

Updated May 2022

## GENERAL STYLE

- >111—non-emergency NHS helpline; ring 111
  - >111 First—NHS 111 First, a new initiative to ask patients to call 111 first rather than go straight to emergency departments
  - >3Es coalition—aims to address underachievement in state schools
  - >3G—third-generation mobile phone stuff
  - >38 Degrees—all-purpose campaigning organisation
  - >4x4 vehicles
  - >4G—fourth generation mobile phones
  - >5G—fifth generation mobile phones
  - >7/7—for 7 July 2005 terrorist attacks
  - >9/11—for 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks
  - >10:10 campaign—aims to cut 10% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2010
  - >11-plus, 16-plus, 50-plus, five-plus
  - >14-to-19 education
  - >24/7
  - >18 certificate, 18-certificate material
  - >401(k)—scheme, provisions; flexible US pension scheme
  - >999—999 calls; ring 999
  - >1922 committee—Tory Back Benchers; runs leadership elections etc.
  - >2020 Tax Commission—set up by the TaxPayers Alliance and the Institute of Directors
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- >A—grade A, A1, A4, A-plus, A\*; two As and a B; A stream; A-stream pupils; A and B-stream pupils; A to C grades
  - >A\*—exam grade
  - >A1—roads: A1; A1(M); A38; A roads;
  - >A2—second year of A-level course; AS-level is taken in first year
  - >A300, A310—see Airbus
  - >A400M—Airbus heavy-lift transport project
  - >A4e—means Action for Employment but no need to expand; former chair: Emma Harrison
  - >A&E—accident and emergency [expand in headings]
  - >a propos—use apropos
  - >A to Z—the road map is the “A to Z”. He knows the subject from A to Z.
  - >A-10—Thunderbolt; US ground attack aircraft
  - >A-bomb
  - >A-level; AS-level
  - >AA—1. attendance allowance (a disability benefit)  
2. Automobile Association; the AA will do if context is very clear  
3. Alcoholics Anonymous  
4. anti-aircraft
  - >AAA rating—use triple A rating

- >AAC—Army Air Corps
- >AAB—air accidents investigation branch
- >AAM—air-to-air missile
- >AAPS—arable area payments scheme; replaced by single payment scheme (SPS); became basic payment scheme (BPS) in 2015
  
- >AAR—air-to-air refuelling
- >abattoir—one b, two t’s
- >ABB—Swiss-Swedish multinational; 1990, bought BREL, which is now part of Bombardier; Asea Brown Boveri
- >Abbeyfield Society—residential & nursing care homes
- >ABCIFER—Association of British Civilian Internees Far East Region
- >Abdel Fattah al-Burhan—general leading the coup in Sudan
- >Abdul Fattah al-Sisi—President of Egypt
- >ABF—stands for Army Benevolent Fund, but don’t expand
- >ABI—1. Association of British Insurers  
2. area-based initiative
- >Abkhazia—adj. Abkhaz; cap. Sukhumi; see Georgia
- >able to—I am able to = I can etc
- >ABM treaty—anti-ballistic missile treaty; sometimes called ABMT
- >about-turn (n)
- >ABP—Associated British Ports
- >ABPA—Association of the British Pharmaceutical Agency
- >ABPI—Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry
- >Abrams—M1 Abrams main battle tank [US, not “Abrahams”]
- >ABRO—Army Base Repair Organisation (now closed); merged with DARA, the Defence Aviation Repair Agency to become the Defence Support Group in 2008
- >ABRP—Advisory Board on Restricted Patients (ceased to function Sept 2003)
- >ABSA—Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts; merged with Business in the Community to become Arts & Business
- >absolute offence—one to which the law provides no defence
- >absolutely—dispensable in formulae such as:  
“It is absolutely critical, essential, vital...”  
It’s often dispensable in these too:  
“The hon. Member is absolutely right...”
- >ABSV—armoured battlegroup support vehicle
- >ABTA—Association of British Travel Agents [“ab-ta”]
- >Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi—leader of Islamic State
- >Abu Ghraib—Iraqi prison
- >Abu Hamza—Islamic radical, sometimes Abu Hamza al-Masri
- >Abu Qatada—Islamic cleric, suspected of links to al-Qaeda
- >Abu Sayyaf—Islamist group, Philippines
- >abused child cases—Jasmine Beckford; Chelsea Brown; Kimberley Carlile; Maria Colwell; Tyra Henry; Heidi Koseda; Ainlee Labonte; Doreen Mason; Rikki Neave; Dennis O’Neil; Daniel Pelka; Leanne White; Lauren Wright; Baby P; Brandon Muir; Victoria Climbié

- >ACA—1. area cost adjustment [local govt grant formula]
  2. Advisory Committee on Advertising; replaced by the Government Strategic Marketing Advisory Board (GSMAB) in January 2008; scrapped in bonfire of the quangos; its duties taken over by the Cabinet Office’s Efficiency and Reform Group
  3. Association of Consulting Actuaries
  4. additional costs allowance
- >Academy of Medical Royal Colleges
- >ACAF—Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs
- >ACAS—Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service; [“ay-kass”]
  - no need to expand
  
- >ACBE—Advisory Committee on Business and the Environment
- >ACBS—Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances
- >ACCA—Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
- >ACCAC—[“ack-ack”] Awdurdod Cymwysterau, Cwricwluwm ac Asesu Cymru; in English, Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales; QCA equivalent; est 1997; merged with the Welsh Government’s Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills in 2006
- >accents—we do them (although consult subs if in doubt)
- >Access for All programme—a rail station improvement programme
- >Access to Work programme
- >AccessNI – carries out criminal records checks and certifies candidates as suitable to work in certain jobs
- >Accommodation and Works Committee—House Domestic Committee; replaced by Administration Committee in 2005
- >Accord—HBOS staff union
- >Accountancy Investigation and Discipline Board; became Accountancy & Actuarial Discipline Board (AADB) in 2007
- >Accounting Standards Board—the ASB; est 1990; incorporated into the Financial Reporting Council (FRC) in 2012
- >Accounts Commission for Scotland—Accounts Commission will do; like Audit Commission, monitors local govt
- >accrual
- >ACD—Advisory Committee on NHS Drugs; terminated 2002
- >ACDP—Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens
- >ACDS—Advisory Committee on Dangerous Substances; was a committee of the Health and Safety Commission
- >ACE—1. Arts Council England
  2. Allied Command Europe [NATO]
  3. action for co-operation in economics [EU-CEE countries]
- >Aceh—tsunami-struck province of Indonesia;
- >ACEVO—Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations
- >ACF—Association of Charitable Foundations
- >ACFNP—Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes
- >ACGM—Advisory Committee on Genetic Modification; became the Scientific

- Advisory Committee on Genetic Modification; SACGM
- >ACGT—Advisory Committee on Genetic Testing; subsumed within Human Genetics Commission (HGC) in 1999; HGC abolished in 2010
- >ACHCEW—Association of Community Health Councils for England and Wales
- >Acheson, Dean—US Secretary of State 1940s; “Great Britain has lost an empire, and has not yet found a role.”
- >Acheson, Sir Donald—1998 report on health inequalities
- >Achmat, Zackie—South African AIDS activist
- >Achilles heel
- >acknowledgment—not “acknowledgement”
- >ACLANT—Allied Command Atlantic
- >ACMD—Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs
- >ACM—aluminium composite material; type of cladding associated with the Grenfell fire
- >ACOPA—Advisory Committee on Business Appointments; about Ministers and civil servants taking up private sector appointments
- >ACOP—Association of Chief Officers of Probation; abolished 2001
- >ACOPS—Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea;
- >ACORN—don’t expand to A Community Oriented Rehabilitation Network; Christian charity, helps Kurds
- >ACP—1. Advisory Committee on Packaging  
2. Advisory Committee on Pesticides; abolished 2015
- >ACP countries—African, Caribbean and Pacific
- >ACPC—area child protection committee; abolished 2004
- >ACPO—Association of Chief Police Officers; ACPO TAM committee—terrorism and allied matters committee
- >acre—in full: 3 acres and a cow
- >ACRE—1. Action with Communities in Rural England  
2. Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment
- >acquiesce—takes in, not to or with
- >acquis communautaire—principle whereby a matter once ceded to the European Commission remains its responsibility thereafter
- >ACT—1. automated credit transfer [benefits at post office]  
2. advance corporation tax; not “advanced”; [abolished by new Labour]  
3. Action by Churches Together
- >Act—1. Check titles and give date on first citation in speech or debate: Bail Act 1976.  
Subsequent reference may be to the 1976 Act or the Bail Act.  
  
2. Subdivisions: section 1; subsection (1); paragraph (a); sub-paragraph (i)  
sub-paragraph (i) = section 1(1)(a)(i)  
  
3. Schedules have paragraphs and sub-paragraphs; paragraph 1 of schedule 1; [not schedule 1(1)]; sub-paragraph (1); paragraph 1(1) of schedule 1; schedules are “to” not “of” the Act  
  
4. Always uc: the Act; an Act; hypothetical Acts: “That would be tantamount

to a slaughter of the first born Act.”

5. An Act may be referred to as a Bill when proceedings before enactment are referred to.

6. When reference is made to provisions under more than one Act of the same name (eg the Parliament Act 1911 and the Parliament Act 1949) we can say “the Parliament Acts”. But don’t be lazy, because sometimes distinguishing them is important.

7. Some special cases, under which see: Great Reform Act, Bill of Rights, Poor Law, prevention of terrorism Acts

8. Foreign Acts: don’t need years; if you get the correct English title, you can put it up;

- >Act of Settlement – settled Hanoverian succession. No need to add “1700”
- >Act on CO<sub>2</sub> campaign—cross-government initiative to help people cut their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- >ActionAid
- >Action by Churches Together
- >Action for Victims of Medical Accidents; name changed to Action against Medical Accidents in 2003
- >Action Fraud—fraud and internet crime reporting centre
- >Action on Smoking and Health—ASH (acronym)
- >Action with Communities in Rural England—ACRE; acts as the national association for rural community councils (qv)
- >Active People survey
- >ACTS—Advisory Committee on Toxic Substances
- >actual, actually—usually redundant
- >ad—the small ads; prefer “advert” or “advertisement” in general use
- >ADA—Association of Drainage Authorities
- >Adair, Johnny—loyalist terrorist
- >additionality—principle that money under EU funds must be in addition to, not instead of, that from state where project is
- >address—Downing Street; Acacia Avenue; Bond Street; Trafalgar Square
- >address—Humble Address; Loyal Address; present an address;
- >addressing the Chair—1. In Committee and on the Floor of the House (and Westminster Hall), speakers address not their fellow Members but the occupant of the Chair.  
2. The word “you” is reserved for addressing the Chair, and, when not so used, should normally be retained only to provide a trail of evidence for the Chair pulling someone up for using the word. (see also under “you”).  
The first time in a paragraph or point of order, the “you” should be accompanied by what follows:  
3. In the House, Members should address the Chair as Mr Speaker (or Madam Speaker), Mr Deputy Speaker or Madam Deputy Speaker;

in Committee, including Committee of the whole House, as Sir Alan, Dame Janet, etc. Thus: “Mr Speaker, you know only too well...” (see also “points of order”).

4. Members need so to address the Chair in that way only once per paragraph. Don't add the formula every time they say “you”.

- >Adelante—type of train
- >ADHD—attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
- >ADI—acceptable daily intake
- >Adjournment—Adjournment debate, Adjournment motion, the House is on the Adjournment, summer Adjournment; the Adjournment of the House; before the House adjourns
- >Adjutant-General's Corps—est 1992, subsuming Pay Corps, Army Legal Corps etc
- >Administration—follows the same rules as “Government”; Scottish Administration
- >Administration Committee—a Domestic Committee of the House
- >administrative court—part of High Court
- >adrenalin—not “adrenaline”
- >ADSL—asymmetric digital subscriber line—no need to expand
- >ADSS—Association of Directors of Social Services; became ADASS, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, in 2007
- >adult learning inspectorate—the ALI; became part of Ofsted in 2007
- >advance corporation tax—not “advanced”; ACT; abolished by new Labour in 1999
- >advance directive—not “advanced”; similar to living wills
- >advance notice—try notice; cf: advance planning
- >advance sight—eg of the statement
- >advanced skills teacher—ASTs share their teaching skills with lesser teachers in return for more money
- >Advantage West Midlands—RDA; shut down in 2012
- >advert—ok to use “advert”
- >advertisement—ok to use “advert”; qv under ads
- >Advertising Standards Authority—the ASA; self-regulation; under which come: Advertising Standards Authority (Broadcast) – ASA(B) Broadcast Committee of Advertising Practice (BCAP)
- >adviser—not “advisor”; advisory
- >advisor—use “advisor”
- >Advisory Board for Redundant Churches—ABRC
- >Advisory Board on Restricted Patients—ie Mental Health Act detainees; ceased to function in 2003
- >advisory committees—uc with full titles (see selection below), but “the committee” & “the advisory committee” otherwise. Same applies to advisory boards, councils etc. They are statutory bodies set up to advise the Government, usually on scientific or ethical matters
- >Advisory Committee on Advertising; replaced by the Government Strategic Marketing Advisory Board (GSMAB) in January 2008; scrapped in bonfire of the quangos; its duties taken over by the Cabinet Office's Efficiency and Reform Group
- >Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs—ACAF
- >Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances—considers whether something is a

drug for NHS prescription purposes

- >Advisory Committee on Business Appointments—ie on whether top civil servants can take certain outside jobs within two years
- >Advisory Committee on Business and the Environment
- >Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens
- >Advisory Committee on Dangerous Substances—gas, petrol etc; was a committee of the Health and Safety Commission
- >Advisory Committee on Genetic Modification; became the Scientific Advisory Committee on Genetic Modification; SACGM
- >Advisory Committee on Genetic Testing—ie for human ailments; subsumed into Human Genetics Commission in 1999; commission abolished in 2012
- >Advisory Committee on NHS Drugs—the ACD; terminated 2002
- >Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes—part of FSA
- >Advisory Committee on Packaging
- >Advisory Committee on Pesticides; abolished 2015
- >Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea—ACOPS; previously “Advisory Committee on Oil Pollution of the Sea” and “on Pollution of the Sea”
- >Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment—ACRE; advises on plants, animals and GMOs that escape
- >Advisory Committee on Toxic Substances
- >Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service—ACAS will do
- >Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drugs—TACADE (ignore the “The”); transferred to Public Health England in 2013
- >Advisory Council on Public Records
- >Advisory Council on the Export of Works of Art
- >Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs—interim chair, Professor Les Iversen; former chairman, Professor David Nutt
- >advocate—Scottish equivalent of barrister
- >advocate depute—Scottish criminal prosecution counsel
- >Advocate General for Scotland; the Advocate General
- >advocate-general in European Court of Justice; there are eight advocates-general
- >Advocates for Animals; renamed OneKind
- >AEA Technology—privatised bit of UKAEA; became Ricardo-AEA in 2012
- >AEBC—Agriculture and Environment Biotechnology Commission; wound up in 2005
- >AEEU—Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union; see Amicus; Amicus merged with the TGWU to form Unite in 2007
- >AEF—aggregate external finance [local govt]
- >AEN—additional educational needs
- >AEP—Association of Electricity Producers; merged with the Energy Retail Association and the UK Business Council for Sustainable Energy to become Energy UK in 2012
- >aero-engine
- >aeroplane—not “airplane”
- >AEW—airborne early warning (ie of incoming attack); also AEW&C—airborne early warning and control
- >AFDA—Armed Forces Discipline Act 2000

- >affirmative procedure—for delegated legislation: powers provided for by primary legislation. The Govt cannot take the powers unless the House agrees and must move a motion to that effect. Governments therefore prefer the negative procedure, a point that leads to much stimulating debate.
- >Affordable Rural Housing Commission
- >Afghanistan—[see style sheet in briefs folder on M:drive](#)
- >AFPS—armed forces parliamentary scheme
- >Africa/African Commission—use Commission for Africa [Blair initiative 2004]; morphed into Africa Progress Panel in 2007
- >African, Caribbean and Pacific countries—the ACP countries
- >African Development Bank
- >African National Congress—the ANC; some people: Oliver Tambo; Thabo Mbeki; Chris Hani; Walter Sisulu; Joe Slovo; Jacob Zuma; military wing: Umkhonto we Sizwe [“Spear of the Nation”]
- >African Union—was OAU until 2002; see also AMIS
- >Afrikaans—the language: two a’s
- >Afrikaner—the person: one a
- >aftercare
- >AFV 432—multi-purpose armoured vehicles
- >AGC—Adjutant General’s Corps
- >AGCAS—Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services
- >Age Concern—add national identifier if appropriate: eg Age Concern Cymru; Age Concern England; Scotland; Northern Ireland; now part of Age UK; >Age UK—formed from a merger of Help the Aged and Age Concern
- >age participation index—ie of entrants to higher education; replaced by higher education initial participation rate (HEIPR) in 2004
- >Agenda 21—Rio summit sustainable development stuff
- >Agenda 2000—CAP reform package, 1999
- >Agenda for Change—use quotes “Agenda for Change” NHS pay etc.
- >ages—“He is four, his brothers are nine and 10 and his mother is 41.”  
“From the ages of five to 18.”  
“They are aged eight, nine, 14 and 16.”  
six-year-olds; nine-year-olds; 10-year-olds  
seven to 10-year-olds; 16 to 19-year-olds  
four years old; 17 years old; 16 or 17 years old  
those aged 16 to 18 [not “16-18”]  
over-50s; under-fives; 50-plus; 11-plus; six-plus; mid-20s;  
people in their 30s and 40s; in their teens
- >ageing—not aging; ageism
- >aggregates levy—quarrying tax
- >aging—use ageing
- >“Agile”—concept used in software development; alternative to “Waterfall”.
- >AGM—1. air-to-ground missile; AGM-65 Maverick  
2. annual general meeting
- >AGR—advanced gas-cooled reactor
- >agri-environment, agri-environmental

- >agribusiness
- >agricultural—where possible, use “agriculture”; an obvious exception is “common agricultural policy”
- >Agricultural Wages Board—append “for England and Wales” or “for Northern Ireland” if necessary; qv Scottish Agricultural Wages Board
- >agriculturalist—use “agriculturist”
- >Agriculture and Environment Biotechnology Commission—est 2000; wound up 2005
- >Agriculture Research and Development Council—AgriSearch set up in NI 1997
- >agriculturist—not “agriculturalist”
- >agrifood
- >agrimonetary
- >agrimoney—“agrimony” is a herb
- >AgriSearch—Agriculture Research and Development Council [NI, set up 1997]
- >AgustaWestland—2001 merger; Westland will still usually do
- >AHAs—area health authorities (abolished 1979)
- >Ahmadiyya—Islamic sect
- >Ahtisaari, Martti—former Finnish President; was arms inspector in Northern Ireland
- >aide-de-camp, pl. aides-de-camp
- >aide-mémoire
- >AIDS—acquired immune deficiency syndrome; don’t expand; HIV/AIDS (don’t expand)
- >AIM—alternative investment market
- >AIM—AIM-9 Sidewinder; don’t expand to air interception missile
- >AIMS—audit information management service; new cloud-based NAO service likely to be mentioned in Public Accounts Committee evidence sessions
- >aims and objectives—use one or the other when they occur together
- >Aimhigher campaign—encouraged young people to think about going into further education
- >air accidents investigation branch [of the Department for Transport]
- >airbag
- >airbase
- >air dispatcher—one who drops aid etc out of aircraft
- >airdrop, airdropping, airdropped
- >air force—ours is uc: the Air Force, the Royal Air Force; foreign ones lc: US air force
- >air miss—2 or more aircraft come within the prescribed distance of each other
- >air pistol
- >air rifle
- >Air Training Corps
- >air weapon [see also airgun, airsoft weapons]
- >air-conditioned, air-conditioning
- >air-to-air refuelling—extends aircraft range
- >Airbus—joint venture European aircraft maker; A400M, A300, A310, A310-200, A319; French title: Airbus Industrie
- >Aircraft Research Association
- >aircraftman, aircraftwoman

