

# College graduate seeks ways to boost English vocabulary

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 26-year-old college graduate. I immigrated here in 2001, so English is my second language. I have no accent, and I have been doing well in my life overall, except I score low on reading and written communication when I take exams.



**DEAR ABBY**

I'm intelligent and a quick learner, but my vocabulary is kind of limited, and it makes me feel stupid, especially when I don't score well on exams. I try to read, but I don't always have the time. Do you have ideas on how I can improve my vocabulary or do better on exams?

— SMART BUT FEELS STUPID

**DEAR SMART:** I know someone who, like you, immigrated to the United States in her early 20s after having spent her first 17 years in Russia. From there she went to Italy, where she learned to speak Italian. From there she came to the U.S.

When I asked her how she learned English, she told me it was by watching American television. If there was a word she didn't understand, she would look it up in a dictionary. Not only can this be fun, I have heard others say that's the way they learned English, too.

She also read books in English with a dictionary by her side. Audiobooks could be helpful, too. An adult education class might help you not only improve your vocabulary, but also help you sharpen your written English skills. Please consider it.

**DEAR ABBY:** My 11-year-old niece sometimes calls my 7-year-old son fat, which hurts him to the core. He's very close with his cousins, and we get together a lot. I have talked to my sister on numerous occasions about it.

My son knows it's not OK to make fun of how others look, and he doesn't understand why she says these mean things to him. She's old enough to know better. I don't know how to get through to my sister that this behavior should be reprimanded when she doesn't seem to care.

— FED UP IN WISCONSIN

**DEAR FED UP:** Your sister's parenting skills appear to be questionable. Because she refuses to teach her daughter consideration for the feelings of others, or reprimand her when she's cruel and hurtful, see less of the two of them and

spend more time with the other cousins.  
**DEAR ABBY:** When I take my dog for a walk, I always carry little doggy bags and pick up his business. I live in a residential neighborhood with alleys behind the houses. After my dog does his business, I pick it up and often throw the tied-up bag in a trash can along the alley. Is this rude? Is it illegal to put things in other people's trash cans? My dog may make several stops along our long walks, and I don't want to carry his waste with me the whole trip.

— CONSIDERATE IN COLORADO

**DEAR CONSIDERATE:** Whether it's illegal in your community is something you should check locally because there may be an ordinance that forbids it. While I can't speak for everyone, some of the homeowners those trash cans belong to would strenuously object to someone throwing dog doo-doo into them. That's why my advice is, "When in doubt — DON'T."

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have been married nine years and have two major issues in our marriage:

1. He feels I spend too much money.
2. I think he spends too much time away from home doing things he wants to do.

We have fallen into this cycle of him being away from home, so I spend money, which results in him spending more time away from home. Should we have separate bank accounts? Should I make him cancel some of his weekly activities?

— STRUGGLING IN ST. LOUIS

**DEAR STRUGGLING:** Separate bank accounts might be a good idea, provided you don't use yours to mask the fact that you're spending more than you should. As to "making" your husband cancel some of his weekly activities, I don't think it would work to your benefit.

A better solution/investment would be for the two of you to talk this out in the office of a licensed marriage and family counselor, because it appears you're spending as a way to punish your husband for his absence, which is not only not constructive but destructive.

Doing activities outside the home TOGETHER might also be helpful.

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# weather

	TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Partly cloudy	Cooler with rain	Mostly cloudy	Some sun	Mostly cloudy
<b>Baker City</b>	35	60 41	61 31	64 31	70 36
Comfort Index™	10	8	7	10	10
<b>La Grande</b>	39	56 43	57 34	62 34	67 40
Comfort Index™	10	2	3	10	10
<b>Enterprise</b>	35	55 40	54 33	58 31	66 39
Comfort Index™	10	0	5	10	10

