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# CAMBRIDGE

## Academic Content Dictionary

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**consult** **A** /kən'sʌlt/ v [T] **1** to get information or advice from a person, esp. an expert, or to look at written material in order to get information ○ [T] *If you don't know the meaning of a word, consult a dictionary.* **2** To consult is also to inform someone about a situation, often in order to get approval for an action you plan to take: [T] *The committee will consult people in the neighborhood before making a recommendation.*

**consultant** **A** /kən'sʌlt-ənt/ n [C] a person who is a specialist in a particular subject and whose job is to give advice and information to businesses, government organizations, etc. ○ *The former general now serves as a consultant to the Pentagon.*

**consultation** **A** /,kən-səl'teɪ-ʃən/ n [C/U] **1** the act of exchanging information and opinions about something in order to reach a better understanding of it or to make a decision, or a meeting for this purpose ○ [U] *We hope to work in consultation with Congress on how the law should be interpreted.* **2** A consultation is also a meeting with a doctor who is specially trained to give advice to you or other doctors about an illness or its treatment: [C] *The consultation with the pathologist convinced me to have surgery right away.*

**consultative** **A** /kən'sʌl-tə-tɪv, 'kən-səl,tet-ɪv/ adj

**consume** **A** /kən'su:m/ v [T] **1** to use fuel, energy, or time, esp. in large amounts ○ *Weekend shopping chores consumed much of her time.* **2** To consume is also to eat or drink: *They consume a lot of candy.* **3** If a fire consumes something, it destroys it completely: *Fire had consumed the whole building.* **4** Someone can be said to be consumed by/with a feeling if that feeling is extremely strong: *We were consumed with joy and relief, as well as profound gratitude.*

**consumer** **A** /kən'su:mər/ n [C] **social studies** someone who buys goods or services for personal use ○ *consumer goods/spending* ○ *American consumers are becoming informed about the safety of products made for children.*

**consumerism** n [U] **social studies** protection of consumers against harmful products or business methods

**consummate** /'kən-sə-mət, kən'sʌm-ət/ adj perfect; complete in every way ○ *consummate skill*

**consummate** /'kən-sə-meɪt/ v [T] **1** to complete ○ *The deal was consummated with a handshake.* **2** To consummate a marriage is to make it complete by having sex.

**consumption** **A** /kən'sʌm-ʃən/ n [U] **1** an amount of something that is used, or the process of using something, esp. so that there is less of it ○ *Consumption of electricity is always higher during the summer months because of air-conditioning.* **2** **social studies** Consumption is the using of goods and services in an economy, or the amount of goods and services used.

**contact** **COMMUNICATION** /'kən-tækt/ n [U] communication with someone, or with a group or organization ○ *Have you kept in contact with your friends from college?* ○ *The pilot was always in contact with an air traffic controller.*

**contact** /'kən-tækt/ v [T] ○ *I tried to contact him at his office but he was out to lunch.*

#### USAGE

##### contact

Remember to use the preposition **with** when you use the phrases **make/be in/keep in/lose contact with** someone.

*When you live abroad it's important not to lose contact with friends and family at home.*

*When you live abroad it's important not to lose contact to friends and family at home.*

**TOUCH** /'kən-tækt/ n [U] the touching of two objects or surfaces ○ *Don't let that glue come into contact with your skin.*

**HELPFUL PERSON** /'kən-tækt/ n [C] **1** a person whom you know and who may be able to help you in a useful way, esp. by influencing other people or by sharing knowledge with you ○ *He tried to use his contacts to get a better job in advertising.* **2** A contact is also a person you meet: *My face-to-face contacts outside of the office had been mostly hotel clerks, policemen, and waitresses.*

**contact lens** n [C] a small, round, curved piece of transparent material, esp. plastic, that fits on the surface of an eye to improve sight ○ *I need new contact lenses.*

**contagious** /kən'teɪ-dʒəs/ adj **1** (of a disease) able to be caught by touching someone with the disease or something the person has touched or worn, or (of a person) having this type of disease ○ *a highly contagious strain of flu* **2** fig. Contagious also means moving easily from one person to another: *The mood was contagious, and soon everyone was laughing.*

**contain** **HAVE INSIDE** /kən'teɪn/ v [T] (of an object or area) to have an amount of something inside or within it ○ *How much liquid does this bottle contain?* ○ *Each large crate contains 12 boxes.*

**container** /kən'teɪ-nər/ n [C] a hollow object, such as a box or a bottle, which can be used for holding something esp. for the purposes of carrying or storing ○ *plastic milk containers*

#### USAGE

##### contain or include?

Use **contain** to talk about objects that have something else inside them.

*This folder contains important letters.*

*This soup contains garlic and onions.*

Use **include** to say that something or someone is a part of something else but that there are other parts as well.

*The team includes two new players.*

*The price of the ticket includes insurance and tax.*

**INCLUDE** /kən'teɪn/ v [T] to have as a part, or be equal to; include ○ *The information contained on forms would be kept strictly confidential.* ○ *Each food serving contains 95 calories.* ○ *You could retrieve all files that contained certain key words.*

dʒ jump | j yes | ə little | əm hm | ən cotton | ŋ sing | ʃ shoe | t meeting | θ think | ð this | tʃ choose | ʒ measure

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