- >aircrew
- >airfield
- >airframe
- >airgun
- >airline, airliner
- >airman, airwoman; airmen and women
- >airplane—use “aeroplane”
- >airport—Ic but identifier uc: Heathrow airport, East Midlands airport;  
East Cheam International airport;
- >Airport Operators Association
- >airsoft weapons—airguns that fire 6 mm plastic ball bearings
- >airspace
- >airstrike
- >AirTanker—consortium of Rolls-Royce, EADS, Cobham and Thales on FSTA
- >Airwave—police radio system
- >airwaves
- >Airports Commission—chair: Sir Howard Davies; established 2012
- >AIRC—Association of Investment Trust Companies
- >AK47—see Kalashnikov
- >al—as prefix in Arab names: al-Aardvark; don’t use prefix in place names where  
the English form is common: Kut, not “al-Kut”, Basra, not “al-Basrah”
- >al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades—Palestinian group “associated” with Fatah
- >al-Arabiya—Arabic TV station
- >al-Bashir, Omar—President of Sudan until 2019
- >al-Fayed, Mohammed—Harrods, Fulham etc
- >al-Jazeera—Arabic TV station
- >al-Muhajiroun—Islamic radicals; was led by Omar Bakri Muhammad
- >al-Nusra front; also known as Jabhat al-Nusra (follow usage)
- >al-Qaeda; al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP)
- >al-Shabaab—proscribed Somali group
- >al-Yamamah—big UK-Saudi arms deal
- >al-Zarqawi, Abu Mussab—al-Qaeda leader (killed in 2006)
- >ALACE—Association of Local Authority Chief Executives
- >ALANI—Association of Local Authorities of Northern Ireland; replaced by  
NILGA (Northern Ireland Local Government Association) in 2001
- >ALARM—air-launched anti-radiation missile
- >ALARP—as low as reasonably practicable
- >Albania—dialects/tribes: Gheg, Tosk            cap: Tirana  
some people: King Zog [Ahmet Beg Zogu] Enver Hoxha; Ramiz Alia;  
Sali Berisha; Fatos Nano; Bamir Topi;  
OMONIA – Greek minority group;  
Metohija – part of former Yugoslavia with many Albanians
- >ALBM—air-launched ballistic missile
- >ALCM—air-launched cruise missile
- >Alcohol Concern
- >Alcoholics Anonymous
- >alcopops

- >Alder Hey—Royal children’s hospital, Liverpool; child organ retention led to Redfern report and Retained Organs Commission
- >alderman—councillor in eg, City of London
- >Aldermaston
- >ALEA—Association of Local Enterprise Agencies
- >ALG—Association of London Government – became London Councils in 2006
- >Algeria—minority people: Berbers (language: Tamazight)
  - cap: Algiers [aka el-Djezair]
  - parties: FLN – Front de Libération Nationale (ruling party)
  - FIS – Front Islamique du Salut; GIA – Groupe Islamique Armé

former presidents: Ahmed Ben Bella; Houari Boumedienne; Ben Djedid Chadli; Liamine Zéroual; Abdelaziz Bouteflika;

politicians: Ali Benflis; Ahmed Ouyahia;

terms: harki – Algerian who served in French forces
- >ALI—adult learning inspectorate; became part of Ofsted in 2007
- >Alice in Wonderland—correctly “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland”.
  - used adjectivally: an Alice in Wonderland scenario; that is pure Alice in Wonderland
- >all of—the “of” is usually dispensable:
  - “All the apples are red”, not “All of the apples are red.”
- >all right—not alright
- >all-party—lc: the all-party parliamentary group on fire safety; all-party fire safety group; their officers are also lc. APPGs; the register of all-party parliamentary groups on parliament.uk contains the full list
- >All Wales Convention; reported in 2009
- >alliance—uc: the Alliance party in NI or in reference to the Alliance of the Liberals and the SDP of bygone days
  - lc: when it means NATO, the Atlantic alliance, the western alliance etc.
- >Alliance party—non-sectarian party in NI; long-time leader Lord Alderdice;
  - present leader: David Ford (since 2001)
- >Allied Command Atlantic, Allied Command Europe—[NATO]
- >Allied Rapid Reaction Corps [NATO]
- >Allied Steel and Wire—bankruptcy left pension fund shortfalls 2002
- >allies—the allies, the western allies, allied powers etc.
- >allocation of time motion—formal name for guillotine or timetable
- >allot—allotment, allotted, allotting
- >allotted day—refers to days reserved for debates on subjects of the Opposition’s choice or allocated for discussing a Bill etc
- >almighty—when God is meant: the Almighty
- >ALMO—arm’s length management organisation [housing]
- >Alpha Jet—Franco-German jet trainer; UK bought six for DERA (DERA became QinetiQ in 2001)
- >alright—use all right
- >Alstom/Alsthom—engineering company known as Alsthom 1928-89 then GEC Alsthom to 1998; since known as Alstom;

- >alt-right
- >ALTENER—EU alternative energy programme
- >Altmann, Ros—pensions expert [not Ross, Roz or Altman]
- >ALVA—Association of Leading Visitor Attractions
- >Alvis—merged to form Alvis Vickers, Sept. 2002; became BAE Systems Land Systems (Weapons & Vehicles) Limited in 2004
- >Alzheimer Scotland – Action on Dementia [note dash]
- >Alzheimer’s Association
- >Alzheimer’s disease—Alzheimer’s is ok
- >Alzheimer’s Society—was Alzheimer’s Disease Society to 1999;
- >Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union—the AEEU; see Amicus; Amicus merged with the TGWU to form Unite in 2007
- >Amateur Swimming Association—the ASA
- >ambassador—Ambassador Smith, but the French ambassador, our ambassador
- >ambulanceman, ambulancewoman
- >AME—annually managed expenditure
- >amen—we say amen to that
- >amendment—always lc: amendment 21, amendments 1 to 3, Government amendment; Lords amendment; Lords amendment 1, manuscript amendment; reasoned amendment;
- >amendment paper—aka notice paper; not same as Order Paper
- >American spelling—only used in quotes, so “defence” not “defense”; “labour” not “labor”, “centre” not “center”
- >Amey—co-owned Tube Lines consortium
- >Amicus—2001 merger of MSF and AEEU; gen. secy: Derek Simpson; Amicus merged with the TGWU to form Unite in 2007
- >amicus curiae—lay representative in court
- >AMIS—African Union Mission in Sudan; replaced by UNAMID in December 2007
- >Amnesty International—Amnesty is ok after first mention in full
- >amok—not amuck
- >among—not amongst
- >amp—SI unit of electric current, short for ampere (no è in the unit, but there is in the physicist’s name); with figures: 4 amps; 2.6 amps; a 3-amp fuse; a 13-amp fuse
- >ampersand—& should be used only in title of Bills and Committees and in well-known organisations such as P&O, C&A etc. But note A&E
- >AMRAAM—advanced medium-range air-to-air missile; the Raytheon AIM-120
- >AMRC—Association of Medical Research Charities
- >AMS—aggregate measures of support [WTO]
- >amuck—use amok
- >an hotel, an historic event etc—fine if the Member says “an”, but “a” is okay too
- >*An Phoblacht*—aka *Republican News*; Sinn Féin paper
- >An-124—see Antonov
- >ANC—African National Congress
- >Ancient Order of Hibernians

- >ancillary—often misspelled “ancillary”
- >ANCT—assumed national council tax
- >and—1. It’s ok to start the odd sentence with “And”, but don’t go mad  
2. See under ampersand (&)  
3. Use “to try to help” rather than “to try and help”
- >and/or—rare instance of acceptable use of the stroke in *Hansard*
- >Andean Community—Bolivia, Columbia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Peru  
CAN—Comuniada Andina de Naciones
- >Andersen—Arthur Andersen, Andersen’s but not “Anderson”; Andersen Consulting became Accenture in 2001
- >Anderson, Iain—chaired “Lessons Learned” FMD inquiry 2002
- >Andreasen, Marta—sacked European Commission chief accountant;
- >angles—right angle; an angle of 45°
- >Anglian Water Services—Anglian Water will do
- >Anglican, Anglicanism—of the Church of England
- >Anglo-Irish agreement—1985 agreement gave Dublin a foot in Belfast’s door;  
see also British-Irish agreement
- >Anglo-Saxon
- >Angola—cap. Luanda; pres. Jose Eudardo dos Santos (since 1979);  
PM (2002-2008) Fernando da Piedade Dias dos Santos Nando [2006] MPLA;  
Unita;  
Jonas Savimbi; Cabinda province;
- >Animal Procedures Committee—advises on vivisection; replaced by Animals in Science Committee in 2012
- >Animal Sentience Committee
- >annex (v); annexe (n) although annex to a document is allowed; please check
- >Annington Homes—to which much MOD housing sold
- >Anoosheh Ashoori—British-Iranian dual national detained in Evin prison in Iran
- >another place—ie the House of Lords
- >ANPR—automatic number plate recognition
- >Ansar al-Islam—Islamic radical organisation
- >answer—written answer; oral answer; parliamentary answer
- >answerphone
- >ante—can be used as a verb
- >ante-post
- >ante-room
- >antediluvian
- >antenatal
- >antisemite, antisemitic, antisemitism
- >anti-aircraft
- >anti-ballistic missile treaty
- >anti-tank
- >Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001—hyphen, lc terrorism
- >Antichrist—adj antichristian, whether pertaining to the Antichrist or opposition to Christianity
- >anticlerical
- >antidepressant

- >antimatter
- >antiretroviral
- >antisocial, but Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003
- >antisocial behaviour order—ASBO [“az-boe”]
- >anti-vax; anti-vaxxers
- >antiviral
- >Antonov—Russian plane maker: An-124 (heavy-lift transport)
- >any, anybody, anyone—take the singular:
  - “Does any of us have the right?” not “Do any of us have the right?”
- >any more—two words
- >Anzac
- >AOA—Airport Operators Association
- >AOC—Association of Colleges
- >AONBs—areas of outstanding natural beauty
- >Aontú—a new (launched 2019) 32-county all-Ireland republican party; leader Peadar Tóibín TD
- >APA—advance pricing agreement
- >Apache—in UK, Apache AH1, built by AgustaWestland in US, Boeing AH-64
- >APACS—Association for Payment Clearing Services; became UK Payments Administration Ltd (UKPA) in 2009
- >APAP—Association of Professional Ambulance Personnel
- >APB—Auditing Practices Board; became part of the Financial Reporting Council in 2003
- >APC—1. Animal Procedures Committee; replaced by Animals in Science Committee in 2013
  - 2. armoured personnel carrier
- >APEC—see Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation
- >APEX—Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff; became part of GMB in 1989
- >APH—Association for Public Health; merged with Public Health Alliance and Public Health Trust in 1999 to form United Kingdom Public Health Association (UKPHA); funding withdrawn in 2011 and activities transferred to Faculty of Public Health
- >API—age participation index (qv)
- >APIL—Association of Personal Injury Lawyers
- >APM—Association for Palliative Medicine
- >APNI—see Alliance party
- >apostrophe—1. Can be used in titles: Scottish Fishermen’s Federation; Justices’ Clerks’ Society
  - 2. Words ending in –s: St James’s Park; Prince of Wales’s consent
  - 3. the House of Commons’ view; the Commons’ position; the House of Lords’ view; the Lords’ view
  - 4. the United States’ view; the United Nations’ view
  - 5. for goodness’ sake
  - 6. not used in initial plurals: SMEs [not SME’s] MPs
  - 7. the 1960s [not 1960’s] but back in the ’60s
  - 8. with letters: dotting the i’s

9. at each other's throats

10. not used with letters/grades: two As and a B etc.

- >Appeal Court—see Court of Appeal
- >Appeals Service—DWP Exec agency, dealt with tribunals and benefit, child support and vaccine damage appeals; subsumed into Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service in 2011
- >Appellate Committee—ie of Law Lords; judicial role of House of Lords transferred to Supreme Court in October 2009
- >Appointments Commission—formerly the NHS Appointments Commission; closed 2012
- >Appropriation Act—the final Consolidated Fund Bill of the year; when enacted, becomes the Appropriation Act. It appropriates the sums voted by Parliament to individual purposes.
- >apropos—not “a propos”
- >APPG—all-party parliamentary group—lower case; see register of all-party parliamentary groups on parliament.uk for full list
- >APRS—Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland
- >APS—Association of Police Surgeons; was renamed Association of Forensic Physicians; the BMA's Forensic Medicine Committee represents forensic medical examiners
- >AQA—Assessment and Qualifications Alliance; AQA will do
- >AQAP—al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula
- >aquaculture—fish farms etc.
- >AQIM—al-Qaeda in the Land of Islamic Maghreb
- >ARA—1. Assets Recovery Agency; closed in 2008  
2. Aircraft Research Association
- >Arab League—prefer to League of Arab States
- >Arab Partnership—FCO's strategic response to the Arab spring
- >arable area payments scheme; replaced by single payment scheme (SPS); became basic payment scheme (BPS) in 2015
- >Arbutnott, Sir John—Scottish electoral arrangements report 2005
- >Arbil—use Irbil for Kurdish capital
- >ARC—Association for Residential Care; renamed Association for Real Change
- >arch—  
—as prefix: arch-enemy, arch-villain
- >archbishop—uc with name: Archbishop Runcie; the Archbishop of York;  
lc in general: “The archbishop said...”
- >Archbishops' Council of the Church of England—Archbishops' Council will do;  
the Archbishops' Council Board of Mission is a related but different animal
- >Arculus, David—2004 report on regulation
- >are—metric unit of land measure = 100 square metres; with figures: 100 ares is a hectare
- >area child protection committees—eg: North East Lincolnshire area child protection committee; abolished 2004
- >area cost adjustment—extra money for councils with high wage costs
- >area health authorities—AHAs abolished 1979
- >area measures—see square measures
- >AREVA—French nuclear power company; not to be confused with Arriva the

transport company

- >Argentina—the country ends in “a”; its people are Argentines and the adjective is Argentine; not “Argentinian”
- >Ariane—European satellite launch rocket; Ariane 5
- >ARK Schools—education charity involved in the promotion of academies; known as Ark since 2014
- >ARLA—Association of Residential Letting Agents
- >ARM—anti-radiation missile
- >ARMA—Association of Residential Managing Agents
- >Armalite—assault rifle
- >arm’s length—at arm’s length; the arm’s length principle; arm’s length bodies;
- >arm’s length management organisation [council housing]
- >armed forces—lc, British or other
- >Armed Forces Day
- >armed forces parliamentary scheme—Members ride tanks etc
- >Armed Forces Memorial—memorial to the armed forces who have been killed on duty since the second world war
- >Armed Forces Pay Review Body
- >armed services—lc, British or other
- >Armenia—cap. Yerevan; pres. Serzh Sargsyan [2013]; Nagorno-Karabakh is a largely Armenian enclave in Azerbaijan
- >Armistice Day
- >armoured battlegroup support vehicle
- >ARMS—Association of Researchers in Medicine and Science; dissolved 2007
- >arm’s length
- >arms plot, arms plotting—rotating Army units through different bases
- >Army—the British Army, the Army; foreign armies are lc: US army; –3rd Battalion the Parachute Regiment, 45 Commando etc. (named battalions, regiments, divisions brigades, corps are up)
- >Army Board—group of Ministers, generals, civil servants that runs Army
- >Army Training and Recruiting Agency; renamed Army Recruiting and Training Division in 2006
- >Army units: divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions are uc in titles  
companies, platoons, sections are lc.  
1st Battalion the Parachute Regiment; the 1st Battalion; the battalion;  
51st Highland Division; Brigade of Gurkhas; 2 Royal Signals
- >Army Air Corps
- >Army Base Repair Organisation—Executive agency
- >Army Cadet Force
- >Army Catering Corps—RLC since 1993
- >army council—executive committee of the IRA
- >Army Reserve
- >Army Training and Recruitment Agency
- >ARRC—Allied Rapid Reaction Corps; NATO, est 1992
- >Arriva—transport company
- >artefact—not artifact
- >Arthur Andersen—not “Anderson”

- >Arthur Daley—dodgy businessman in “Minder”, (George Cole)
- >article—1. of treaties, documents etc: lc; follow document for style  
2. articles 2 and 3 of the Irish constitution laid claim to Northern Ireland and were effectively revoked under the Belfast agreement and British-Irish agreement
- >artifact—use artefact
- >Arts and Humanities Research Board—the AHRB; became Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in 2005
- >Arts Council England—est 1994;
- >Arts Council of Great Britain—est 1945; split up 1994; the ACGB;
- >Arts Council of Northern Ireland—est 1994
- >Arts Council of Wales—est 1994
- >Artsakh—see Nagorno-Karabakh
- >Arusha—Tanzania; site of ICTR, qv
- >AS 90—self-propelled 155 mm gun
- >as being—“as” is often sufficient
- >AS-level—first year of A-level course/exam; A and AS-level
- >ASA—1. Advertising Standards Authority  
2. Amateur Swimming Association
- >ASA(B)—Advertising Standards Authority (Broadcast)
- >ASB—Accounting Standards Board; Financial Reporting Council (FRC) took over in 2012
- >ASBO—antisocial behaviour order
- >ASCL—Association of School and College Leaders [was SHA to 2006]
- >ascriptions—House—[*Official Report*, 1 January 2007; Vol. 455, c. 23.]

Public Bill Committee—[*Official Report, Health Public Bill Committee*, 22 May 2005; c. 344.]

We also now include the question No. in ascriptions relating to oral evidence-taking sessions in PBCs—[*Official Report, Climate Change Public Bill Committee*, 14 August 2008; c. 666, Q99.]

Writtens answered since October 2014 do not appear in *Hansard* and are not to be ascribed although including the date might be useful if it is known. Writtens published before October take the following ascription:—[*Official Report*, 14 April 2004; Vol. 346, c. 211W.]

Written ministerial statements—[*Official Report*, 15 December 2010; Vol. 520, c. 100WS.]

Ministerial corrections—[*Official Report*, 15 December 2010; Vol. 520, c. 14MC.]

Petitions—[*Official Report*, 15 December 2010; Vol. 520, c. 11P.]

We check but do not ascribe quotes from Select Committee hearings

Lords—[*Official Report, House of Lords*, 19 December 2006; Vol. 346, c. 234.]

Westminster Hall—[*Official Report, Westminster Hall*, 24 May 2005; Vol. 32, c. 344WH.]

Quote that covers more than one col. should simply show first and last

column no.—[*Official Report*, 1 January 2007; Vol. 455, c. 23-25.]

[*Official Report*, 1 January 2007; Vol. 455, c. 234-245.]

Scottish Parliament—[*Scottish Parliament, Official Report*, 3 June 2007; Vol. 56, c. 34.] available as an option on the ascriptions fgaap

macro

We do not give ascriptions for quotes from the Welsh Parliament.

