/ɪnsɪd(ə)nt/	incidente	The incident comes only months after a similar attack on a French tourist in the same area.
indulge (v)	/ɪn'dʌldʒ/	viziare	Egerton did not totally indulge his dogs, however.
ironically (adv)	/aɪ'rɒnɪkli/	ironicamente	I used to be a postwoman – ironically – as some dogs really hate postmen!
irritation (n) U	/ɪrɪ'teɪʃn/	seccatura	On top of that, there are minor irritations , like the problems with rubbish bins, for example.
ivory (n) U	/aɪvəri/	avorio	Animal rights movements campaign against buying products made of ivory or bone.
kitten (n) C	/kɪtn/	gattino	Kittens are young cats.
kiwi (n) C	/kiːwiː/	kiwi	When he began university, he took with him a flock of several dozen kiwis .
lead (n) C	/liːd/	guinzaglio	The pups need to get used to walking on a lead .
leather (n) U	/leðə/	cuoio	Egerton's dogs wore handmade leather shoes.
local authorities (n pl)	/ləʊkl ɔːθərətɪz/	le autorità locali	Local authorities have had to close two beaches.

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loyal (adj)	/ləʊəl/
mayor (n) C	/meə/
menace (v) / (n)	/menəs/
messy (adj)	/mesi/
mildly (adv)	/maɪldli/
misbehaviour (n)	/mɪsbɪˈheɪvɪə/
napkin (n) C	/næpkɪn/
nose butt (n) C	/nəʊz ˌbʌt/
nuisance (n) C	/njuːsəns/
obstacle (n) C	/ˈɒbstəkl/
opossum (n) C	/əˈpɒsəm/
ordeal (n) C	/ɔːdi:l/
overcome (v)	/əʊvəˈkʌm/
overhanging (adj)	/əʊvəˈhæŋɪŋ/
pest (n) C	/pest/
petition (n) C	/pəˈtɪʃn/
plague (v)	/pleɪɡ/
pointless (adj)	/pɔɪntləs/
potential (adj)	/pəˈtenʃl/
privacy (n) U	/ˈprɪvəsi/
punishment (n) C	/ˈpʌnɪʃmənt/
pup (n) C	/pʌp/
puppy (n) C	/ˈpʌpi/
red setter (n) C	/red ˈsetə/

leale	
sindaco	
minacciare (v);	
calamità (n)	
disordinato	
moderatamente	
cattivo comportamento	
tovagliolo	
colpetto con il naso	
seccatura	
ostacolo	
opossum	
prova	
superare	
pendente	
flagello	
petizione	
tormentare	
inutile	
potenziale	
privacy, vita privata	
punizione	
cucciolo	
cucciolo	
setter irlandese	

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Dolphins can be sociable, **loyal** and gentle.

Protestors presented a petition to the **mayor**.

Parts of Africa are **menaced** by drought at some times of the year.

Urban foxes are not only a nuisance they're a real **menace**!

Foxes are forever turning over the bins to look for food, which is both **messy** and extremely unhygienic.

To put it **mildly**, Francis Henry Egerton, eighth Earl of Bridgewater, liked dogs.

A jury found the animal guilty of **misbehaviour**!

A servant would tie a **napkin** around each dog's neck!

Dolphins give each other gentle **nose butts** when they play together.

Urban foxes are not only a **nuisance** – they're a menace!

He could drive his gig at high speed at an **obstacle** like a rabbit hole only to see if it would turn over.

Lionel Walter used to go to the seaside with his pet **opossum** and tame dingo.

A girl of thirteen was in hospital last night after surviving a terrifying **ordeal**.

Dolphins can help disabled children **overcome** their fears and handicaps.

Guide dogs need to be able to decide, for example, if an **overhanging** branch is too low for their owner's head.

Residents claim foxes are a **pest** and a health hazard.

Angry residents presented a **petition** to the mayor.

They were **plagued** by doubts.

Tom thinks that killing foxes is not only cruel, it's **pointless**.

They claim they are a pest and a health hazard, as well as being a **potential** danger to pets and children.

They get into trouble for invading people's **privacy** all the time.

Cooke warned the dog of the **punishment** he had in mind after the dog kept running away.

A neighbour of mine used to take in **pups** for the Guide Dog Association.