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

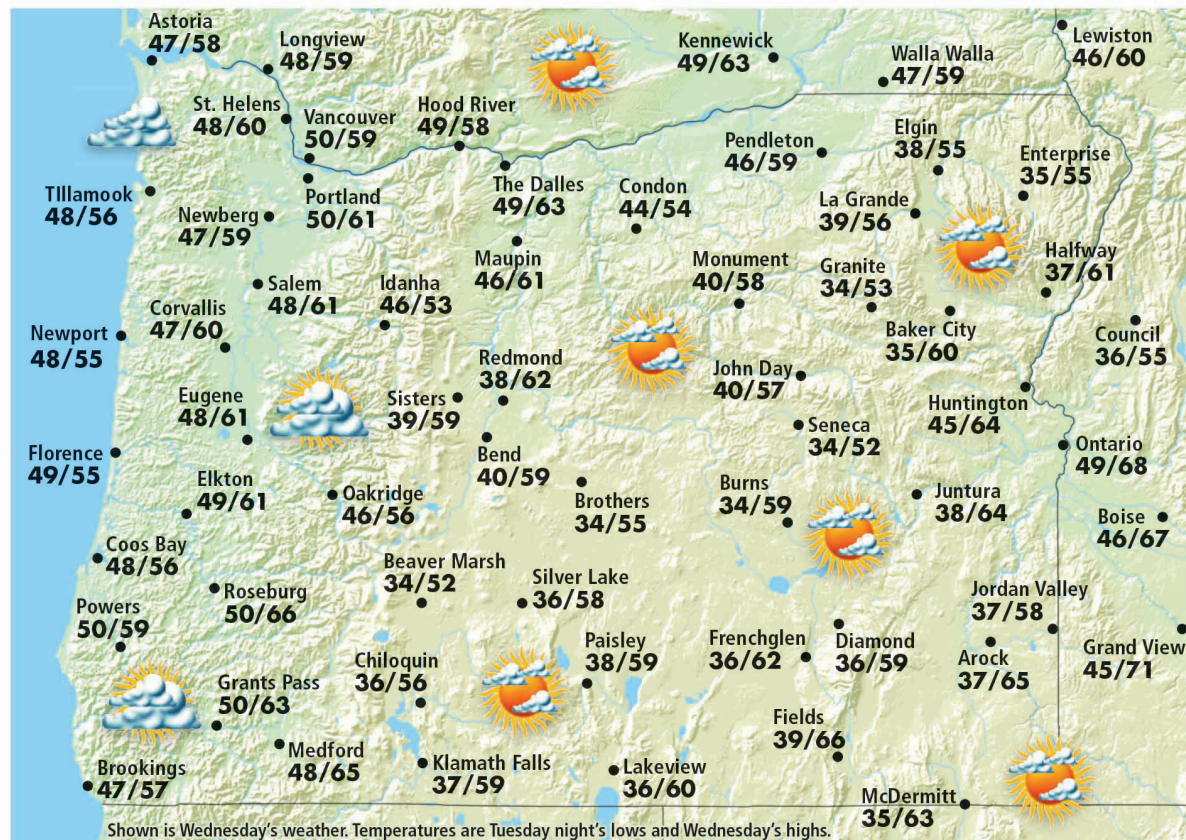
ALMANAC			
<b>TEMPERATURES</b>			
High Sunday	Baker City 67°	La Grande 66°	Elgin 72°
Low Sunday	29°	34°	31°
<b>PRECIPITATION (inches)</b>			
Sunday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.04	0.19	0.51
Normal month to date	0.49	0.94	1.26
Year to date	0.83	5.80	18.84
Normal year to date	2.71	5.21	9.04

SUNDAY EXTREMES			
<b>NATION</b> (for the 48 contiguous states)			
High: 102°	McAllen, Texas		
Low: 10°	Culbertson, Mont.		
Wettest: 6.06"	Perry, Ga.		
<b>OREGON</b>			
High: 73°	Ontario		
Low: 23°	Prineville		
Wettest: 0.04"	Quillayute		

WEATHER HISTORY			
Several hundred people died when flooding reached the Mississippi Delta in Louisiana on April 21, 1927. The flood forced 500,000 residents from their homes.			
SUN & MOON			
	TUE.	WED.	
Sunrise	5:56 a.m.	5:55 a.m.	
Sunset	7:46 p.m.	7:48 p.m.	
Moonrise	5:49 a.m.	6:10 a.m.	
Moonset	6:30 p.m.	7:32 p.m.	
MOON PHASES			
New	First	Full	Last
Apr 22	Apr 30	May 7	May 14

## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020



### REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED. HI/Lo/W	THU. HI/Lo/W	City	WED. HI/Lo/W	THU. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	58/46/r	58/43/c	Lewiston	60/49/r	64/44/c
Bend	59/42/r	61/38/pc	Longview	59/49/r	62/41/c
Boise	67/49/c	63/41/pc	Meacham	54/43/r	55/34/pc
Brookings	57/49/r	60/48/pc	Medford	65/51/r	73/46/pc
Burns	59/40/r	62/31/c	Newport	55/46/r	57/45/pc
Coos Bay	56/48/r	58/45/pc	Olympia	59/45/r	62/40/pc
Corvallis	60/47/r	66/44/pc	Ontario	68/51/c	69/43/pc
Council	55/41/r	56/33/sh	Pasco	63/46/r	71/40/pc
Elgin	55/43/r	56/35/pc	Pendleton	59/47/r	64/43/pc
Eugene	61/49/r	66/46/pc	Portland	61/49/r	64/47/pc
Hermiston	62/50/sh	70/42/pc	Powers	59/49/r	65/46/pc
Hood River	58/48/r	63/42/pc	Redmond	62/41/r	63/35/c
Imnaha	60/45/r	56/38/sh	Roseburg	66/52/r	72/49/pc
John Day	57/45/r	58/33/c	Salem	61/45/r	65/44/pc
Joseph	54/38/r	53/32/c	Spokane	56/43/c	60/39/pc
Kennewick	63/49/r	71/41/pc	The Dalles	63/49/r	67/44/pc
Klamath Falls	59/43/r	62/35/pc	Ukiah	52/38/r	54/32/c
Lakeview	60/43/c	62/34/pc	Walla Walla	59/48/r	62/44/pc

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

### RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY

<b>ANTHONY LAKES</b> A bit of rain	39 28	<b>PHILLIPS LAKE</b> Cooler with rain	55 39
<b>MT. EMILY REC.</b> Cooler with rain	46 36	<b>BROWNLEE RES.</b> A little p.m. rain	59 46
<b>EAGLE CAP WILD.</b> A touch of rain	43 30	<b>EMIGRANT ST. PARK</b> Cooler with rain	50 37
<b>WALLOWA LAKE</b> Cooler with rain	54 38	<b>MCKAY RESERVOIR</b> Cooler with rain	59 46
<b>THIEF VALLEY RES.</b> A little p.m. rain	60 41	<b>RED BRIDGE ST. PARK</b> Cooler with rain	56 43



## Center for Human Development, Inc. (CHD)

The Centers for Disease Control is now recommending the wearing of a mask in public. Social distancing, frequent hand washing, and avoiding others when sick remain the mainstays of our public health efforts. Do not assume that wearing a mask takes the place of any of those healthy behaviors.

There are a number of reasons to wear a cloth mask:

• We now know that some people are contagious before they ever get symptoms and some never feel sick. They might spread the disease before they would ever consider masking up.

• Droplets do indeed transmit the disease, but they can be generated from talking as well as coughing. Just standing next to someone talking could spread the disease if neither of you are masked.

• Wearing a mask while sick is stigmatizing for those who wear them. Universal use wouldn't identify who was sick and who wasn't.

• You're less likely to touch your mouth and nose while wearing a mask.

• DIY masks can possibly provide protection to the public without impacting the supply of manufactured masks currently prioritized for healthcare workers. If the medical community accepts the use of these masks in the healthcare setting, then these masks will be available and ready to go.

• There is data that suggests that in countries where masking is encouraged for all citizens, the rate of disease transmission may be reduced by their actions.

The principle is the same regardless of design. Having a physical barrier to prevent droplets from landing on others, discouraging the wearers from touching their faces, and possibly reducing large droplets from landing on mucous membranes are the goals for wearing masks in public. And they look good.

Custom DIY face masks have already become popular with youths. People have been making and buying a wide variety of the fun and unique designs.

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