- >ASEAN—Association of Southeast Asian Nations
- >ASH—Action on Smoking and Health
- >ash dieback disease
- >Ashton, Catherine—High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy until 2014
- >Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation—an organisation
- >Asian Development Bank
- >Ask for ANI—scheme to support victims of domestic abuse; ANI stands for action needed immediately
- >ASLEF—don't expand to Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen; gen secy: Mick Whelan 2011- ; predecessors Keith Norman, Shaun Brady, Mick Rix; Lew Adams
- >ASM—air-to-surface missile
- >Asperger's syndrome—Asperger's is ok
- >ASRAAM—advanced short-range air-to-air missile ["azram"]; Meteor
- >Assembly—"the Assembly" when it means the Northern Ireland Assembly, the Assembly of the Council of Europe, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the General Assembly of the United Nations;
- >Assessment and Qualifications Alliance—the AQA will usually do; sets exams; est 1998; allies City and Guilds, Northern Examinations and Assessment Board and Associated Examinations Board (AEB); various awarding bodies merged in 2000 to form AQA
- >Asset Protection Agency—chief executive: Stephan Wilcke; closed 2012
- >asset stripper, asset stripping (n); asset-stripping (adj); asset-strip (v)
- >Asset Skills—a sector skills council
- >Assets Recovery Agency—est under Proceeds of Crime Act 2002; closed 2008
- >Associated British Ports
- >Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen—use ASLEF
- >association—1. check titles; out in full first time; singular  
2. uc in full titles: Association of British Insurers; "the association" or "the ABI" is ok once expanded
- >Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts—ABSA; changed name to Arts & Business in 1999

- >Association for College Management; became part of Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL) in 2011
- >Association for Education Welfare Management—until 1997, the Association of Chief Educational Social Workers
- >Association for Palliative Medicine—the APM (ignore the “of Great Britain and Ireland” unless necessary)
- >Association for Payment Clearing Services; became UK Payments Administration Ltd (UKPA) in 2009
- >Association for Public Health merged with Public Health Alliance and Public Health Trust in 1999 to form United Kingdom Public Health Association (UKPHA); funding withdrawn in 2011 and activities transferred to Faculty of Public Health
- >Association for Residential Care; renamed Association for Real Change >Association for Science Education
- >Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus; became Shine in 2011
- >Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland
- >Association of Anaesthetists— “of Great Britain and Ireland” if needed
- >Association of Authorised Public Accountants
- >Association of British Civilian Internees Far East Region
- >Association of British Counties—supports the traditional counties
- >Association of British Insurers—the ABI
- >Association of British Neurologists—the ABN
- >Association of British Orchestras—the ABO
- >Association of British Travel Agents—ABTA [“ab-ta”]
- >Association of Charitable Foundations
- >Association of Chartered Certified Accountants—formerly the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants
- >Association of Chief Education Officers—collaborates with Society of Education Officers in umbrella body ConfEd (qv); became Association of Directors of Education and Children's Services
- >Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations—ACEVO
- >Association of Chief Officers of Probation—ACOP; abolished in 2001
- >Association of Chief Police Officers—ACPO [“ack-poe”];
- >Association of Colleges—previous titles include: Association for Colleges for Further and Higher Education; Sixth Form Colleges Association; College Employers Forum;
- >Association of Community Health Councils for England and Wales; abolished 2003
- >Association of Consulting Actuaries
- >Association of Convenience Stores—the ACS
- >Association of Directors of Education in Scotland
- >Association of Directors of Public Health
- >Association of Disabled Professionals—the ADP
- >Association of Drainage Authorities—the ADA
- >Association of Electricity Producers—the AEP; merged with the Energy Retail Association and the UK Business Council for Sustainable Energy to become Energy UK in 2012
- >Association of First Division Civil Servants—aka the FDA, the First Division

## Association

- > Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services
- > Association of Head Teachers in Scotland
- > Association of Heads of Grant-Maintained Schools; grant-maintained schools abolished in 1998
- > Association of International Accountants
- > Association of Investment Trust Companies; renamed Association of Investment Companies
- > Association of Leading Visitor Attractions
- > Association of Local Authorities of Northern Ireland (ALANI); replaced by Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) in 2001
- > Association of Local Authority Chief Executives (ALACE)
- > Association of Local Enterprise Agencies
- > Association of London Government—known as London Councils since 1995
- > Association of Managers in General Practice—Part of Institute of Healthcare Management since 1999
- > Association of Medical Research Charities
- > Association of Optometrists
- > Association of Personal Injury Lawyers—APIL
- > Association of Play Industries
- > Association of Police Authorities; police authorities in England and Wales abolished in 2012
- > Association of Police Surgeons; was renamed Association of Forensic Physicians; the BMA's Forensic Medicine Committee represents forensic medical examiners
- > Association of Professional Ambulance Personnel; APAP
- > Association of Researchers in Medicine and Science
- > Association of Residential Letting Agents
- > Association of Residential Managing Agents
- > Association of School and College Leaders—gen sec: Brian Lightman; former gen sec: John Dunford; was Secondary Heads Association to Jan 2006
- > Association of Scottish Colleges; known as Colleges Scotland since 2012
- > Association of Scottish District Salmon Fishery Boards
- > Association of Sea Fisheries Committees of England and Wales; became Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities in 2011
- > Association of South East Asian Nations—ASEAN
- > Association of Teachers and Lecturers—the ATL; general secretary: Peter Smith (retired end 2002) Aug 2003: Mary Bousted
- > Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry—the ABPI
- > Association of Train Operating Companies—ATOC ["ay-tok"]
- > Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds; renamed Investment Association in 2015
- > Association of University and College Lecturers—joined AUT 1997; University and Colleague Union (UCU) since 2006
- > Association of University Teachers—the AUT; UCU (University and College Union) since 2006
- > Association of University Teachers (Scotland)—the AUT(S); UCU (University and

- College Union) since 2006
- >ASSP—airfield support services project; MOD PFI scheme
- >ASTOR—airborne stand-off radar
- >ASTMS—Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs; merged with TASS in 1988 to form MSF; MSF amalgamated with the AEEU in 2002 to form Amicus; Amicus merged with the TGWU to form Unite in 2007
- >ASW—1. anti-submarine warfare  
2. Allied Steel and Wire [2002 bankruptcy left pension fund shortfalls]
- >asylum seekers, asylum seeking; but asylum-seeking children
- >ATC—Air Training Corps
- >ATCSA—Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001
- >ATGW—anti-tank ground weapon
- >ATL—Association of Teachers and Lecturers
- >Atlantic alliance [ie, NATO]
- >Atlantic Conveyor—ship sunk in Falklands war
- >Atlantic ocean, Atlantic trench
- >ATM—air traffic movement
- >atmosphere—unit of pressure equal to mean atmospheric pressure at sea level; with figures: 1 atmosphere; 25 atmospheres
- >ATOC—Association of Train Operating Companies
- >Atos; Atos Origin; Atos Healthcare
- >ATOL—air travel organisers' licence
- >Atomic Weapons Establishment—was Atomic Weapons Research Establishment until handed to private operator Hunting-BRAE in 1987; sites: Aldermaston, Burghfield [ex Foulness, Orford Ness]
- >ATP—automatic train protection; signalling system rejected as too costly in 1994
- >ATRA—Army Training and Recruiting Agency; renamed Army Recruiting and Training Division in 2006
- >attendance allowance—a disability benefit
- >atto—SI prefix denoting a million million millionth ( $10^{-18}$ )
- >Attorney General—never just “the Attorney”
- >Attorney General for Northern Ireland; John Larkin QC
- >Audit Commission—use short title, not Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the National Health Service in England and Wales
- >Audit Scotland—does leg work for Accounts Commission for Scotland and Auditor General
- >Auditing Practices Board; became part of Financial Reporting Council in 2003
- >Auditor General for Scotland
- >Auditor General for Wales—Huw Vaughan Thomas; predecessors: Jeremy Colman, Sir John Bourn
- >auger, augur—auger is a tool for boring, to augur is to foretell from signs
- >Auld, Lord Justice (Robin)—2001 report on criminal courts
- >Aunt Sally, Aunt Sallies
- >AUT—Association of University Teachers; UCU (University and College Union) since 2006
- >authority—lc for local authority; local education authority; always singular;
- >AUTIF—Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds; merged with the Fund

Manager's Association in February 2002 to form the Investment Management Association (IMA); became the Investment Association in 2015

- >automated credit transfer—replacing benefits paid in post offices
- >automatic train protection—ATP; signalling system deemed too costly in 1994
- >Automobile Association—AA will usually do
- >Automotive Skills—sector skills council
- >autumn—lc; autumn statement
- >AV—alternative vote; a PR system
- >AV-8B—US version of Harrier
- >avgas—aviation fuel
- >AWACS—airborne warning and control system; usually means the Boeing E-3 Sentry, used by US, UK, NATO
- >AWE—Atomic Weapons Establishment
- >AWPU—age-weighted pupil unit (used in funding formulae)
- >AWRE—see Atomic Weapons Establishment
- >axis—the axis, axis powers (ie Germany, Japan, Italy in WW2)
- >ayatollah—uc with name, lc without: “The ayatollahs say...”  
Ayatollah Khomeini (d.1989) led Iranian revolution  
Ayatollah Khamenei replaced him as religious leader (not “Khomeini”)

- >B—grade B, two Bs and a C
- >B-1—Lancer; US strategic bomber; B-1B
- >B-2—the stealth bomber or Spirit; Serbs shot one down in Kosovo
- >B-29—Superfortress; dropped the A-bombs, 1945
- >B-52—Stratofortress; B-52H
- >B-61—US nuclear bomb; also B-28, B-93
- >BA—1. British Airways; chairman, Keith Williams; formerly Sir Martin Broughton, Sir Rod Eddington, Sir Colin Marshall (Lord Marshall), Lord King; chief executive, Keith Williams; formerly Willie Walsh
- 2. bachelor of arts; bachelor's degree
- >BAA plc—owned Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen & Southampton airports; stood for British Airports Authority to 1986; now called Heathrow Airport Holdings Ltd, it owns and runs Heathrow
- >BAAF—British Association for Adoption and Fostering
- >Ba'ath—Arab nationalist parties in Iraq, Syria; Ba'athist
- >bac—baccalaureate; English bac; EBacc; not a qualification, but a performance measure; proposed qualification was scrapped
- >BAC—British Aircraft Corporation, became British Aerospace (see BAE Systems); BAC 111 (airliner)
- >baccalaureate
- >bachelor—lc: bachelor of arts; but no need to expand BA, BEd etc
- >Back Bencher; Back Benches; Back-Bench Members
- >Backbench Business Committee, a Backbench Business debate
- >back door (n); back-door (adj)
- >back pay, back payment
- >back to basics—references to John Major's moral policy take quotation marks: the "back to basics" initiative
- >back to work initiative
- >back to work bonus—benefit paid to those going off benefit into work; replaced by the job grant
- >back up (v); back-up (n and adj)
- >back-pedal, back-pedalled, back-pedalling
- >backbone—also a data transmission term
- >backchat
- >backdate, backdated, backdating
- >backdrop
- >backfire, backfired (NB: Backfire was a NATO code name for a Soviet bomber)
- >backhander
- >backlog
- >backmarker
- >backslapping
- >backstairs
- >backstop
- >backstreet
- >backtrack, backtracked, backtracking
- >backwash
- >backwoods, backwoodsman, backwoodsmen—rarely seen Tory peers brought out

for close votes in the Lords

- >backyard
- >BACM-TEAM—British Association of Colliery Management – Technical, Energy and Administrative Management
- >BACP—British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy; changed name in 2000 from British Association for Counselling
- >BACUP—see CancerBACUP
- >badger baiting
- >Badr Corps—Iranian-backed Iraqi movement
- >BAe—now BAE Systems
- >BAES—BAE Systems
- >BAE Systems—formerly British Aerospace, which is ok in gen. refs
- >BAFTA—British Academy of Film and Television Arts
- >Baghdad—the “h” in the middle
- >Baha’i—religious group
- >bail/bale—bale out of an aeroplane, bale water out of a boat, bale of hay, bail an accused person, bail someone out of trouble; noun—bail-out
- >Bain, Sir George—chaired Low Pay Commission; firefighters’ pay review, 2002
- >Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union
- >bale—see bail
- >Balfour Beatty—construction etc group much involved with PFIs
- >balk—use baulk
- >balkanisation
- >ballpark figure
- >ballot—ballot box; a ballot is held for priority in introducing private Members’ Bills; the ballot
- >bally-hoo
- >BALPA—British Airline Pilots Association
- >Baltic states—states 1c; usually refers to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia
- >BAME—black, Asian and minority ethnic; not the same as BME, which stands for black and minority ethnic
- >band D (council tax etc); band 1, band 2 (all sorts of things)
- >Banda Aceh—see Aceh
- >bandwagon
- >bandwidth
- >bank—Bank of England; World Bank; Barclays bank; Lloyds bank
- >*Bank Briefing*—Bank of England inflation report
- >Bank for International Settlements—the central banks’ bank
- >bank holiday
- >Bank of Credit and Commerce International—dodgy bank, failed 1990s
- >Bank of England—uc; the Bank; the Governor; deputy governor; court of directors; Monetary Policy Committee; Governor: Mark Carney; previous: Mervyn King (Lord King of Lothbury), Eddie George (Lord George)
- >Banking, Insurance and Finance Union—BIFU (“biff-oo”); defunct
- >Banking Commission—full title: Independent Commission on Banking; aka the Vickers commission; est. 2010 and produced final report 2011
- >BAOR—British Army of the Rhine

- >bar—unit of atmospheric pressure; with figures: 1 bar; 2 bars;  
see also millibar, megabar
- >Bar—the Bar of the House; called to the Bar; the criminal Bar
- >Bar Council—in full: General Council of the Bar
- >BARB—Broadcasters Audience Research Board
- >bargepole
- >Barker, Kate—review of housing supply, 2004
- >Barlinnie prison, Glasgow
- >Barmine—anti-tank mine
- >Barnardo’s—with apostrophe
- >Barnett formula—money for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (Joel Barnett)
- >Baroness—a female Member of the House of Lords
- >Barroso, José Manuel—President of the European Commission, 2004-14
- >Barts—no apostrophe, don’t expand
- >BASC—British Association for Shooting and Conservation
- >baseload
- >based—as suffix, hyphenated: “It needs to be evidence-based.”
- >Basel accords—Basel I, Basel II, Basel III
- >Basel Committee on Banking Supervision
- >baseline
- >basic rate taxpayer
- >Basic Skills Agency—ie literacy and numeracy; est. 1980 as ALBSU (Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit); renamed 1995
- >basically—usually dispensable
- >basis—try to avoid. Thus “on a daily basis” = “daily”  
“on a national basis” = “nationally”  
“on a regular basis” = “regularly”  
“testing on a universal basis” = “universal testing”
- >Basra—not “Basrah” or “al-Basra”
- >BASSA—British Airlines Stewards and Stewardesses Association; part of Unite
- >BATES—battlefield artillery engagement system
- >bathwater
- >BATNEEC—best available technique not entailing excessive cost
- >battalion—in titles: 1st Battalion the Parachute Regiment
- >battle—battle of Britain; battle of Waterloo etc
- >battlefield
- >balk—not balk
- >bay—bay of Bengal; Morecambe bay; Cardiff bay, but Cardiff Bay development corporation and Cardiff Bay for home of Welsh Government
- >BBA—British Bankers Association
- >BBBC—British Boxing Board of Control
- >BBC—don’t expand to British Broadcasting Corporation (was British Broadcasting Company 1923-7); director-general: Tony Hall (Lord Hall of Birkenhead)  
previous directors-general: Tim Davie (acting); George Entwistle; Mark Thompson; Greg Dyke; John Birt (Lord Birt)

- The BBC's board of governors was replaced by the BBC Trust in 2007; chairmen of the board of governors: Michael Grade (Lord Grade); Marmaduke Hussey; Sir Christopher Bland; Gavyn Davies
- >BBC 1; BBC 2; BBC World Service; BBC 6 Music; BBC Asian Network
  - >BBSRC—Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
  - >BBC Trust—chairman: Rona Fairhead; formerly Chris Patten (Lord Patten of Barnes)
  - >BCAP—Broadcast Committee of Advertising Practice
  - >BCC—British Chambers of Commerce
  - >BCCI—Bank of Credit and Commerce International; dodgy bank, failed 1990s
  - >BCU—basic command unit (police)
  - >be—For “He considers it to be an important step”  
try “He considers it an important step.”
  - >be helpful to—try “help”
  - >Be Inspired—attempts to build on legacy of 2012 Olympics
  - >be of assistance, benefit to—try “assist”, “benefit” etc
  - >be-all and end-all
  - >BEA—British European Airways; became British Airways 1974
  - >beacon schools, beacon status—since 1998; good schools get 50 k for sharing their wisdom; became leading edge programme in 2003
  - >*Beano, The*
  - >Bear—NATO code name of Tu-95
  - >Bechtel—co-owned Tube Lines
  - >Beckford, Jasmine—abused child, died 1984
  - >becquerel—SI unit of radioactivity, corresponding to one disintegration per second; with figures: 2 bq; 2 bq/kg; 2 bq/l
  - >BECTA—British Educational Communications and Technology Agency; changed name to Becta (Bringing Educational Creativity to All) but closed April 2011
  - >Bectu—union for workers in the in the media and entertainment industries. Merged with Prospect in 2017. Formerly BECTU—Broadcasting, Entertainment, Cinematograph and Theatre Union
  - >BEd—bachelor of education; no need to expand
  - >bed and breakfast (n); hyphenated when adjectival: bed-and-breakfast Accommodation; B&B
  - >bed-blocking—same as delayed discharge
  - >bedfellow
  - >bedridden
  - >bedrock
  - >bedroom—two-bedroom flat
  - >Beeching, Dr Richard—1963 report slashed railways; the Beeching axe
  - >Beecroft, Adrian—British venture capitalist who produced report on red tape
  - >BEF—British Expeditionary Force, in France 1914
  - >beg—strictly speaking, to beg the question means to assume the truth of the proposition you are seeking to prove. Examples of begging the question include the old lawyer's standard: “When did you stop beating your wife?” However, it is now

often used to mean to prompt the question. There is no need to change “beg” for another word in such cases.

- > beholden—to be bound in gratitude to: I am beholden to you for your help; takes “to”; often misused to mean “behave”, meaning to be right or necessary
- > Beijing—follow usage; Peking is ok
- > BEIS—Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy; pronounced “baize”.
- > bel—noise unit; with figures: 25 bels
- > Belarus—not Belorussia, Byelorussia etc; adj: Belarusian; people: Belarusians; cap. Minsk; Pres. Alexander Lukashenko, 1994-
- > Belfast agreement—signed 10.4.98; note that some Unionists insist on this name rather than Good Friday agreement
- > *Belfast Gazette*—official newspaper of the Crown in NI; cf *London Gazette*
- > *Belfast Telegraph*
- > Belgrano—see General Belgrano
- > Bellis report—Robin Bellis, 2003, on implementation of EU legislation
- > Bellwin scheme—emergency (eg floods) dosh for local authorities
- > Ben—Ben Nevis etc
- > Bench—1. the Front Bench; the Back Benches; Front Bencher; Back Bencher; Front-Bench spokesman; Back-Bench Member; Cross Benches; Cross Bencher  
2. Avoid making furniture talk, as in “My Front Bench made a good case.” Try “Front-Bench spokesman/team/colleague” etc  
3. In law: Queen’s bench, King’s bench; appointed to the bench; Queen’s bench division
- > bench test
- > benchmark, benchmarking
- > bencom—community benefit organisation
- > benefited, benefiting—one t
- > benefit fraud inspectorate—not “benefits”
- > benefit simplification unit—not “benefits”
- > Benefits Agency—subsumed in Jobcentre Plus, 2002
- > bereavement allowance—replaced widow’s pension, 2001
- > bereavement payment—replaced widow’s payment, 2001
- > Berlaymont—European Commission HQ, Brussels
- > Berlin—East Berlin, West Berlin, the Berlin wall; Berlin-plus
- > Birmingham three—Enron-entangled NatWest bankers David Bermingham, Giles Darby, Gary Mulgrew
- > BEPS—base erosion and profit shifting
- > BERR—Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
- > BES—business expansion scheme (defunct)
- > Beslan—site of school massacre in North Ossetia, 2004
- > best value—replaced compulsory competitive tendering (local government)
- > BETTA—British electricity trading and transmission arrangements
- > Bettaney, Michael—jailed spy
- > better care programme
- > better off—those who are better off; the better-off; better-off people

- >Better Off Out campaign
- >better paid—those who are better paid; the better-paid; better-paid people
- >Better Regulation Commission—closed 2008; replaced Better Regulation Task Force 1.1.06; chair: Rick Haythornthwaite
- >Better Regulation Executive—May 2005, to implement BRTF recommendations
- >Better Regulation Task Force—became commission, see above
- >Better Together campaign—all-party campaign against Scottish independence
- >between—between refers to two, among to more than two
- >Bevan, Aneurin (or Nye)—1897-1960; left winger who introduced NHS in 1948; don't confuse with Bevin
- >Bevanism, Bevanite
- >Beveridge, William—architect of welfare state
- >Bevin, Ernest—1888-1951; led Dockers Union 1910-21; founder and general secretary of TGWU 1921-40; Minister of Labour and War Cabinet member 1940-45; Foreign Secretary 1945-51; don't confuse with Bevan
- >Bevin boy—conscripts sent down pits in 1940s
- >BFAWU—Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union
- >BFG—British forces Germany
- >BFI—1. British Film Institute  
2. benefit fraud inspectorate
- >BFPO—British Forces Post Office
- >BHB—British Horseracing Board; merged with the Horseracing Regulatory Authority in 2007 to form the British Horseracing Authority
- >biannual—twice a year; biennial means every two years
- >bi-communal
- >biased—one s
- >Bible—the Bible, the Holy Bible, but lc in casual metaphors: “Erskine May” is my bible
- >biblical
- >bicameral—legislature with two chambers, eg ours
- >Bichard, Michael—2004 inquiry on handling of data protection
- >BICS—battlefield information control system
- >BID—business improvement district
- >biennial—every two years; bi-annual means twice a year
- >BIFU—Banking, Insurance and Finance Union (“biffo”); defunct
- >big bang—1. theory of origin of universe  
2. 1986 deregulation and computerisation of stock exchange
- >Big Ben
- >Big Brother—uc for Orwellian usage
- >big conversation—Labour talks to the people 2003-04
- >*Big Issue, The*
- >Big Lottery Fund, now the National Lottery Community Fund
- >big-head—“He’s a big-head,” but “He’s got a big head”; big-headed
- >big society—no caps
- >Big Society Capital—financing group previously called Big Society Bank
- >bigwig
- >Bikini atoll—nuclear test site

>Bild—German tabloid

>Bill—1. Subdivisions: clause 1; subsection (1); paragraph (a); sub-paragraph (i) = clause 1(1)(a)(i)

schedules have paragraphs and sub-paragraphs; paragraph 1 of schedule 1 (not schedule 1(1)); sub-paragraph (1); paragraph 1(1) of schedule 1; schedules are “to” not “of” the Bill

Watch out for provisions that insert matter into existing legislation, which may require a formula like “proposed new section 4A”, which would not be the same as “clause 4(a)”.