Puppy walking involves doing basic training with the pups.

Adolphus Cooke owned a large **red setter** named Gusty, who used to run away and mix with common dogs.

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reincarnation (n) U	/riːɪnˌkɑːneɪʃn/	reincarnazione
reputation (n) C	/ˌrepjʊˈteɪʃn/	reputazione
rewarding (adj)	/rɪˈwɔːdɪŋ/	gratificante
rip (v)	/rɪp/	squarciare
rope (n) C	/rəʊp/	fune
row (n) C	/rəʊ/	fila
scream (n) C / (v)	/skriːm/	urlo (n); urlare (v)
shark (n) C	/ʃɑːk/	squalo
shocked (adj)	/ʃɒkt/	colpito
shortage (n) C	/ʃɔːtɪdʒ/	carezza
sickened (adj)	/sɪkənd/	nauseato
silk (n) U	/sɪlk/	seta
slaughter (v)	/slɔːtə/	macellare
smoothly (adv)	/smuːðli/	agevolmente
solemnly (adv)	/sələmli/	solennemente
spare (v)	/speə/	risparmiare
spot (v)	/spɒt/	individuare
stick (n) C	/stɪk/	bastone
sunbather (n) C	/ˈsʌnˌbeɪðə/	bagnante
tackle (v)	/tækəl/	affrontare
terrifying (adj)	/ˈterəˌfaɪɪŋ/	spaventoso

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He was a firm believer in **reincarnation** who believed his late father had returned as a turkey!

The UK has a **reputation** for being a nation of dog lovers.

What are the most **rewarding** parts of your job as a guide dog trainer?

Cats will **rip** open rubbish bags more often than foxes.

To warn the dog of the punishment, Cooke showed him a **rope** and a tree.

There were **rows** and **rows** of shoes in Egerton's bedroom – all in the correct order.

Holidaymakers looked on in horror when they heard **screams** coming from the waves.

The child **screamed** as her mother took her to have her bath.

Sunbathers thought the girl was being attacked by a **shark**.

I was **shocked** and sickened to read your article *Cold-blooded killers*.

When they are faced with food **shortages**, dolphins can become very aggressive.

Wayne Preston was shocked and **sickened** to read the article *Cold-blooded killers*.

The dogs sat on a **silk** cushion inside the carriage.

It's cruel to transport live animals thousands of miles before **slaughtering** them.

I'm always amazed how quickly and **smoothly** guide dogs get around.

Every night Egerton's shoes were **solemnly** placed beside those he had worn the previous day.

Cooke was convinced that the dog was a reincarnation and his life was **spared**.

The victim was playing with friends when they **spotted** the dolphin a short distance from them.

He persuaded the tortoises to advance by hanging a lettuce from a **stick** in front of their noses.

Sunbathers thought the girl was being attacked by a shark.

We need to discuss what can be done to **tackle** the growing problem of urban foxes.

A girl of thirteen suffered a **terrifying** ordeal when she was attacked by a dolphin.

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the bubble burst	/ðə ˌbʌbl 'bɜːst/	la situazione si chiarì	Finally the bubble burst and from then on we got on fine.
tortoise (n) C	/tɔːtəʊs/	testuggine	He used to like riding on giant tortoises which he persuaded to advance by hanging a lettuce from a stick which he held in front of the tortoises' nose.
tourist operator (n) C	/tʊərɪst ˌɒpəreɪtə/	operatore turistico	The problem is the tourist operators who offer the chance to swim with wild dolphins.
trial (n) C	/traɪəl/	processo	When Gusty ran away again, Cooke arranged for the dog's trial to take place!
turkey (n) C	/tɜːki/	tacchino	He was convinced that his late father Robert had returned as a turkey on the family estate at Cookesborough.
unhygienic (adj)	/ˌʌnhɑːdʒiːnɪk/	antigienico	Foxes cause a mess by turning over rubbish bins, which is very unhygienic .
vaccine (n) C	/væksɪn/	vaccino	New drugs and vaccines are often tested on live animals.
viciously (adv)	/vɪʃəsli/	ferocemente	The dolphin turned on the girl viciously , biting her on the arm.
wave (n) C	/weɪv/	onda	Holidaymakers looked on in horror when they heard screams coming from the waves .