Note that parts have dispensed with Roman numerals: part 5 instead of part V; older legislation will retain Roman numerals.

2. Initial caps: Criminal Justice Bill; the Bill; a Bill; see also private Bill; private Member’s Bill; private Members’ Bills; Consolidated Fund Bill etc.

3. Stages: First Reading; Second Reading; Committee and/or Committee of the whole House; Report; Third Reading; same stages in the Lords; Lords amendments; Royal Assent; becomes an Act

4. Hypothetical Bills: “They would pass a slaughter of the first born Bill.”

>bill—Selsey bill

>Bill of Rights—the name given to the constitutional settlement of 1689 after the Glorious Revolution; no need for Bill of Rights 1689 or Act of Rights; “We need a Bill of Rights.”

>billion—1. Use the US billion, equal to one thousand million, not the obsolete British billion of one million million.

2. Always takes figures: 1 billion; 1.5 billion

3. For “half a billion” etc, use 500 million only when a precise figure is intended

4. Replace “thousand million” with “billion”. So £45,000 million should be £45 billion.

5. The mishear (or mistake by a speaker) of million for billion or vice versa is common, so pay attention to context

>bin Laden, Osama

>BIPA—British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly

>bioaccumulation—uptake & storage of substances in living tissue

>biodegradable

>biodiesel—diesel produced from vegetable matter

>biodiversity

>bioethanol—ethanol produced from vegetable matter

>biofilter—polluted air etc passed through eg wood chips to purify it

>biofuels—fuels developed from vegetable matter

- >biogas—produced by decomposition at landfill sites etc
- >biological names of plants and animals—the genus is uc, the species lc:  
Staphylococcus aureus; Homo sapiens
- >biomass—total quantity of organisms in a given area or volume
- >biometrics—application of statistical analysis to biological data; for our purposes,  
usually people’s measurements as an aid to identification
- >biosecurity
- >BIOT—British Indian Ocean Territory
- >biotechnology, biotech industries
- >Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
- >bipartisan
- >biraderi—clan, brotherhood, tribal network in Kashmir/Pakistan
- >Birch process—also Project Birch; UK Government initiative to save strategically  
important businesses during covid-19
- >*Birmingham Evening Mail*—rebranded as *Birmingham Mail*, 2005
- >*Birmingham Post, The*
- >Birmingham Six—Hugh Callaghan; Paddy Hill; Gerry Hunter; Billy Power;  
Johnny Walker; Richard McIlkenny.
- >biro
- >Birt, John—now Lord Birt; former BBC director-general; Tony Blair liked giving  
him blue-skies thinking roles (crime, transport)
- >birth rate
- >birthday honours, birthday honours list
- >BIS—Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
- >bishop—uc with names: Bishop Sheppard; Bishop of Durham;  
lc in general: “The actress and the bishop...”
- >Bismarck, Otto von; the battleship Bismarck
- >bit—often deletable, especially in “a little bit more often” etc,  
where “a little more” or even just “more” is better
- >bit—in computing, a unit of information expressed as a choice between two  
possibilities; with figures: in full, 153 bits; see also byte
- >bizonal
- >BL755—cluster bomb, with 147 anti-armour mine bomblets
- >Black, Douglas—1980 report on health inequalities
- >Black Country—Black Country development corporation
- >Black Hawk—US helicopter, built by Sikorsky; built in the UK, under licence  
from Sikorsky, by Westland
- >Black Londoners Forum—defunct
- >Black Mamba, the drug
- >black out (v); blackout (n and adj)
- >Black Rod—in full, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod; Black Rod  
will do; top Lords Officer, equivalent to Serjeant at Arms
- >Black Sea Economic Co-operation—BSEC; in full: Organisation of the  
Black Sea Economic Co-operation
- >Black Wednesday—UK crashes out of ERM, 1992
- >BlackBerry; plural: BlackBerrys
- >Blackjack—NATO codename for Tupolev Tu-160 bomber

- >blackleg
- >blacklist, blacklisted, blacklisting
- >blackspot
- >Blair, Cherie—née Booth
- >Blakelock, Keith—policeman murdered on Broadwater Farm estate, for which Winston Silcott was convicted, later released
- >blasé
- >blessed, not blest
- >Blindfire—radar
- >blitz—lc even when it means London in 1940s
- >blitzkrieg
- >Blix, Dr Hans—Iraq weapons inspector; ex-boss of IAEA
- >bloc—“a combination of Governments or groups with a common purpose”.  
Thus we have blocs of parties or countries, not “blocks” eastern bloc; Soviet bloc
- >block grant—not “bloc grant”
- >blogs—in quotes; “ConservativeHome”; “Left Foot Forward”
- >blood sports—pejorative term for field sports
- >blood-vessel
- >bloodbath
- >bloodshed—but “Remember the blood shed for our country...”
- >bloodstain, bloodstained
- >bloodstock
- >Bloody Sunday—30 Jan 1972; see also Saville; Widgery
- >Bloomfield, Sir Kenneth—1998 NI criminal injuries compensation report: “We Will Remember Them”
- >Blue Collar Conservatism
- >Blue Kestrel—radar
- >Blue Steel—1960s nuclear missile
- >Blue Vixen—radar
- >blue water capability—a nation’s naval reach
- >blue-skies, blue-sky—(adj) research with no immediate application
- >blueprint
- >Blunt, Anthony—spy-art expert
- >BMA—British Medical Association
- >BMA Council—chairman, Mark Porter; formerly Hamish Meldrum
- >BME—black and minority ethnic; BAME stands for black, Asian and minority ethnic
- >*BMJ, The*—*British Medical Journal* was rebranded as *BMJ* in 1988 and as *The BMJ* in 2014
- >BML2—Brighton Main Line 2
- >BMW—biodegradable municipal waste
- >BNFL—British Nuclear Fuels Ltd (defunct)
- >BNO passports—British national overseas passports
- >BNP—British National party
- >BOA—British Olympic Association
- >BOAC—British Overseas Airways Corporation; BA since 1974

- >board—uc in full titles of organisations: National Coal Board, but “the board”; singular; lc for company boards: “the board of ICI”
- >Board of Customs and Excise—defunct
- >Board of Deputies of British Jews
- >Board of Education—first civil service Department concerned with education; its boss was the President of the Board of Education
- >Board of Inland Revenue—now part of Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs
- >Board of Management—ran House of Commons for the House of Commons Commission; replaced by Management Board in 2007
- >Board of Trade, convened 2017; President, the Secy of State for International Trade
- >boardroom
- >BOATs—byways open to all traffic
- >BOC—British overseas citizen
- >Boeing—aircraft include: B-17, B-29, B-52, KC-135, 707, 727, 737, 747, 747-200, 757, 767, E-3
- >bogey—object of dread; one over par at a golf hole; not bogy
- >bogeyman
- >bogie—rail vehicle or undercarriage thereof; cf bogey
- >Bogside—predominantly Catholic area of Derry
- >Boko Haram—jihadist movement based in Nigeria
- >Bolshevik—the Bolshevik revolution; a Bolshevik
- >bolshevism
- >bolshie
- >Bolsin, Dr Stephen (Steve)—whistleblower in Bristol royal infirmary scandal
- >Bombardier—Canadian multinational; bought Shorts 1989
- >bona fide—in good faith [occasionally bona fides]
- >bondholder
- >Bond Board—charity for homeless people
- >booby-trap, booby-trapped
- >book titles—“The Hound of the Baskervilles”; familiar short forms may be used for well-known reference books such as “Erskine May” or “Crockford’s”. Titles that have been assimilated into the language need no quotes when used adjectivally: a Catch-22 situation
- >bookkeeper,bookkeeping
- >Bord—Bòrd na Gàidhlig = Gaelic Development Agency (Scotland)
- >border—the border; north of the border; the borders; **but** Scottish Borders, Borderers
- >Border and Immigration Agency—became UK Border Agency in 2008 after merging with UKvisas and the port-of-entry functions of HMRC; UKBA replaced by UK Visas and Immigration and Border Force in 2013
- >Border Force—launched 1 March 2013
- >borough—uc in councils: Swale Borough Council; London Borough of Brent; uc: Borough, meaning the area of London; Borough tube station
- >Bosnia and Herzegovina
- >BOTC—British overseas territory citizen, British overseas territories citizen
- >bottleneck
- >bounce back loan scheme

- >boundary commissions—NDPBs that review parliamentary constituency boundaries.  
Boundary Commission for England—Boundary Commission; Boundary Commission for Wales; Boundary Commission for Scotland; Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland; Local Government Boundary Commission for England (replaced boundary committee for England); Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland; Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (replaced Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales); Boundary Commission is okay if the context makes it clear which is being referred to. Mr Speaker is chair ex officio.  
See also Electoral Commission.
- >boundary committee for England—now the Local Government Boundary Commission for England; reviews local government boundaries
- >Bow Group—Tory think-tank
- >Bowman—replaces Clansman tactical communications system (=radio)
- >Box—the Box or official Box is where civil servants sit in the Chamber; the Dispatch Box is where Front Benchers do their stuff
- >box-ticking
- >Boxing day
- >boyfriend, girlfriend
- >BPEO—best practicable environmental option
- >BR—British Rail; privatised during 1990s
- >BRAC—Building Regulations Advisory Committee
- >BRACE—backlog reduction accelerated clearance exercise (Home Office 2004)
- >Braille
- >brainchild
- >brainwave
- >Brake—road safety charity
- >brand-new—the toy is brand-new; a brand-new toy
- >BRE—Better Regulation Executive
- >breadbasket—the breadbasket of Africa; Ukraine is known as the breadbasket of Europe
- >breadwinner
- >break down (v); breakdown (n and adj)
- >break in (v); break-in (n)
- >break up (v); break-up (n)
- >breakneck speed
- >Breakthrough Breast Cancer
- >Breast Cancer Care
- >breastfeeding
- >BREL—British Rail Engineering Ltd, privatised 1990, sold to ABB, now part of Bombardier
- >Bremer, Paul—ran Iraq 2003-04
- >BRICs; BRIC countries—fast-developing economies of Brazil, Russia, India and China
- >bridge—Tower bridge; the bridge of Sighs
- >bridlepath, bridleway
- >brigade—uc in British unit titles: 16 Air Assault Brigade; Brigade of Gurkhas

- >brimful
- >Brimstone—anti-tank missile
- >bring forward—overused; try
  - advance (argument, proposal)
  - introduce (amendment, Bill, new clause)
  - express (concern, misgiving)
  - give (reason, view)
  - make (suggestion, argument, case)
  - move (amendment, motion)
  - table (amendment)
  - use (argument)
- >British Academy—est. 1902, humanities & social sciences
- >British Academy of Film and Television Arts—BAFTA
- >British Aerospace—now BAE Systems; British Aerospace ok in **gen.** refs
- >British Agrochemicals Association
- >British Airline Pilots Association—BALPA
- >British Airlines Stewards and Stewardesses Association—BASSA
- >British Airports Authority—became BAA plc and is now Heathrow Airport Holdings Ltd
- >British Airways—singular
- >British and Irish Ombudsman Association
- >British Antarctic Survey
- >British Army—uc; foreign ones are lc: German army
- >British Army of the Rhine
- >British Association for Adoption and Fostering—BAAF
- >British Association for Counselling—changed name in 2000 to British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP)
- >British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy—BACP
- >British Association for Shooting and Conservation
- >British Association for the Advancement of Science—now the British Science Association
- >British Association of Cancer United Patients—see CancerBACUP
- >British Association of Colliery Management – Technical, Energy and Administrative Management—BACM-TEAM
- >British Association of Medical Managers
- >British Association of Social Workers
- >British Bankers Association
- >British Board of Film Classification
- >British Boxing Board of Control
- >British Broadcasting Corporation—see BBC
- >British Business Bank—helps small business to access finance
- >British Cardiac Patients Association
- >British Chambers of Commerce—the BCC; was Association of British Chambers of Commerce to 1996; national organisation of local chambers of commerce
- >British Coal—ran privatised coal industry, sold to RJB Mining
- >British Columbia
- >British Council—promotes UK abroad

- >British Council of Churches—see Churches Together in Britain and Ireland
- >British Council of Disabled People—now United Kingdom (UK) Disabled People’s Council
- >British crime survey—now the crime survey for England and Wales; continuous Home Office survey
- >British Cycling—national governing body for cycling
- >British dependent territories—now British overseas territories (term introduced by British Overseas Territories Act 2002)
- >British Educational Communications and Technology Agency—closed in 2011
- >British Educational Research Association
- >British empire
- >British Energy—nuclear energy generator; ch: Adrian Montague (ex Robin Jeffrey); taken over by EDF Energy
- >British Epilepsy Association—working name: Epilepsy Action
- >British Expeditionary Force—in France, 1914
- >British Film Commission—seeks inward investment
- >British Film Institute—took over many of the functions of the UK Film Council
- >British Forces Post Office—now part of Defence Equipment & Support)
- >British Geological Survey
- >British Heart Foundation
- >British Horseracing Authority
- >British Horseracing Board—merged in 2007 with Horseracing Regulatory Authority to form British Horseracing Authority
- >British Hospitality Association
- >British Indian Ocean Territory—the territory; inc. Chagos islands, Diego Garcia
- >British-Irish agreement—incorporated in Belfast agreement; came into force 2.12.99; revoked Anglo-Irish agreement and provided for the institutions specified in the Belfast agreement
- >British-Irish Council—est. 1999 under British-Irish agreement
- >British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference—est. 1999 by British-Irish agreement
- >British-Irish Inter-Parliamentary Body is now the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly
- >British Isles
- >British Kidney Patient Association
- >British Legion—correctly, Royal British Legion
- >British Library
- >British Lung Foundation
- >British Medical Association
- >*British Medical Journal*—rebranded as *BMJ* in 1988 and as *The BMJ* in 2014
- >British Midland Airways—defunct
- >British Museum
- >British National Formulary—in quotes: “British National Formulary”
- >British National party—the BNP
- >British Nuclear Fuels Ltd—abolished 2010
- >British Olympic Association
- >British overseas territory, British overseas territories—formerly called British dependent territories

- >British Potato Council—replaced potato marketing board and was replaced by the Potato Council
- >British Rail; British Railways Board
- >British Red Cross Society—British Red Cross ok
- >British Road Federation—defunct 2001
- >British Science Association—formerly the British Association for the Advancement of Science
- >British Shipbuilders—privatised
- >British Sign Language
- >British Society for Human Genetics
- >British Society of Plant Breeders
- >British standard—BS 7750
- >British Standards Institution—the BSI Group or BSI is also known by its former name
- >British Steel—was British Steel Corporation to 1988; became Corus after merger with Koninklijke Hoogovens in 1999; Corus rebranded as Tata Steel in 2010
- >British Sugar
- >British thermal unit—with figures: 1 BTU; 25 BTUs
- >British Thoracic Society
- >British Tourist Authority
- >British Trade International—ran Invest UK and Trade Partners UK; these merged to become UK Trade & Investment in 2003
- >British Transport Docks Board—privatised 1983, see ABP
- >British Transport police; British Transport police authority
- >British Urban Regeneration Association
- >British Private Equity & Venture Capital Association—BVCA
- >British Water—industry lobby
- >British Waterways Board—working title: British Waterways; Canal & River Trust took over its responsibilities in April 2012
- >British Wind Energy Association—new name is RenewableUK
- >British Wool Marketing Board
- >Brittan, Samuel—economic commentator
- >broadbrush (n) broadbrush (adj)
- >broadband—speed is measured in megabits; 8 megabits
- >Broadcasters Audience Research Board
- >Broadcasting Committee—was a Domestic Committee of the House; now part of the Administration Committee
- >Broadcast Committee of Advertising Practice—part of ASA
- >Broadcasting, Entertainment, Cinematograph and Theatre Union
- >Broadcasting Standards Commission—1997 merger of Broadcasting Complaints Commission & Broadcasting Standards Council
- >broadleaf, broadleaved forest
- >broads—the Norfolk broads
- >Brocock—air pistol that can be altered to fire bullets
- >brouhaha
- >Brown, Louise—first IVF baby

- >Brown and Root—defence/engineering company
- >Brown Book—annual report on energy resources; in full “Development of the Oil and Gas Resources of the UK 2000”
- >brownfield—brownfield site, brownfield development
- >brownie points, the Brownies
- >BRTF—Better Regulation Task Force; replaced in 2006 by Better Regulation Commission, which was abolished in 2008
- >Brundtland, Gro Harlem—variously PM of Norway, boss of WHO, wrote 1987 sustainable development report “Our Common Future”
- >Brussels sprout
- >Brussels treaty—1965, effective 1967, created common institutions of EC: European Commission etc
- >BSA—Building Societies Association
- >BSC—Broadcasting Standards Commission
- >BSE—bovine spongiform encephalopathy
- >BSEC—Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation
- >BSI—British Standards Institution
- >BSkyB—rebranded in 2014 as just “Sky”
- >BSOG (pronounced “beesog”)—bus service operators grant
- >BST—1. bovine somatotropin [bovine growth hormone]  
2. bulk supply tariff [electricity]
- >BT is now known as BT
- >BTA—British Tourist Authority
- >BTEC—[“bee-tek”] qualification still exists but awarding body, Business and Technology Education Council, now in Edexcel
- >BTI—British Trade International (former name of UKTI)
- >BTS—below tolerable standard (housing)
- >BTU—British thermal unit; with figures: 25 BTUs
- >Buckingham Palace, the palace
- >buckshee
- >Budd, Alan—2001 report on gambling
- >Buddhism, Buddhist
- >Budget—uc when it means the Chancellor’s annual taxfest:  
Budget day, Budget debate, Budget motion  
lc for all other budgets, including departmental budgets
- >budget holder
- >Budget Responsibility Committee—part of the Office for Budget Responsibility
- >budgetisation—the incorporation of Lomé aid in the EU development budget
- >bugbear
- >Buggins’s turn
- >Build to Rent fund
- >Build Back Better plan; “Build Back Better: our plan for growth”
- >build up (v); build-up (n)
- >Building Britain’s Future—Government plan to engage the public in the response to the economic downturn

- >Building Safety Regulator—to be established by the HSE; Peter Baker has been appointed to lead it as the first Chief Inspector of Buildings
- >Building Schools for the Future—abolished in 2010
- >Building Regulations Advisory Committee
- >building societies—lc: Barnsley building society
- >Building Societies Association
- >Building Societies Commission—subsumed in FSA, 2002
- >Bulger, Jamie—murdered child; killers: Robert Thompson and Jon Venables
- >Bulldog—RAF trainer
- >bumf
- >bumph—use “bumf”
- >Bundesbank
- >Bundestag
- >bunker buster—US bomb, the GBU-28
- >BURA—British Urban Regeneration Association
- >burka—use burqa
- >Burma—follow usage; don’t “correct” to Myanmar—[see style sheet](#)  
  - The prefixes U and Daw are honorifics for older men & women respectively.
  - Include them if they are used.
  - people may be called Burmans or Burmese or Myanmas
- >Burmah Oil—now part of BP
- >burn out (v); burnout (n)
- >Burns, Gerry—NI education report, 2001
- >Burns, Terence (Lord Burns)—hunting with dogs report, 2000
- >burqa—Muslim garment; not “burka”
- >bus—verb: bused, busing
- >Bus Partnership Forum
- >bushmeat
- >Business and Enterprise Committee—(not the Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Committee)
- >Business and Technology Education Council—see BTEC
- >business committee—of the House; lc for the time being
- >business expansion scheme—abolished 1993
  - >Business is Great campaign
- >Business Link—national business advice service run by Small Business Service
- >businessman; small businessman, businesswoman
- >Business Payment Support Service
- >business questions—not “Business Question Time”
- >business start-ups
- >bustitution—replacement of train services with buses
- >but—it’s ok to start a sentence with “but”. But not too often.
- >Butler-Sloss, Elizabeth—Cleveland child abuse inquiry, 1980s
- >buts—ifs and buts
- >buy out (v); buy-out (n)
- >BuzzFeed
- >buzzword
- >BVCA—British Private Equity & Venture Capital Association

- >BVRAAM—beyond visual range air-to-air missile (Meteor)
- >by the bye
- >bycatch—fish etc caught incidentally to the main catch sought
- >by-election
- >by-product
- >byelaw
- >bygone
- >bypass
- >bypath
- >byssinosis—lung disease caused by textile fibres
- >byte—in computing, a unit of eight binary digits; see also “bit”
- >byway
- >byword
- >byzantine—lc when it means complicated, inflexible, underhand but uc when referring to the Byzantine empire
  
- >C—a small c conservative, Conservative with a big C
- >C1, C2—social class C1; C2 voters; the C2s;
- >C2—command and control
- >C3I—command, control, communications and intelligence [military]
- >C4ISTAR—command, control, communications, computers and intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition and reconnaissance
- >C18—see Combat 18
- >C-17—Globemaster; heavy-lift transport; RAF leases 4;
- >C-130—the Hercules; air transport; C-130J, AC-130H, KC-130,
- >C-in-C—see commander-in-chief
- >CA—Compensation Agency [in NI] Known as Compensation Services since 2013 (a branch within the Department of Justice)
- >CAA—Civil Aviation Authority
- >CAAT—Campaign Against Arms Trade
- >CAB—citizens advice bureau; pl. –aux; qv, NACAB
- >CABE—Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment. Dissolved in 2011 and merged into the Design Council. Now known as Cabe
- >Cabinet—the Cabinet; member of the Cabinet; Cabinet government; kitchen cabinet;
  - Cabinet Committee, Sub-Committee; Cabinet Secretary; the Cabinet is...
- >Cabinet Committees—titles are uc
- >Cabinet Office—a Government Dept, works for PM
- >Cabinet Secretary, Secretary to the Cabinet
- >CAC—1. Central Arbitration Committee [trade disputes, union recognition etc.]
  - 2. Codex Alimentarius Commission
- >CACFOA—Chief and Assistant Chief Fire Officers Association.
- >CACHE—Council for Awards in Children’s Care and Education; was NNEB (qv).
  - Now stands for Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education
- >Cadw—no need for full title: Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments Executive Agency
- >CAEC—Committees on Arms Export Controls (plural Committees)
- >CAF—Charities Aid Foundation

- >CAFCASS—Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service
- >CAFE—clean air for Europe (EU prog. , 2000)
- >café
- >CAFOD—Catholic Fund for Overseas Development is now the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
- >CAG—see Comptroller and Auditor General
- >Cairngorms—the hills, but the peak is Cairn Gorm
- >Calder Hall—world’s first nuclear power station
- >Caledonian MacBrayne—Scottish ferries; often called CalMac
- >Caledonian Steam Packet Company—now Caledonian MacBrayne
- >calibre—.22 inch; a .22 inch rifle; .303 inch; 20 mm cannon; 15 inch gun etc
- >calling speakers—Speakers and Chairs call (not “call upon”) Members
- >CalMac—see Caledonian MacBrayne
- >Calman commission—Commission on Scottish Devolution
- >Camelot—operates national lottery
- >CAMHS—child and adolescent mental health services
- >Camp X-Ray—US prison for Afghan POWs, Guantanamo Bay
- >campaign—uc if it’s a standing organisation (eg Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament), if not, lc for, eg, ad hoc local issue groups: Frimley clean drains campaign  
Use quotation marks if necessary: the “Your Say” campaign
- >Campaign Against Arms Trade—no “the”
- >Campaign for Freedom of Information—dir: Maurice Frankel
- >Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
- >Campaign for Real Ale
- >Campaign for State Education—CASE
- >Campaign group—left-wing Labour grouping; *Campaign* is its organ
- >Campaign to Protect Rural England—the CPRE; was Council for the Protection of Rural England
- >Campbell, Alastair
- >Campbeltown—Scottish ferry port for NI; note the single l
- >CAMR—Centre for Applied Microbiology and Research; was part of the now-defunct Health Protection Agency; no apparent replacement
- >CAMRA—Campaign for Real Ale
- >CAN—see Andean Community
- >Canada plus plus plus—reference to UK’s possible trade deal with the EU
- >canal—Suez canal
- >Canal & River Trust—took over from British Waterways in summer 2012
- >Canary Wharf
- >Canberra—UK 1950s jet bomber, PR9 recce version still used
- >Cancer Care Society—aka CARE
- >CancerBACUP—former title: British Association of Cancer United Patients; founder: Vicky Clement-Jones; Cancerbackup merged with Macmillan Cancer Support in 2008
- >Cancer Research Campaign—see Cancer Research UK
- >Cancer Research UK—merger of Cancer Research Campaign and Imperial Cancer Research Fund

- >candela—SI unit of luminous intensity; with figures: 25 candelas
- >candy floss (n); a candy-floss economy
- >Cannings, Angela—freed on appeal over child death
- >Canolfan Iechyd Cymru—Wales centre for health
- >canvas/canvass—canvas is the cloth, canvass relates to soliciting votes
- >CANZUK – acronym for a proposed economic community of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the UK
- >CAP—1. common agricultural policy  
2. combat air patrol
- >cape—uc as part of name: Cape Kennedy; Cape Horn; Cape Town; the Cape [meaning Cape of Good Hope]
- >Capita—Capita will usually suffice; Capita Group is a white-collar service contractor with various sub-enterprises
- >capitation allowance—defunct school funding formula
- >Capitol—building housing Congress in US; Capitol hill; the hill;
- >captain—uc with names: Captain Cook; lc otherwise
- >car phone
- >CARATs—counselling, assessment, referral, advice and throughcare **service** [prison scheme]
- >carbon-12, carbon-14
- >carbon dioxide/amazone—CO<sub>2</sub> is ok, but should be expanded first time
- >carbon emissions reduction target—CERT; previously the energy efficiency Commitment
- >carbon price floor—The Treasury send to refer to carbon price floor rather than carbon floor price
- >Carbon Trust—Govt-business organisation set up 2001 to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 50% by 2050
- >carcase, carcasses—not carcass, carcasses
- >Cardiff Bay—seat of Welsh Government; Cardiff bay in references to the body of water or the waterfront
- >CARDS—Community assistance for reconstruction, development and stabilisation; EU aid to south-eastern Europe (2000)
- >CARE—1. Christian Action Research and Education or  
2. Co-operative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
- >Care Inspectorate—Scotland’s national scrutiny body for social care
- >Care Quality Commission—independent regulator of health and social care
- >Care Standards Act 2000—minimum standards for care homes
- >care.data programme—NHS information-sharing programme
- >care trusts—NHS/local authority bodies covering health and social care
- >care worker
- >carer’s allowance—replaces invalid care allowance, 2003
- >Carers National Association; renamed Carers UK in 2001
- >Carers UK—charity, supports carers
- >cargo—pl. cargoes
- >CARICOM—Caribbean Community and Common Market is now the Caribbean Community
- >Caritas Internationalis—Catholic aid group

- >carpetbagger
- >carry over (v) carry-over (n & adj)
- >carry-over motion—allows progress on a Bill to be continued in the next Session
- >CAS—Court of Arbitration for Sport
- >CASCs—community amateur sports clubs
- >CASD—continuous at-sea deterrence
- >case—“cases” is overused in phrases such as “in many cases” when “many” or “often” would suffice. With “in some cases”, “some” or “sometimes” will often suffice.
- >cases, citation of—see legal cases
- >CASE—Campaign for State Education
- >case load
- >CASEVAC—casualty evacuation
- >casework
- >cash flow, cash-flow problems
- >cash limits, cash-limited
- >cashpoint
- >cashback
- >Casino Advisory Panel
- >CASOM—conventionally armed stand-off missile (= Storm Shadow)
- >cast-iron—noun and adjective
- >castle—Harlech castle
- >Castlemilk—big Glasgow council estate
- >Castlerea—Prison in County Roscommon; don't confuse with Castlereaigh
- >Castlereaigh—Belfast security centre
- >CAT—1. credit accumulation and transfer; CAT scheme, system etc; for academic qualifications  
2. computed axial tomography, but CAT scanner will do
- >Catapult programme—Catapult centres aim to encourage innovation in the British economy
- >“cat and trap”—system for launching planes from aircraft carriers
- >catchphrase
- >Catch-22—does not usually require quotation marks:  
a Catch-22 situation; that is pure Catch-22; but: “Catch-22” was a great book
- >catchword
- >category A—eg prisoners, gambling machines
- >Catering Committee—was a Domestic Committee of the House; now part of the Administration Committee
- >Catholic—he is a Catholic, a Roman Catholic, the Catholic Church
- >*Catholic Herald, The*
- >Catholicism
- >Catholic Education Commission—Scottish group
- >Catholic Education Service—“represents bishops at national level”
- >Cathy—“Cathy Come Home”; ‘60s TV play on homelessness
- >cause célèbre
- >Cavendish laboratory—in Cambridge
- >Cayman Islands—UK overseas territory; cap. George Town;

- >Cayton review—Harry Cayton, 2004, of dental patient charges
- >CBD—convention on biological diversity [UN]
- >CBI—Confederation of British Industry; no need to expand
- >CBM—confidence-building measure
- >CBRN—chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear
- >cc—see cubic measures
- >CCEA—see Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment;
- >CCETSW—Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work; abolished in 2001; its functions were taken over by several different bodies
- >CCFA—collective conditional fee arrangement
- >CCG—clinical commissioning group
- >CCL—climate change levy
- >CCLRC—Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils; merged with Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council (PPARC) in 2007 to form the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)
- >CCMCC—Central Council of Magistrates Courts Committees; magistrates courts committees ceased to exist in 2005, so this body is defunct
- >CCMS—Council for Catholic Maintained Schools [NI]
- >CCPR—Central Council of Physical Recreation; changed its name to Sport and Recreation Alliance in 2011
- >CCRC—Criminal Cases Review Commission
- >CCRF—civil contingency reaction force
- >CCS—1. civil contingencies secretariat  
2. commonhold community statement  
3. carbon capture and storage
- >CCT—compulsory competitive tendering; for council services/contracts; replaced by best value in 2001
- >CCTA—1. Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency; subsumed into the Office of Government Commerce in 2000, which then closed in 2011  
2. Consumer Credit Trade Association  
3. city college for the technology of the arts
- >CCTC—childcare tax credit
- >CCTV—closed circuit television; expand sparingly
- >CCW—1. Countryside Council for Wales; merged with Forestry Commission Wales and Environment Agency Wales to form Natural Resources Wales in 2013  
2. convention on certain conventional weapons [qv for full title]
- >CD—don't expand to compact disc; CD-ROM
- >CDC—was Commonwealth Development Corporation, which title use if Member does; but it is now privatised and calls itself just CDC
- >CDFI—community development financial institution
- >CDRP—crime and disorder reduction partnership
- >CDP—Chief of Defence Procurement; joined with Chief of Defence Logistics to become Chief of Defence Matériel in 2007
- >CDS—Chief of the Defence Staff
- >CDSC—communicable disease surveillance centre; part of PHLS; PHLS is now defunct, as is the CDSC

- >CDT—craft, design and technology; (school subject); few schools offer this; much more commonly now called design and technology (D&T)
- >cease fire (v) ceasefire (n & adj)
- >Ceausescu, Nicolae—Romanian dictator
- >Cecchini, Paolo—1988 report on European single market
- >CEDAW—convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women
- >CEE—central and eastern European
- >CEFAS—Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
- >CEGB—Central Electricity Generating Board; privatised 1990
- >Celsius—2°C; minus 32°C; same as centigrade; 1.5° is okay
- >CEMVO—Council of Ethnic Minority Voluntary Sector Organisations; wound up in 2013, but CEMVO Scotland still exists
- >CEN—European Committee for Standardisation [from Comité européen de normalisation]
- >CEOP—Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre; absorbed into the National Crime Agency as one of its commands in 2013
- >Cenotaph
- >censure—a motion of censure or censure motion may be followed by a vote of censure
- >census—lc, even for 10-yearly stats-fest
- >center—use “centre”, even in titles, except in quotes
- >centi—prefix denoting one hundredth; abbr. c
- >centigrade—having a scale of 100 degrees. Usually refers to temperature and is the same as Celsius. In specific references: 5 °C; minus 6 °C; In general references: “It felt like minus 30°.”
- >centigram—not much used these days, so in full: 2 centigrams
- >centilitre—with figures: 25 cl
- >centimetre—with figures: 1 cm; 1.2 cm; 25 cm; 2 sq cm; 2 cu cm; cc may be appropriate for cubic centimetre in some contexts: 50 cc for engines, motor bikes etc
- >central America (region) but North America and South America (continents)
- >Central Arbitration Committee—trade disputes, union recognition etc.
- >Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency; subsumed into the Office of Government Commerce in 2000, which then closed in 2011
- >Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work; abolished in 2001 when its functions were taken over by several different bodies
- >Central Council of Magistrates Courts Committees; magistrates courts committees ceased to exist in 2005, so this body is defunct
- >Central Council of Physical Recreation—is now the Sport and Recreation Alliance
- >Central Electricity Generating Board—split and privatised in 1990 as National Power and PowerGen
- >central Europe, central and eastern Europe
- >Central line—tube line
- >Central Lobby—in the House
- >central criminal court—ie the Old Bailey
- >central office—ie of the Conservative party

- >Central Office of Information—Exec agency; closed in 2011; functions transferred to Cabinet Office
- >Central Police Training and Development Authority—working name: Centrex; it was replaced by the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) in 2007, which was then wound down in 2011
- >Central Rail Users Consultative Committee—now RPC; RPC became Passenger Focus in 2006, which then became Transport Focus in 2014
- >Central Railway—company promoting planned channel tunnel-NW England link
- >Central Science Laboratory—an Exec agency [agriculture]; became part of the Food and Environment Research Agency (part of DEFRA) in 2009
- >Central Statistical Office—see National Statistics; became part of the Office for National Statistics in 1996
- >centre—uc for independent bodies, lc for university depts. etc
- >Centre for Applied Microbiology and Research—at Porton Down; was part of the now-defunct Health Protection Agency; no apparent replacement
- >Centre for Defence Studies—London University.
- >Centre for Ecology and Hydrology—est 1994
- >Centre for Educational Sociology—Edinburgh University
- >Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science—Executive agency of DEFRA; [“see-fass”] est 1997
- >Centre for International Peace Building
- >Centre for Policy on Ageing
- >Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure—CPNI
- >Centre for Studies on Integration in Education; now called Centre for Studies on Inclusive Education
- >Centre for Young Musicians
- >Centrex—working name of Central Police Training and Development Authority; replaced by the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) in 2007, which was then wound down in 2011
- >Centro—West Midlands passenger transport executive
- >century—18th century; 19th-century conditions
- >CEPI—Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations
- >Ceuta and Melilla—Spanish enclaves in Morocco
- >CEO—lc: chief executive officer
- >CEPA—UK-Japan comprehensive economic partnership agreement
- >CERN—European Organisation for Nuclear Research; don’t expand to Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire; CERN will do
- >CERT—carbon emissions reduction target; CERT ran from 2008-2012
- >CFA—conditional fee agreements
- >CFCs—1. chlorofluorocarbons  
2. controlled foreign companies
- >CfD—contract for difference; plural: CfDs—contracts for difference
- >CFE treaty—conventional armed forces in Europe; NATO-Warsaw pact agreement, 1990
- >CFIT—Commission for Integrated Transport; abolished in 2010
- >CFP—common fisheries policy
- >CFSP—common foreign and security policy

- >CGS—Chief of the General Staff: General Sir Nick Carter since 2014
- >CGT—capital gains tax
- >CH-47 Chinook—US designation of Boeing Chinook helicopter
- >chaff—aluminium foil strips dropped to confuse radar
- >Chagos islands—part of British Indian Ocean Territory, inc. Diego Garcia  
adj and people: Chagossian
- >CHAI—Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection; abolished in 2009;  
broadly subsumed by CQC
- >Chair—1. uc when referring to that occupied by the Speaker, his deputies or those  
who chair parliamentary Committees  
2. See under “addressing the Chair”  
3. Panel of Chairs
- >Chairman—uc in respect of those who chair Standing or Select Committees even  
though they are now officially called Chairs; go with Member’s usage;  
co-Chairman; lc for all others, including those of all-party groups
- >Chairman of Ways and Means—Speaker’s No. 2; also sits as a Deputy Speaker (not  
the Chair of Ways and Means)
- >chairmanship—always lc
- >Chairmen’s Panel is now called the Panel of Chairs—Select Committee from which  
General Committee Chairs are chosen
- >Chalara fraxinea—fungus that causes Ash dieback disease
- >Chaldaeae, Chaldaeans – ethnic group
- >Challenger—main battle tank of British Army; Challenger 2;
- >Chamber—1. uc when it means the Lords or Commons; the upper Chamber;  
lower Chamber; second Chamber;  
2. lc for the concept or a putative chamber: a one-chamber system;  
3. legal: in chambers, barrister’s chambers etc  
4. “Chambers” – the dictionary
- >chambers of commerce—1. lc in titles: Dover District chamber of commerce;  
East Lancashire chamber of commerce.  
2. Singular: the chamber of commerce is up in arms...  
3. The associations book lists those covering both British and overseas trade  
4. The organisation for chambers of commerce is the British Chambers of  
Commerce (or the BCC)
- >chameleon—we no longer use “chamaeleon”
- >Chancellor—1. When it is obvious who is meant, “Chancellor” will suffice for  
Chancellor of the Exchequer. Lord Chancellor and Chancellor of the  
Duchy of Lancaster are always out in full.  
2. Chancellor Schröder, the Chancellor of Germany, the German Chancellor
- >chancery division—part of High Court
- >Change4Life—healthy eating campaign
- >change over (v); changeover (n &adj) but try “change”
- >channel—1. channel tunnel, English channel, Bristol channel  
2. BBC 2; BBC 4; ITV 1; Sky 1;
- >Channel 4 (but Channel Four Television Corporation)
- >Channel Five
- >Channel Islands—Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark (Great Sark and Little Sark),

Herm, Brechou, Jethou, Lihou

- >character—"the amendments are technical in character" try "the amendments are technical"
- >charge point, charging point—follow usage in references to vehicle infrastructure; but note that ChargePoint is a company that runs a network of electric vehicle charging stations in North America and the US
- >Charities Aid Foundation
- >Charity Commission—charity commissioners
- >Charm-3—depleted uranium shell
- >Chartism—also Chartist; upper case when referring to the working-class male suffrage movement of the 19th century
- >charter—citizens charter, patients charter, UN charter
- >charter of fundamental rights—EU, 2000
- >charter mark—competence awards; now known as the customer service excellence standard
- >Chartered Institute of Housing
- >Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
- >Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply; now called Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply
- >Chartered Institute of Taxation
- >Chartered Society of Physiotherapy
- >chargé d'affaires
- >Chastelain, General John de—headed IICD 1997-2011
- >Chatham House—ok to use this for Royal Institute of International Affairs
- >chatroom
- >Chavasse report—on orthopaedic and trauma services for members of the armed forces; inspired by Captain Noel Chavasse VC
- >CHAVRE—Chieftain assault vehicle Royal Engineers
- >CHC—community health council; the CHCs; set to be replaced by PALS and patients forums (2002); abolished in 2003; no surviving direct replacement
- >cheapjack
- >Chechnya—n. and adj. Chechen; cap. Grozny  
politicians: Sergey Abramov; Alu Alkhanov; Dzhokhar Dudayev (died 1996); Akhmad Kadyrov (died 2004); Ramzan Kadyrov; Aslan Maskhadov (died 2005); Abdul-Khalim Saydullayev (died 2006); Shamil Baseyev (died 2006);
- >checklist
- >checkpoint
- >cheque book; cheque-book journalism
- >cherry-pick—to cherry-pick; that is cherry-picking
- >Chevaline—Labour's 1970s secret Polaris modernisation programme
- >CHI—Commission for Health Improvement; subsumed by the Healthcare Commission in 2004, which in turn was subsumed by the CQC in 2009
- >chief—commander-in-chief, editor-in-chief
- >Chief and Assistant Chief Fire Officers Association; now known as the Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA)
- >chief constable—chief constable of Wiltshire, the chief constable, but Chief Constable Bloggs

- In Northern Ireland: the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (ex Royal Ulster Constabulary), the Chief Constable
- >chief executive—all IC, except the Chief Executive of Hong Kong
  - >Chief Coroner—post now filled by Peter Thornton
  - >chief executive of the national health service
  - >chief inspectors—all down, even prefixed by Her Majesty's; eg: Her Majesty's chief inspector of schools; the chief inspector of schools; the chief inspector;
  - >chief inspector of criminal justice—Brendan McGuigan [NI]; formerly Kit Chivers
  - >chief inspector of prisons—Nick Hardwick (2010- )  
recent ones: Anne Owers, Stephen Tumim; David Ramsbotham;
  - >chief inspector of schools—see Ofsted
  - >chief medical officer—Professor Chris Whitty; previously Professor Dame Sally Davies; 1999-2010 Sir Liam Donaldson; NB – there are separate CMOs for England, Scotland, Wales and NI
  - >chief nursing officer—1999-2004: Sarah Mullally; 2005-2011 Christine Beasley  
Jane Cummings 2012-2019; Ruth May 2019-
  - >Chief of Defence Matériel—Bernard Gray; predecessor General Sir Kevin O'Donoghue
  - >Chief of the Air Staff—boss of RAF
  - >Chief of the Defence Staff—boss of the three services; the chief; the chiefs;  
General Sir Nick Houghton 2013- ; General Sir David Richards 2010-13; Sir Jock Stirrup 2006-2010; Michael Walker 2003-06, Michael Boyce 2001-03,  
Charles Guthrie 1997-2001
  - >Chief of the General Staff—boss of Army
  - >Chief of the Naval Staff—boss of Navy
  - >Chief Rabbi—Ephraim Mirvis; previously Sir Jonathan Sacks; chief rabbinate
  - >chief scientific adviser—Sir Patrick Vallance
  - >chief veterinary officer
  - >chiefs of staff—services bosses
  - >Chieftain—replaced by Challenger but used in some secondary roles
  - >chickenfeed
  - >Chief Whip; Deputy Chief Whip
  - >Chilcot report; said that it should be permissible to use phone tap evidence in court;  
Chilcot inquiry into Iraq war
  - >childcare—childcare tax credit is ok, meaning childcare element of child tax credit
  - >Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre – CEOP; absorbed into the  
National Crime Agency as one of its commands in 2013
  - >Child Maintenance Service—replaced Child Maintenance and Enforcement  
Commission and Child Support Agency
  - >childminder, childminding
  - >Child Poverty Action Group
  - >Child Support Agency—abolished in 2012
  - >child support commissioners
  - >child tax credit—replaced children's tax credit; note that there is a childcare  
element of CTC, sometimes referred to as childcare tax credit
  - >childbirth
  - >ChildLine—kids helpline charity

- >children—a plural noun. Thus: children’s rights (not childrens’)
- >Children’s Commissioner for England—Anne Longfield; previously Maggie Atkinson and Sir Al Aynsley-Green; the Children’s Commissioner
- >Children’s Commissioner for Scotland—Tam Baillie took over from Dr Kathleen Marshall; properly: Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People (SCCYP)  
see also Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People
- >Children’s Commissioner for Wales—Keith Towler; formerly Peter Clarke
- >children’s tax credit—replaced by child tax credit
- >Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service—CAFCASS
- >Children 1st—until 1995, the Royal Scottish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children
- >Children in Scotland
- >Children in Wales
- >Chiltern hundreds—applying for the Chiltern hundreds  
applying for the office of steward or bailiff of the Chiltern hundreds (Stoke, Desborough and Burnham), a nominal office of profit under the Crown, is a formal way of resigning one’s seat; qv Manor of Northstead;
- >Chinook HC1, HC2, HC3; twin-rotor transport helicopter; CH-47 in US; [Boeing], Chinook Mk 3
- >CHIMP—sometimes used for CHI; retain only if it’s an hilarious joke
- >Chobham—armour on tanks
- >CHOGM—Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting; pronounced “choggun”
- >CHP—combined heat and power
- >chunnel—colloquialism for channel tunnel
- >Christian—a Christian; the Christian faith; Christian values; antichristian
- >Christian Aid
- >Christianity
- >Christmas day, Christmas eve, Christmas recess
- >Christmas tree Bill—a general Bill on which the Government hang various bits of policy
- >Church—Ic meaning a building: a lovely old church; I went to church; a church wedding;  
uc for organisations: the Churches are uneasy; the Church will not stand for it; the Church of England; the nonconformist Churches; the Catholic Church; Roman Catholic Church; Methodist Church etc
- >Church Commissioners—there is no “Church Commission”; the body is called the Church Commissioners; the commissioners
- >Church in Wales—not “of Wales”; the C of E-affiliated Church resulting from the disestablishment of the Anglican Church in 1920
- >Church of England—the Church; C of E;
- >Church of Ireland—the C of E-affiliated Church that resulted from the disestablishment of the Anglican Church in 1871
- >Church of Scotland—Scotland’s established Church. It is Presbyterian, not Anglican. Scotland’s C of E-affiliated Church is the Scottish Episcopal Church
- >Church of Scotland committee on education; Church of Scotland education department

- >Church schools
- >*Church Times*
- >Churches Together in England
- >Churches Together in Britain and Ireland—was British Council of Churches to 1990, Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland 1990-99
- >churchgoer, churchgoing
- >churchman
- >CIA—Central Intelligence Agency; don't expand—dir: John O. Brennan; previously Leon E. Panetta, Michael J. Morell; David H. Petraeus. Other names: General Michael V. Hayden, George Tenet; Porter J. Goss
- >CIC—community interest company
- >CIFAS—UK fraud prevention service
- >Cinderella
- >CIO—charitable incorporated organisation
- >CIPFA—Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
- >CIPS—Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply is now the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply
- >CIRA—Continuity IRA
- >circuit—legally lc: midlands and Oxford circuit; circuit judge;
- >CIS—Commonwealth of Independent States (qv)
- >CITES—convention on international trade in endangered species; no need to add “of wild fauna and flora”; [UN]
- >citizen—lc: British citizen; British overseas citizen etc
- >Citizens Advice—operating name of National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux; there is obvious scope for confusion
- >citizens advice bureau—pl. –bureaux;
- >Citizens Advice Scotland
- >citizens charter
- >citizen's pension
- >city—1. city of Birmingham; Manchester City Council
  2. uc in constituency titles such as City of Chester when it means the constituency. References to the city of Chester are lc
  3. uc when the City of London is referred to: the City, City editor, City pages;
  4. uc in football clubs: Chester City, up the City,
- >city academy—similar to city technology college
- >city college for the technology of the arts—cf city technology college
- >city deals—lower case: Bristol city region deal; Sheffield city region deal
- >City & Guilds—qualification awarding body
- >city of culture; city of culture bid; city of culture 2021
- >City of London Corporation; the corporation; common council of the City of London; the common council
- >city regions—Liverpool city region
- >city technology college—independent, non-fee-paying school
- >Citybus—Belfast buses [renamed Metro in Feb 2005]
- >CIU—Working Men's Club and Institute Union
- >Civic Forum—omit “for Northern Ireland” unless context is unclear
- >Civil Aviation Authority

- >civil contingencies secretariat—in Cabinet office; crisis management
- >civil contingency reaction force—there are 14 of them
- >civil defence
- >civil list—allowance paid to royal family
- >civil servant
- >civil service
- >Civitas—full title is Civitas: the Institute for the Study of Civil Society; think-tank was Institute of Economic Affairs health and welfare unit until it became an independent body in 2000; Civitas will do
- >CJA—Commission for Judicial Appointments was replaced by the Judicial appointments Commission (JAC) and the Judicial Appointments and Conduct Ombudsman (JACO)
- >CJD—Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease; qv vCJD
- >CJOs—criminal justice organisations
- >CJS—criminal justice system
- >CLA—Country Land and Business Association; was Country Landowners Association but has retained CLA as initials
- >Clackmannan—two n's in middle
- >claim of right—1989 demand for Scottish devolution
- >clamp down (v) clampdown (n)
- >Clansman—Army radi but Bowman has now replaced it
- >claptrap
- >class A (drugs etc); class 4 contributions
- >classroom
- >clause—clause 1; clauses 2 and 3; clauses 3 to 6; clauses 2, 3 and 7; new clause 1; clause 3(i) to (iv); clause stand part;
- >clause IV—the old Labour clause IV stated: “To secure for the workers by hand or by brain the full fruits of their industry and the most equitable distribution thereof that may be possible upon the basis of the common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange, and the best obtainable system of administration and control of each industry or service.”
- >claw back (v); clawback (n)
- >Cfmakeore—anti-personnel mine [& a sword]
- >clean up (v) clean-up (n & adj)
- >clear up (v) clear-up (n & adj)—clear-up costs
- >clearcut
- >Clerides, Glafcos—President of Cyprus 1993-2003 who died in 2013
- >Clerk—uc if it means a parliamentary one: the Clerks; Committee Clerk; Clerks Department (as was)
- >Clerk of the House of Commons—Clerk of the House; the Clerk; sits at the Table of the House with the Speaker, advising him in and out of the Chamber on procedure
- >Clerk of the Parliaments—the Clerk of the House of Lords; top Lords Clerk
- >CLG—company limited by guarantee; Communities and Local Government (Whitehall Department)
- >CLIC Sargent—children's cancer charity; no need to expand
- >cliche—use cliché

- >cliff edge
- >climactic—of a climax; “climatic” of climate
- >climb down (v); climbdown (n)
- >Climbié, Victoria—real name of child renamed Anna by foster parents. Carl Manning & Marie Therese Kouao, who murdered her; inquiry chair: Lord Laming 2001-03
- >close company—one controlled by five or fewer people
- >closed circuit television
- >clostridium difficile – C. difficile or C. diff (after initial reference either abbreviation is acceptable)
- >closure motion—device to end debate
- >cloud cuckoo land—no hyphens
- >CLP—constituency Labour party
- >CLRAE—Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe
- >CLRL—Cross London Rail Links Ltd was renamed Crossrail Ltd in 2008 (CRL)
- >CLS—community legal service
- >cluster bomb
- >CML—Council of Mortgage Lenders
- >CMM—coalmine methane
- >CMO—chief medical officer
- >CND—Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament; but don’t expand gratuitously
- >Co.—contraction used in company names; not used for “county”
- >CO<sub>2</sub>—with subscript; expand to carbon dioxide on its first use
- >co-Chair—of Standing or Select Committees; co-Chairman (go with usage)
- >co-exist, co-existence
- >co-locate, co-location
- >co-operate, co-operated, co-operating, co-operation, co-operative; unco-operative
- >Co-op—no need to expand in “I shop down the Co-op.”
- >co-operative movement
- >Co-operative party—represents the co-operative movement. Not affiliated to Labour but runs some joint candidates with it. Labour and Co-operative Member; Co-operative Member
- >co-opt
- >co-ordinate, co-ordination, co-ordinator
- >Coal Authority—licenses coalmining, deals with subsidence
- >coal burn
- >coalface
- >coalmine, coalminer, coalmining
- >coal owners
- >coalfield
- >coalition—(lower case and singular); the coalition is expected to last for five years, but the coalition Government are planning major public expenditure cuts. “The Coalition: our programme for government” formally sets out the Conservative-Lib Dem Government’s priorities
- >coalition provisional authority—in Iraq
- >coarse fishing—freshwater fishing other than for salmon or trout
- >coat-tails

- >COBA—cost-benefit analysis
- >Cobra—1. name for CCS derived from Cabinet Office briefing room A  
2. counter-battery radar [Royal Artillery]
- >cockeyed
- >cockle picker
- >cockney
- >cod war—1970s fisheries tension between us and Iceland
- >code name
- >code of practice—lc
- >Codex Alimentarius—Codex Alimentarius Commission is run by WHO & FAO; food standards rules [UN]
- >Cogent—sector skills council [chemicals etc.] Known as Cogent Skills since 2015
- >cohesion fund—EU dosh for members whose GDP is below 90 pc of EU average; a structural fund
- >COHSE—Confederation of Health Service Employees; now Unison
- >COI—Central Office of Information was closed in 2011 when its functions were transferred to Cabinet Office
- >COIN—acronym for counter-insurgency
- >cold war
- >cold weather payment—severe weather; not same as WFP
- >college—Trinity College; Queen’s College; University College [ie at Oxford]; Bradford College; Rotheram College of Arts and Technology
- >College of Policing
- >colonel—uc with names: Colonel Mustard; lc otherwise
- >Colombia—but British Columbia, District of Columbia
- >colonial—lc; colonial service
- >colony—a colonial Government (entity); colonial government (concept); the colonies; the former colony of Basutoland etc;
- >coltan—don’t expand to columbite-tantalite, a tantalum ore used in electronics
- >Columbia—Colombia [with two o’s] is South American country  
British Columbia, District of Columbia, Columbia University (NY)
- >column references—the following examples should cover all eventualities in written answers and statements and many in debate:  
“as I said on 23 January 2003, *Official Report*, column 127.”

In debate, formulations such as “as noted at column 27 of the *Official Report* of our proceedings on Second Reading” are ok.

More than one column:

columns 1-2; columns 1-3; columns 12-13; columns 25-26; columns 12-26;  
columns 134-35; columns 132-38; columns 138-41; columns 198-201;  
columns 996-1001; columns 1026-27; columns 1026-31; columns 1097-1103

Written answers (before October 2014)—append the suffix W: columns 122-24W

Westminster Hall—append the suffix WH: column 25WH  
Written statements: columns 25-26WS

House of Lords

Floor ...on 23 January 2003, *Official Report, House of Lords*, column 89

Written ... on 16 May 2002, *Official Report, House of Lords*,  
columns WA 64-65 [not WA 64-65]

The Lords also sits as a Grand Committee; the form then is:

... on 18 June 2003, *Official Report, House of Lords*, columns GC 312-13

- > Colwell, Maria—abused child, 1973
- > COMA—Committee on Medical Aspects of Food and Nutrition Policy  
renamed Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition in 2000
- > Combat 18—violent far-right group
- > combated, combating—one t
- > Combination Acts—19th-century anti-union laws;
- > combined authorities uc—eg Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- > COMEAP—Committee on Medical Effects of Air Pollutants
- > come-uppance
- > Comenius—EU schools programme
- > COMESA—Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
- > COMEST—World Committee on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge  
and Technology; a UNESCO body
- > comitology—interrelation of EU committees etc
- > Command—uc for British military organisations: Land Command became Land  
Forces in 2008 and was then subsumed into the new Army Headquarters;  
Strike Command and Personnel & Training Command merged to become  
Air Command in 2007; from WW2: Fighter Command; Bomber Command;  
Coastal Command;
- > Command Paper—Government document formally presented to Parliament (White  
Papers, Green Papers, treaties etc). Styles vary with the publication:  
Cm. 123; Cmd 127; Cmnd 23; If in doubt, go for Cmd 123
- > commander-in-chief—pl. commanders-in-chief; lc except in titles:  
Commander-in-Chief, Fleet
- > commandments—the ten commandments, the first commandment
- > commando—pl. commandos; see Royal Marines
- > Commercial Radio Companies Association—the CRCA merged with the Radio  
Advertising Bureau (RAB) in 2006 to form the RadioCentre
- > commission—see separate entries but these rules may help:
  1. the European Commission is uc; the Commission
  2. House of Commons Commission; the Commission
  3. all royal commissions of inquiry are lc, except Royal Commission  
on Environmental Pollution, which closed in 2011 & the Royal  
Commission on the Historic Monuments of England (part of English  
Heritage since 1999), which are or were standing bodies
  4. free-standing, permanent organisations are uc: the Charity Commission -  
but “the commission”, lc

5. there is no “Church Commission”; the organisation is called the Church Commissioners
  6. singular: “The commission is ready...”
- >Commission for Africa—set up by Tony Blair, 2004
  - >Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment—was Royal Fine Art Commission from 1924 to 1999. It dissolved in 2011 and merged into the Design Council and is now known as Cabi
  - >Commission for Health Improvement—est 2000; replaced by Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection [2004] which calls itself the Healthcare Commission [2004] was sometimes called “chimp”. Subsumed by the Healthcare Commission in 2004, which in turn was subsumed by the CQC in 2009
  - >Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection—replaced above, 2003. Abolished in 2009 and broadly subsumed by CQC
  - >Commission for Integrated Transport was abolished in 2010
  - >Commission for Judicial Appointments—est 2001 to review procedures and handle complaints; not same as Judicial Appointments Commission. It closed in 2006 and was replaced by the Judicial Appointments Commission (JAC) and the Judicial Appointments and Conduct Ombudsman (JACO)
  - >Commission for Patient and Public Involvement in Health—replaced by Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) in 2008, which were then abolished in 2013
  - >Commission for Racial Equality is now part of the Equality and Human Rights Commission
  - >Commission for Rural Communities—chaired by Stuart Burgess, the Rural Advocate, but was abolished in 2013
  - >Commission for Social Care Inspection; abolished in 2009
  - >Commission for the New Towns—part of English Partnerships, subsumed into the new Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) in 2008
  - >Commission for Victims and Survivors—CVSNI
  - >Commission on a Bill of Rights—chair: Sir Leigh Lewis. Submitted final report in 2012; now disbanded
  - >Commission on Scottish Devolution—Calman commission
  - >Commission on Devolution in Wales—Silk commission
  - >Commission on the Funding of Care and Support—chair: Andrew Dilnot. Reported in 2011
  - >commissioner—European Commissioners & HoC Commissioners are uc: the Agriculture Commissioner; Commissioner Kinnock, but general references to the commissioner;  
uc: Metropolitan Police Commissioner – the commissioner  
Information Commissioner – the commissioner  
the Church Commissioners – the commissioner(s)  
lc: boundary commissioners, charity commissioners, traffic commissioners; customs and excise commissioners, surveillance commissioners, immigration services commissioner,
  - >Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland—Tam Baillie 2009-Kathleen Marshall 2004-09; the commissioner. Post now officially called

- Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People (SCCYP)
- >Commissioner for Judicial Appointments for Northern Ireland—Office of the Commissioner for Judicial Appointments; the Commissioner. The office closed in 2006 with the creation of both the Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Ombudsman (NIJAO) and the Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Commission (NIJAC)
  - >Commissioner for Older People in Wales is now the Older People's Commissioner for Wales; Sarah Rochira has been commissioner since 2012
  - >Commissioner for Parliamentary Investigations was replaced by the Compliance Officer for the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority in 2010
  - >Commissioner for Public Appointments, Office of the—commissioner for public appointments: Sir David Normington; previously; Dame Janet Gaymer; Dame Rennie Fritchie;
  - >Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis—formal title of Metropolitan Police Commissioner, under which see; the commissioner
  - >commissioner of Transport for London—Sir Peter Hendy; previously Bob Kiley
  - >Commissioners of Irish Lights—(ie lighthouses); not a “commission” due to be subsumed into FCILC; aka the Irish Lights;
  - >Committee—1. Committees of the Commons, Lords or Cabinet are all uc: Standing Committee; Select Committee; Joint Committee; all are “the Committee” and have Sub-Committees
    2. With formulations such as “At the Committee stage, we discussed...” or “In our debates during the Committee, it was made clear that...”, try “In Committee”
    3. Permanent, free-standing committees outside the House will be uc in full titles but “the committee” otherwise and take the singular
  - >Committee for Privileges and Conduct—considers the issues that affect the privileges of Members of the House of Lords
  - >Committee of Privileges—Privileges Committee
  - >Committee of Permanent Representatives—COREPER will do; ambassadors to EU; prepares for Council meetings
  - >Committee of Scottish Higher Education Principals—COSHEP; changed name to Universities Scotland in 2000
  - >Committee of Selection—Select Committee that proposes membership of Select and General Committees
  - >Committee of the Regions—regional govt reps. body in EU
  - >Committee of the whole House—all or part of the Committee stage of a Bill may be referred; all Members can speak and vote; the Mace is under the Table; the Speaker leaves the Chair and is replaced by the Chairman of Ways and Means (and other deputies, including Temporary Chairmen)
  - >Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals—CVCP; now Universities UK
  - >Climate Change Committee—chair: Lord Deben (aka John Gummer) who succeeded Lord Turner of Ecchinswell; originally named Committee on Climate Change; the committee
  - >Committee on Reform of the House of Commons—Wright Committee. Reported in 2009
  - >Committee on Safety of Medicines—was replaced by the Commission on Human

## Medicines (CHM) in 2005

- >Committee on Medical Aspects of Food and Nutrition Policy—since 2000, the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition
- >Committee on Medical Effects of Air Pollutants
- >Committee on Radioactive Waste Management—CoRWM (often pronounced as “Corum”)
- >Committee on Restrictions Against Disabled People—CORAD [1977, Peter Large]
- >Committee on Standards—Standards Committee; oversees the work of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards
- >Committee on Standards in Public Life—not a Select Committee; the committee; chair: Lord Evans of Weardale; previously: Lord Bew; Sir Christopher Kelly 2008-13 ;Sir Alistair Graham 2004-08; Sir Nigel Wicks 2001-04 ; Lord Neill 1997-2001; Lord Nolan 1994-7;  
Don’t confuse with Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards
- >Committee on Unopposed Bills—ie private Bills; an Opposed Private Bill Committee is created for each one opposed
- >Committee on the Grant of Honours, Decorations and Medals—the HD committee
- >Committee Room—in the House; but “The room is too hot,” etc
- >Committees on Arms Export Controls
- >Committee stage—consideration of a Bill between Second Reading and Report
- >common—lc unless part of a town name: Farnham common but Greenham Common; Clapham Common station but Clapham common
- >common agricultural policy
- >common council—(court of) common council runs the City
- >common fisheries policy
- >common law (n); common-law (adj): common-law wife
- >Common Market—uc when it means the EU; follow Members’ usage
- >common sense—hyphen when adjectival: common-sense approach, revolution etc.
- >commonhold—a freehold held in common by several owners with joint responsibility for its management; commonholder
- >Commons—the Commons; the House of Commons  
singular: “The House of Commons is a hard school.”
- >commons commissioners—resolve common land disputes
- >Commonwealth—note that Mozambique is a member;  
secretary-general: Mr Kamallesh Sharma (from 1 April 2008)
- >Commonwealth Development Corporation—is now privatised and calls itself just CDC; the full title may still be appropriate for references to the past or if a Member insists on using it
- >Commonwealth games
- >Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting—CHOGM, pronounced “choggum”
- >Commonwealth of Independent States—the CIS; est 1991 by Yeltsin as umbrella for ex-Soviet Republics when USSR broke up;
- >Commonwealth Parliamentary Association—the CPA
- >Commonwealth War Graves Commission
- >communautaire—EU-minded; see also acquis
- >communicable disease surveillance centre—part of PHLS, which is now defunct, as is the CDSC

- >Communication Workers Union
- >communiqué—use communiqué
- >communism, communist, but Communist party
- >Community—1. uc when it means EC or EU; the Communities means ECSC, Euratom and EEC
  - 2. Community—union representing steel and textile workers
- >Communitybuilders—investment fund for community-led organisations
- >community charge—official name for poll tax; community charge payer (3 words); replaced domestic rates; replaced by council tax
- >community council—1. Wales: parish council equivalent
  - 2. Scotland: not local authorities; get local views
  - 3. qv rural community councils
- >Community Fund—grants lottery dosh; est 1994; was National Lottery Charities Board to 2001; Jun 04 became Big Lottery Fund
- >community health councils—local health watchdogs; CHCs; due to be replaced by patients forums and PALS in England; abolished in 2003; no surviving direct replacement
- >Community Hospitals Association
- >community legal service—part of LSC
- >Community Plant Variety Office—EU agency
- >community programme—'80s dole-reduction scheme
- >Community Relations Council—NI; grants for community groups and cultural traditions projects
- >community support officers—not “safety”
- >companies court—part of chancery division
- >Companies House—Exec agency of BERR
- >company—1. Co. in company names 2. C company [Army]
- >company names—1. Don't get too pedantic: Heinz will usually do for H. J. Heinz Co. Ltd. You only really need full names in respect of detailed or legal references. The same goes for references to local companies or factories as “Johnson's” etc. See Co. Ltd and plc for usage. And no need to replicate style as given on company website. Initial caps will often do.
  - 2. Always singular: Barclays is a big bank.
- >compare to—A is like B: compare thee to a summer's day; you are as nice as a summer's day [the rarer one]
- >compare with—contrast: compared with China, Britain has a small population; [the usual one]
- >Compensation Agency—in NI, for criminal injury and damage; known as Compensation Services since 2013 (a branch within the Department of Justice)
- >Competition and Markets Authority
- >Competition Appeal Tribunal—uc and “Appeal” singular
- >Competition Commission—was Monopolies and Mergers Commission until 1998; closed in 2014; functions transferred to Competition and Markets Authority (CMA)
- >Competitiveness Council—a Council of EU Ministers, est 2002
- >competence (pl. competences)—review of the balance of competences is an audit of

- the EU's role (not competency or competencies in an EU context)
- >complement/compliment—compliment = praise, respect  
 complement = that which makes complete; crew;  
 so: complimentary tickets, but complementary medicine
  - >Compliance Officer for the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority
  - >compose/comprise—often misused. A whole comprises its parts:  
 “Great Britain comprises England, Scotland and Wales,” or is composed of them: “Great Britain is composed of [not “comprised of”] England, Scotland and Wales.”  
 Parts can comprise the whole:  
 “The three countries that comprise Great Britain are England, Scotland and Wales.”
  - >comprehensive test ban treaty
  - >comprise—see compose/comprise
  - >Comptroller and Auditor General—the CAG; Gareth Davies 2019-; previous occupants Amyas Morse, Timothy (Tim) Burr, Sir John Bourn
  - >Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland—Kieran Donnelly; was John Dowdall
  - >compulsory competitive tendering—CCT; for council services/contracts; replaced by best value in 2001
  - >computer games—titles appear in inverted commas; “Fruit Ninja”, “Angry Birds”
  - >Con-Dem Government; Con-Dem coalition
  - >concertinaed, concertinaing
  - >concordat—once meant agreements between rulers and popes, now used for agreements on relations between devolved bodies and central ones
  - >ConfEd—Confederation of Education Service Managers; umbrella body for Association of Chief Education Officers and Society of Education Officers; all defunct
  - >Confederation of British Industry—the CBI; no need to expand;  
 director general: John Cridland; previous Richard Lambert, Digby Jones, Adair Turner
  - >Confederation of Passenger Transport UK
  - >conference—lc: Labour party conference, Commonwealth conference;  
 uc: Speaker’s Conference
  - >Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe—now OSCE
  - >Congo—there are two countries (both qv):
    1. Democratic Republic of the Congo, ex Zaire, capital Kinshasa; the DRC;
    2. Republic of the Congo, capital Brazzaville, sometimes called Congo-Brazzaville
  - >congratulate—takes “on”: “I congratulate him on his brevity.”
  - >Congregationalism, Congregationalist
  - >Congress—the US Senate and House of Representatives is uc; lower House;  
 congressional committees are lc;
  - >Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe— CLRAE; a Council of Europe body;
  - >congressional
  - >Congressman

- >Connect—was Society of Telecom Executives; union. Merged with Prospect in 2010
- >Connecting for Health - an agency of the then Department of Health. Ceased to exist in 2013
- >Connexions—est 2001; Government service for 13 to 19-year-olds; no longer exists as a national service
- >consensus—often better alone than in formulae such as: “The general consensus is,” or “The consensus of opinion was that...”
- >Conservative—uc in reference to the Conservative party; Conservative thinking; Conservative Members (but members of the Conservative party); Conservative central office; leader of the Conservative party; lc in general references: US conservatives; a conservative choice (ie a safe one not relating to the Conservative party)
- >Conservative and Unionist party—full title of the Conservative party; refers to its amalgamation with Liberals who defected over Home Rule in the 1880s
- >“ConservativeHome”—blog and Twitter feed; founded by Tim Montgomerie
- >conservatism
- >consider—For “He considers it to be an important step.” try “He considers it an important step.”
- >Consignia—unsuccessful rebranding of Post Office; renamed Royal Mail Group, 4 Nov 2002
- >consistory court—C of E diocesan court
- >Consolidated Fund—fund into which tax and other revenue is paid; the Govt’s bank account at the Bank of England
- >Consolidated Fund Bill—usually three a year, to give statutory confirmation to the money granted by Parl to the Govt. The final such Bill of the year, when enacted, becomes the Appropriation Act.
- >consolidation Bills—Bills that assemble several existing Acts to simplify the statutes. They always start in the Lords and go to the Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills. May contain corrections and minor improvements.
- >consols—Government securities without redemption date that pay a low, fixed, annual interest rate; a plural noun; contraction of “consolidated annuities” (don’t expand)
- >consortium, plural consortia—one consortium; two consortia
- >constituency—lc: “In my constituency...” see References to Members
- >constituency Labour party—CLP
- >constitution—lc: American constitution etc
- >constitution unit—of school of public policy, University College London
- >ConstructionSkills—a sector skills council is now part of the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB)
- >consul, consulate—lc
- >consult—not “consult with”
- >Consultative Group on the Past—considered the legacy of the troubles in NI
- >Consumer Credit Trade Association
- >Consumer Council for Northern Ireland
- >Consumer Council for Postal Services—official title of Postwatch. Was merged

- into Consumer Focus in 2008, which then became Consumer Futures in 2013, which was abolished in 2014 and merged into Citizens Advice
- >Consumer Direct—provides advice to consumers on energy and postal problems; abolished in 2012; role given to Citizens Advice
  - >Consumer Financial Education Body—launched April 2010 but is now the Money Advice Service
  - >Consumer Focus—statutory organisation for consumers formed from a merger of Welsh, Scottish and National Consumer Councils and Postwatch and energywatch; chair Lord (Larry) Whitty). Became Consumer Futures in 2013, which was abolished in 2014 and merged into Citizens Advice
  - >Consumer Protection and Markets Authority—became the Financial Conduct Authority
  - >Consumers Association—now calls itself Which?
  - >ContactPoint—online directory on children’s services.
  - >content—the Lords equivalent of Ayes and Noes is Contents and Not Contents
  - >Contest strategy—counter-terrorism strategy that can be summed up in four words: prevent, pursue, protect and prepare; Contest 2; see also Prevent strategy
  - >Contingencies Fund—Treasury emergency fund
  - >continent—lc: continent of Europe; on the continent
  - >continental shelf; UKCS—UK continental shelf
  - >continual—often repeated; continuous means unceasing
  - >Continuity Army Council—anti-peace IRA splinter group
  - >Continuity IRA—don’t expand the IRA bit; anti-peace splinter group; often called CIRA [“sigh-ra”]
  - >continuous—unceasing; continual means oft repeated
  - >contract for difference—CfD
  - >contract out (v)
  - >Contracts Finder—provides advice on Government procurement contracts
  - >contracting out (n); contracting-out (adj)
  - >contracting parties—to treaties etc
  - >contractions—expand “it’s”, “wasn’t” “didn’t” etc except when the context is proverbial or demanded by some colloquialism:  
“It ain’t necessarily so.” “He would say that, wouldn’t he?”

They’re entirely legal in reported speech:

My constituent told me, “You lot couldn’t run a piss-up in a brewery.”

Some sedentary remarks may require the use of a contraction:

“He’s behind you.” would be better than “The right hon. Member is behind the hon. Member.”

- >contractorisation—outside contractors do previously in-house work
- >contractualisation—use of contracts, commercial or otherwise, to govern conduct of public services and relations between bodies
- >contribution to this debate—try “speech”
- >controlled—the council is Labour controlled; a Labour-controlled council
- >convener—Scottish local government official

- >convenor—trade union official
- >convention—agreements lc: European convention on human rights; uc in titles of organisations eg COSLA
- >Convention of Scottish Local Authorities—COSLA; [“coz-la”]
- >convention on certain conventional weapons—the CCW; unless necessary, don’t expand to: convention on prohibitions or restrictions on the use of certain conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects
- >convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women—UN, 1979; CEDAW
- >Convention on the Future of Europe—the European Convention; the Convention; (Do not confuse with the European convention on human rights!) met Feb 2002 to June 2003; president: Valéry Giscard d’Estaing article I-17; article I-9(3); this is the Convention to which the Standing Committee on the Convention referred
- >convention on the rights of the child—UN, 1989
- >convention relating to the status of refugees—UN, 1951; “the refugee convention” or “UN refugee convention” are fine
- >COP—don’t expand to conference of the parties if there is a number eg COP10 COP26; refers to UN framework convention on climate change; COP26 President [Alok Sharma]
- >cop out (v); cop-out (n)
- >Copenhagen Consensus Centre—Copenhagen Consensus recommendations; Danish think-tank that advises on the spending of development aid
- >Coptic Church, Coptic Christians, the Copts
- >CORAD—Committee on Restrictions Against Disabled People [1977, Peter Large]
- >Cordis—Community research and development information service; (EU); no need to expand
- >CORE—co-ordinated online record of electors [formerly “register”]; CORE keeper
- >Core Cities—group promoting the role of the 10 leading cities outside London
- >COREPER—see Committee of Permanent Representatives; Coreper I
- >cornerstone
- >CORGs—control order review groups; control orders were replaced by terrorism prevention and investigation measures in 2011
- >CBILS—coronavirus business interruption loan scheme
- >CLBILS—coronavirus large business interruption loan scheme
- >coroner—appointed by local authorities [Lord Chancellor in NI] the coroner; a coroner’s court; coroners courts; coroner service; Chief Coroner is Peter Thornton
- >corporal—uc with names: Corporal Jones; lc otherwise
- >corridor—lc: Committee corridor; Upper Committee corridor; “I had a word in the corridor”; corridors of power; the Polish corridor;
- >CoRWM—Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (sometimes pronounced “Corum”)
- >Corus—now part of Tata; formed by 1999 merger of British Steel with Koninklijke Hoogovens in 1999. Plants: Llanwern
- >Cory, Peter—Canadian judge reported on collusion in NI killings, 2004

Pat Finucane; Robert Hamill; Rosemary Nelson; Billy Wright

- >COSAC—Conference of Community and European Affairs Committees of Parliaments of the European Union; [EU national Parliaments talk shop] COSAC is ok without expansion. Now stands for Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union
- >COSHEP—Committee of Scottish Higher Education Principals; Universities Scotland since 2000
- >COSHH—Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002
- >COSLA—Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
- >cost-benefit
- >cost-effective, cost-effectiveness—always hyphenated
- >cost-neutral
- >cost of living crisis—no hyphens
- >Costello report—2004, post-primary education [NI]
- >COTIF—convention concerning international carriage by rail [convention relative aux transports internationaux ferroviaires]
- >Cotonou agreement—EU-ACP deal; replaced Lomé convention 2000
- >coulomb—SI unit of electric charge; with figures: 1 coulomb; 2.5 coulombs;
- >council—1. uc in local government: Wandsworth Borough Council; Haringey Council; Greater Manchester Council; East Sussex County Council; Carrick District Council  
2. uc in organisations: Press Council, but “the council”  
3. always singular
- >Council for Awards in Children’s Care and Education—calls itself CACHE, which will do just fine; ex-NNEB; now stands for Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education
- >Council for Catholic Maintained Schools—CCMS; [NI]
- >Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside—in NI
- >Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine—became the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) in 2012
- >Council for Science and Technology—advisory NDPB
- >Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils—CCLRC; merged with Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council (PPARC) in 2007 to form the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)
- >Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment—CCEA; NI examining body, est 1994; no “Northern Ireland” at start unless Member says it or context demands it.
- >Council for the Protection of Rural England—renamed Campaign to Protect Rural England [from 2003]
- >Council for the Regulation of Health Care Professionals—est 12/02; renamed the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence, which then became the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care (PSA) in 2012
- >council for voluntary service—280 of them; see NACVS
- >Council of Ethnic Minority Voluntary Sector Organisations—CEMVO; wound up in 2013, but CEMVO Scotland still exists

- >Council of Europe—the Council; meets Strasbourg; runs ECHR; not an EU institution; has a secretary-general; committees; Assembly
- >Council of Ministers—the Council. Meetings of EU Ministers; composition varies according to subject. Thus: Agriculture Council;  
= Council of the European Union;
- >Council of Mortgage Lenders
- >Council of the European Union—usually called Council of Ministers;
- >Council of Regional Ministers—brought together what were the nine ministers for the English regions as well as ministers for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.
- >Council on Foreign Relations—US think-tank (est 1921)
- >Council on Tribunals—monitors tribunals; replaced by the Administrative Justice and Tribunals Council (AJTC) in 2007
- >Councils of the Commonwealth
- >council tax—council tax payer; replaced community charge 1993
- >council tax benefit
- >councillor—lc but with a name Councillor Smith
- >councilman—deputy to alderman in City of London
- >counter-attack
- >counter-insurgency—sometimes known as COIN
- >counter-Reformation—the Catholic reaction to the Reformation
- >counter-terrorism
- >Counter-Terrorism Committee [of UN, est 2001]
- >counterclaim
- >countermeasure
- >counterproductive
- >countervailing
- >counterweight
- >country—1. “in this country” is usually dispensable if not designed to contrast it with others  
2. Especially in debates on Scotland, Wales and NI, “this country” is not always synonymous with “UK”, “Britain” or “England”
- >Country Land and Business Association—the CLA; ex Country Landowners Association
- >Countryside Agency—1998 merger of Countryside Commission and Rural Development Commission. Defunct since 2006. Functions transferred to several bodies (largely Natural England)
- >Countryside Alliance—hunting n’ rural affairs pressure group
- >Countryside Commission—Countryside Agency since 1998
- >Countryside Council for Wales—the CCW merged with Forestry Commission Wales and Environment Agency Wales to form Natural Resources Wales in 2013
- >Countryside Restoration Trust
- >countryside stewardship scheme—dosh for landowners
- >county—lc unless immediately before name: county of Kent, but County Durham, County Down etc. The Six Counties and the Nine Counties refer to Ulster as it is and was respectively. Follow usage.

- >county council—Kent County Council
- >county councils network—“special interest group” of LGA
- >county court
- >County Hall—once home to GLC
- >Cour de Cassation—top French court
- >coursework
- >court—see also separate entries; uc in European Court of Human Rights; European Court of Justice; European Court of Auditors; the European Court(s); Court of Appeal & Appeal Court (but not general refs); Court of Session; International Court of Justice; International Criminal Court; High Court; High Court of Justiciary; All those would be “the Court” in later references.
 

lc for Crown court; county court; divisional court; sheriff (not sheriff’s) court(s); magistrates court(s)[no apostrophe]; district court; criminal court; civil court; all of which are “the court”; administrative court; a coroner’s court; the coroners’ courts;
- >court cases, citation of—see legal cases
- >court martial (n)—plural is courts martial; verb is to court-martial; “He was court-martialled.”
- >Court of Appeal—uc for the Court presided over by Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices of Appeal; lc for gen. references to courts that hear appeals
- >Court of Arbitration for Sport [in Lausanne]
- >court of common council—runs City of London
- >court of directors—Bank of England
- >Court of First Instance—[EU] est 1989 to ease ECJ work load; lc for general references: it is a court of first instance
- >Court of Protection—deals with public guardianship
- >Court of Referees—chaired by Chairman of Ways and Means; considers petitions against private Bills
- >Court of Session—top Scottish civil court; the Court; inner house with first and second divisions and outer house; exists in symbiosis with High Court of Justiciary (Scottish superior criminal court); Lord President; Lords of Session; Lord Justice Clerk;
- >courthouse
- >courtroom
- >Courts Service—in full: Her Majesty’s Courts Service; Merged with the Tribunals Service in 2011 to form Her Majesty’s Courts and Tribunals Service
- >courts-martial appeal court—part of Court of Appeal
- >COVAX—facility for equitable access to affordable COVID-19 vaccines; co-led by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
- >COV-Boost—Southampton University NHS Trust-led study trialling different vaccines for use as third dose
- >covid-19
- >Covid Recovery Group—group of Conservative Back Benchers who opposed covid lockdowns
- >CPA—1. Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

2. Centre for Policy on Ageing
  3. comprehensive performance assessment
  4. coalition provisional authority [Iraq]
- >CPAG—Child Poverty Action Group
  - >CPF—carbon price floor
  - >CPI—consumer prices index
  - >CPO—1. crime prevention officer  
2. community punishment order
  - >CPPIH—Commission for Patient and Public Involvement in Health; replaced by Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) in 2008, which were then abolished in 2013
  - >CPRE—Campaign to Protect Rural England; was Council for the Protection of Rural England to 2003
  - >CPS—1. Crown Prosecution Service; headed by DPP  
2. cycles per second
  - >CPSA—Civil and Public Services Association; 1998 became PCS
  - >CPT—Confederation of Passenger Transport UK
  - >CPTPP—comprehensive and progressive agreement for trans-Pacific partnership
  - >CQUIN—commissioning for quality and innovation; CQUIN payment framework—makes a proportion of health providers’ income conditional on quality and innovation
  - >CRaG process, CRaG Act process—Constitutional Reform and Governance Act process
  - >CRARRV—Challenger armoured repair and recovery vehicle
  - >CRB—Criminal Records Bureau. Merged with the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) in 2012 to form the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
  - >CRE—Commission for Racial Equality. Part of the Equality and Human Rights Commission since 2007
  - >creme—use crème
  - >Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease; CJD, variant CJD, vCJD
  - >crew—plural & who: “The crew, who have worked hard...”
  - >Crichel Down—’50s scandal led to procedure for disposal of land acquired by compulsory purchase
  - >cricket world cup
  - >crime and disorder reduction partnerships—between police and councils
  - >Criminal Bar Association
  - >Criminal Cases Review Commission—est 1997
  - >criminal court
  - >crime fighting fund—est c.2000
  - >Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA, pronounced “Seeker”)—established 1996; Exec agency
  - >Criminal Records Bureau—Exec agency, est 2002; vets employees. Merged with the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) in 2012 to form the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
  - >Cripps, Sir Stafford—Labour austerity Chancellor 1948-50, etc.
  - >Crisis—homelessness charity

- > criterion—plural criteria
- > crony, cronies—not croney; Tony’s cronies
- > Cross Benches—in the House of Lords, where the non-party peers sit. In practice, many are Tories. Cross Benchers, Cross-Bench peers
- > cross-cutting—stuff on which Depts overlap
- > cross-pollinate, cross-pollinated, cross-pollination
- > cross-subsidy
- > cross over (v) crossover (adj & n)
- > crossing the t’s
- > Crossrail—joint venture by SRA & TfL
- > crowdfunding
- > Crown—the institution is uc: the Spanish Crown; the Crown; Crown prerogative; Crown court;
- > Crown Agent—top Scottish legal official
- > Crown court
- > Crown Estate
- > Crown Office—runs prosecutions in Scotland
- > Crown Prosecution Service—run by DPP
- > Crown prosecutor
- > CRUCC—Central Rail Users Consultative Committee. Became Passenger Focus in 2006, which then became Transport Focus in 2014
- > crucially important—use “crucial”
- > Cruickshank, Don—c in middle; chaired banking review 1998-2000; Action 2000 (millennium bug); stock exchange; Oftel;
- > crusade—the crusades
- > cryptocurrencies
- > crystal clear
- > CSA—Child Support Agency
- > CSCE—Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe; OSCE since 1994
- > CSCI—Commission for Social Care Inspection; often pronounced “sea-sky”. Abolished in 2009
- > CSM—Committee on Safety of Medicines. Replaced by the Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) in 2005
- > CSO—1. Central Statistical Office; now Office for National Statistics  
2. community support officer  
3. combined sewer overflow
- > CSR—comprehensive spending review
- > CST—Council for Science and Technology
- > CT—computed tomography; but CT scan will do
- > CTBT—comprehensive test ban treaty
- > CTC—1. city technology college  
2. child tax credit, which replaced children’s tax credit  
3. Counter-Terrorism Committee [UN]
- > CTIRU—counter-terrorism internet referral unit
- > cubic measures—with figures: 3 cubic centimetres; 3 cubic metres; 3 cubic millimetres; imperially: 7 cubic inches; 6 cubic feet; but cubic yards etc out in full;

- cc for cubic centimetre is ok with engines etc: 250 cc
- >Cubie, Andrew—2000 report reformed tuition fees in Scotland
- >Culham—physics lab. associated with JET
- >Cullen, Lord (William)—chaired inquiries: Piper Alpha oil rig fire 1990; Dunblane shootings 1996; Ladbroke Grove rail crash 1999
- >Cultural Olympiad; Cultural Olympiad Board
- >cum—with hyphens: study-cum-bedroom
- >cup final
- >Cure the NHS—campaign calling for inquiry into what happened at Mid Staffs; founder: Julie Bailey
- >Curia—the papal court; runs Vatican
- >curie—unit of radioactivity; with figures: 25 curies
- >currency—see money
- >curriculum—the plural is curricula, the adjective is curricular; extra-curricular
- >Curry report—Donald Curry, policy commission on the future of farming and food [2002]
- >custody minus, custody plus
- >customs—lc in general references: go through customs; uc in reference to Customs and Excise (qv); customs duties; customs officers;
- >Customs and Excise—1. singular 2. Board of Customs and Excise; Customs; from 2005: Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs
- >cut back (v); cutback (n)—but try “cut”
- >CV—don’t expand to curriculum vitae
- >CVA—contextual value added
- >CVCP—Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals; Universities UK since 2000
- >CVF—carrier vessel future
- >CVO—chief veterinary officer
- >CVR(T)—combat vehicle reconnaissance (tracked)
- >CVS—council(s) for voluntary service
- >CWU—Communication Workers Union
- >cyber-something—cyber-security, cyber-attack, cyber-warfare, cyber-crime, cyber-sex, cyber-space BUT cyber sanction (because they are sanctions against certain cyber-activity rather than being cyber themselves)
- >cycle—in physics, a recurrent series of operations or states; with figures: 2 cycles
- >cycles per second—same as hertz; out in full with figures: 25 cycles per second; may use cps if it crops up a lot in one debate
- >cyclone names—e.g. Cyclone Sidr
- >Cymbeline—mortar locating radar
- >Cyprus—
  - General*
  - Attila line—aka green line
  - bi-zonal, bi-communal
  - enosis – unification with Greece
  - green line—aka Attila line, UN buffer zone between Greek and Turkish areas northern Cyprus, the north, the south
  - SBA—sovereign base area [British bases at Akrotiri and Dhekelia]
  - TFSC – Turkish Federated State of Cyprus [est 1974] declared independence

as TRNC in 1983  
TRNC – Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus 1983  
UNFICYP—United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus

### *Places*

Akrotiri and Dhekelia are the two UK sovereign base areas  
Karpas—region of northern Cyprus  
Famagusta, Morphou, Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Varosha

### *People*

Archbishop Makarios—President 1959-July 1974, Dec 1974-1977  
Clerides, Glafcos—President 1993-2003  
Denktaş Rauf—President, TRNC  
Eroglu, Dervis—former TRNC Prime Minister  
Grivas, George – EOKA leader  
Kyprianou, Spyros—President 1977-88  
Loizidou, Mrs Titina—Greek Cypriot woman whose home was seized  
Papadopoulos, Tassos—President 2003-  
Sampson, Nikos – EOKA militant, President, July–Dec 1974  
Talat, Mehmet Ali—TRNC Prime Minister 2004-  
Vassiliou, Georghios – President 1988-93

### *Envoys*

David Hannay, Richard Holbrooke, Diego Cordovez, Han Sung-Joo,  
Alvaro De Soto [UN special representative 1999-2004]

### *Political parties* [normally no need to expand]

AKEL—Anorthotiko Komma Ergazomenou Laou [Progressive Party of the Working People]  
DIKO—Dimokratiko Komma [Democratic party]  
DISY—Dimokratikos Synagermos [Democratic Rally]  
EOKA –1950s anti-UK pro-enosis movement [National Organisation of Cypriot Combatants]

- >Czar, czarism etc—use Tsar, tsarism etc
- >D—as in doctor of philosophy, DPhil; DSc; no need to expand
- >D notice—D notice committee guides press on security stories; renamed DA – Defence Advisory - notice in 1993 but still commonly known as a D notice
- >D-day—6 June 1944
- >DAB—digital audio broadcasting; DAB digital radio (no need to expand)
- >Dacca—use Dhaka, don't confuse with Dakar
- >Dad's Army—the TV programme is "Dad's Army", general refs: " a real Dad's Army"; Private Frazer (not Fraser)[John Laurie],
- >Daesh—Arabic acronym for ISIS; go with usage; Daesh/Isil; Daesh/IS
- >*Daily Mail*
- >*Daily Mirror*—"Daily" has reappeared on the masthead

- > *Daily Post*—[Liverpool/N Wales]
- > *Daily Record*
- > *Daily Sport*
- > *Daily Star*
- > *Daily Telegraph, The*
- > DaimlerChrysler—1998 merger; Daimler AG since 2007 sale of Chrysler
- > Dairy Council—despite its logo, its real name is National Dairy Council
- > Dairy Farmers of Britain—milk co-operative that went into receivership in 2009
- > daisy cutter—heavy US bomb, the BLU-82B
- > Dakar—Senegal; don't confuse with Dhaka (formerly Dacca)
- > dales—Yorkshire dales etc; Derbyshire Dales is a council
- > Daley, Arthur—George Cole's dodgy businessman in "Minder"
- > Dalgety—underfunded pension scheme company
- > damascene—(lower case d)
- > Daniels and Diack test—reading tests
- > DARA—Defence Aviation Repair Agency. Became part of the Defence Support Group in 2008
- > DARD—Department of Agriculture and Rural Development [in NI]
- > DARE—drug abuse resistance education
- > dare say—two words
- > Daresbury laboratory—run by CCLRC; in Cheshire; has SRS, or synchrotron radiation source
- > Darfur—troubled province of Sudan
- > DASA—Defence Analytical Services and Advice; was Defence Analytical Services Agency; split into Defence Economics and Defence Statistics in 2013
- > Dassault—French aircraft company; makes Mirage, Rafale
- > data—can be singular or plural, so go with Member's usage
- > dataset
- > Data Protection Act 2018—updated Data Protection Act 1998, which itself repealed Data Protection Act 1984; don't bother to specify date if unclear
- > data protection commissioner—since 2000, Information Commissioner
- > database
- > date rape
- > date-based export scheme
- > dates—12 November [not November 12]; Monday 12 November 1987  
the 6th of this month; the 1st of last month  
2018-19; '18-19; 1984-85 [not 1984-5]; from 1969-70 to 1980-81  
between 1984 and 1988 [not 1984-88]  
from 1969 to 1974 [not 1969-74]  
the 1970s; the '70s  
the 19th century; 20th-century developments
- > Davies/Davis—Davies: Ron (Wales); Howard (FSA); Gavyn (ex-BBC); Davis: David (Tory);
- > Davies commission—examines the need for additional airport capacity; Airports Commission
- > Davos—where World Economic Forum meets (Switzerland)

- >day—1. St George’s day; Boxing day; new year’s day; Opposition day; supply day; allotted day; Christmas day; estimates day;
- 2. The likes of national No-smoking Day and International Women’s Day are uc
- >day one
- >Dayton accords, agreement, whatever—1995, ended Bosnian war
- >dBA—A-weighted decibels adjust the sound pressure to conform with the frequency responses of the human ear. Airport noise is almost always measured in dBA.
- >DBERR—what was the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (also known as BERR)
- >DBES—date-based export system [meat]
- >DC-10—airliner; also DC-8, DC-9;
- >DCA—Department for Constitutional Affairs; often jocularly DCAF or decaff, if the joke requires it
- >DCAL—Department for Culture, Arts and Leisure [in NI]
- >DCLG—Department for Communities and Local Government; formed in May 2006 as successor Department to the ODPM; title changed in 2018 to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- >DDCMS—Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, previously DCMS; “digital” added July 2017
- >DCSF—Department for Children, Schools and Families; defunct 2010
- >DDA—Disability Discrimination Act 1995
- >DDR—disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration
- >DDRB—Review Body on Doctors’ and Dentists’ Remuneration; Doctors and Dentists Review Body is ok
- >DE&S—Defence Equipment and Support; DE&S-plus will keep defence procurement in Government hands
- >de Chastelain, General John—head of Independent International Commission on Decommissioning; disbanded 2011
- >de Gaulle, Charles
- >de Havilland—old aircraft company
- >de Hoop Scheffer, Jaap—Secretary-General of NATO [2004] Mr de Hoop Scheffer
- >De-escalation and Co-ordination Committee—UN mechanism to deal with incidents of concern effectively and reduce the likelihood of escalation
- >de-mining
- >de-trunking—reducing a road’s status
- >DEA—1. Drug Enforcement Administration [US]
- 2. Department of Economic Affairs (UK, 1960s)
- >deadbeat
- >dead-weight
- >dead peasants insurance—companies insure employees’ lives and claim the benefits without employee or family knowledge
- >deafblind—deafblindness
- >Deafblind UK
- >death knell
- >deathtrap
- >death-warrant

- >deathbed (n and adj)
- >debacle—not “débâcle”
- >debatable—not “debateable”
- >debate—defence debate; agriculture debate; Budget debate; Opposition day debate;
  - supply day debate; Queen’s Speech debate etc
- >debateable—use “debatable”
- >Debt Management Office—an exec agency under the Treasury, no need for “UK”
- >DEC—Disasters Emergency Committee [UK aid charities umbrella group]
- >deca—prefix signifying a factor of 10; if you come across any measures involving it (decalitre etc) do them in full
- >decasualisation—of docks labour etc
- >DECC—Department of Energy and Climate Change
- >deci—prefix denoting one tenth
- >decibel—noise unit; with figures: 80 dB
- >decilitre—10 decilitres
- >decision making (n); decision-making (adj): decision-making powers
- >decommission
- >Decommissioning Commission—full title: Independent International Commission on Decommissioning; now disbanded
- >decor—use décor
- >decriminalise
- >deductible, deductibility
- >deep—deep-water port, deep-sea diving
- >Deepcut
- >defence—always UK spelling, except in quotations; thus the US has a Defence (not defense) Secretary, Department etc
- >Defence Analytical Services and Advice; split into Defence Economics and Defence Statistics; see above DASA entry
- >Defence and Overseas Policy Committee—a Cabinet Committee that is now defunct
- >Defence Aviation Repair Agency—now part of Defence Support Group
- >Defence Bills Agency—is now defunct
- >Defence Board—main corporate body in MOD
- >Defence Business Services—delivers corporate services in the MOD
- >Defence Council—top Govt-services body
- >Defence Equipment and Support – amalgamation of Defence Procurement Agency and Defence Logistics Organisation; DE&S; DE&S-plus
- >Defence Estates—Executive agency that ran MOD property is now the Defence Infrastructure Organisation
- >Defence Export Services Organisation
- >defence fire service
- >Defence Geographic and Imagery Intelligence Agency; became part of Defence Intelligence Fusion Centre
- >defence helicopter flying school
- >Defence Intelligence and Security Centre
- >Defence Logistics Organisation—now part of DE&S
- >Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre—DMRC, based at Headley Court

- >Defence Medical Services
- >Defence Procurement Agency—was Procurement Executive to 1999; now part of DE&S
- >Defence Reform Unit—reviewing structure of MOD; chair: Lord Levene
- >Defence Science and Technology Laboratory—DSTL; Exec agency est when DERA was split into Qinetiq and DSTL in 2001; sites include: Porton Down; Winfrith; Fort Halstead; Bincleaves
- >Defence Support Group—defunct
- >deferred Division
- >Defence Vetting Agency—now part of Defence Business Services National Security Vetting
- >defined-benefit schemes, defined-contribution schemes
- >DEFRA—Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- >degree—1. The word is often dispensable: a considerable degree of protection = considerable protection, subsidised to a massive degree = massively subsidised
  2. Angles—use superscript symbol: 45°
  3. Education—BA, BEd, MSc, PhD, DPhil etc; no stops, unexpanded. “He has an MA.”
  4. Proof—45° proof
  5. Longitude/latitude—45° west
  6. Temperature—see separate entry
- >deja vu—has accents: déjà vu
- >DEL—departmental expenditure limit
- >delayer, delayering—stripping out layers of management
- >delegated legislation—secondary legislation, ie statutory instruments, rules, regulations, orders; First Delegated Legislation Committee
- >Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee—a Lords Select Committee Commons equivalent is the Regulatory Reform Committee
- >delayed discharge—same as bed blocking
- >Deloitte and Touche—now Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, commonly just called Touche
- >Delors, Jacques—French politician, ex-President European Commission
- >delphic
- >demand-led—always hyphenated: it is demand-led; demand-led provision
- >demarche—use démarche
- >Democratic Republic of the Congo—the DRC; ex-Zaire, ex-Belgian Congo; not the same as the Republic of the Congo (qv)
 

adj/people: the Congolese flag; Look, two Congolese!

places: Boma; Bunia; Gbadolite; Goma; Kinshasa (ex-Leopoldville); Kisangani (ex-Stanleyville); Lubumbashi;

areas: Ituri; Katanga (ex-Shaba); Kivu;

peoples: Banyamulenge (=Tutsis in DRC); Hema; Lendu;

parties: AFDL – Alliance des forces démocratiques pour la libération du Congo-Zaire [Kabila’s forces]

RCD – Rassemblement congolais démocratique [Rwandan-backed]  
MLC – Mouvement pour la libération du Congo [Ugandan-backed]  
Mai-Mai militia

people: Patrice Lumumba (murdered 1961); Joseph Kasavubu (pres. 60s)  
Joseph-Desiré Mobutu, aka Mobutu Sese Seko (pres. 1965-97)  
Laurent Kabila (pres. 1997-2001) Joseph Kabila (pres. 2001- )

see also coltan; MONUC; Rwanda;

- >Democratic Unionist party—the DUP;
- >Democrats—uc for US party: the Democrats; he is a Democrat
- >Demos—think-tank
- >denazification
- >Denktaş, Rauf—former President, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus
- >Denmark—  
Queen: Margrethe II; PM: Helle Thorning-Schmidt
- >Department—1. uc in Government Departments: Department of Health and Social Care;  
the Department; other Departments;  
2. same applies to devolved Administrations;  
3. lc for departments within Departments:  
“The Russian department of the Foreign Office.”  
3. lc for local govt etc: “Brent social services department”.
- >Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy—BEIS, formed July 2017.
- >Department for Business, Innovation and Skills—BIS; until July 2017, now BEIS.
- >Department for Children, Schools and Families—DCSF (emerged from the DFES);  
is now the Department for Education
- >Department for Communities and Local Government—DCLG
- >Department for Culture, Media and Sport—DCMS, until July 2017
- >Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport—as of July 2017; may be known  
as DDCMS or DCMS
- >Department for Education—as of May 2010
- >Department for Education and Skills—the DFES; preceded by: Board of Education;  
Ministry of Education; Department of Education and Science (DES);  
Department of Education (DOE); Department for Education and Employment  
(DFEE);
- >Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs—replaced MAFF, 2001
- >Department for Exiting the European Union—DExEU
- >Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills—DIUS was dissolved in 2009
- >Department for International Development
- >Department for International Trade
- >Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions—existed 2001-02  
split into DFT and ODPM
- >Department for Transport—2002-
- >Department of Economic Affairs—‘60s counterweight to Treasury
- >Department of Energy and Climate Change—DECC

- >Department of Social Security—became DWP 2001
- >Department of State
- >Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions—existed 1997-2001
- >Department of Trade and Industry was dissolved 2007
- >departmental
- >departmental Committee
- >departmental report
- >dependant (n) dependent (adj)
- >dependent territories; British dependent territories
- >depression—the great depression; during the depression
- >depute clerk—clerk of court in Scotland
- >deputy—most deputies are lc, exceptions below. Thus deputy Leader of the Opposition etc
- >Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means
- >Deputy First Minister—in devolved Administrations
- >Deputy Leader of the House
- >Deputy Prime Minister
- >Deputy Speaker—Mr or Madam Deputy Speaker;
- >DERA—Defence Evaluation and Research Agency; now Qinetiq
- >deradicalisation
- >Derby—the horse race: Derby day
- >deregulate, deregulation
- >Deregulation and Regulatory Reform Committee—Commons Select Committee, renamed Regulatory Reform Committee [2004]
- >deregulation order—supposed to reduce regulatory burden on business
- >Derry/Londonderry
- >derv—a fuel; [don't expand to diesel-engined road vehicle]
- >descendant (n) [ie people with ancestors or the opposite of the ascendant]
- >descendent—adjective meaning “going down” or “proceeding from an ancestor”
- >desert—lc: Sahara desert
- >deserts—just deserts (ie, what is deserved, not “desserts”)
- >Design Council
- >deskilling
- >DESO—Defence Export Services Organisation; see UKTI DSO
- >despatch—use dispatch
- >Detainee Inquiry—examining whether there was improper treatment of detainees after 9/11; chair: Sir Peter Gibson
- >detente—use détente
- >DETI—Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment [in NI]; digital engineering technology and innovation initiative
- >DToCs—delayed transfers of care (official term for bed-blocking); sounds like “detox”
- >DETR—Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions [1997-2001]
- >Deutschmark—1,000 Deutschmarks; the old D-mark;
- >developers' charter—as Boris Johnson's planning reforms are often referred to
- >development corporations—lc, but see Commonwealth Development Corporation

- >devil—lower case
- >devo-max—fiscal federalism option in any Scottish independence referendum
- >DFE—Department for Education
- >DFES—Department for Education and Skills; existed from 2001 to 2007
- >DFID—Department for International Development
- >DFT—Department for Transport
- >DHSC—Department of Health and Social Care
- >Dhaka—capital of Bangladesh, former spelling, Dacca; don't confuse with Dakar in Senegal
- >DHA—the district health authorities went in 1996
- >d'Hondt system—a form of proportional representation
- >DHP—discretionary housing payment
- >DHSC—directorate of health and social care;
- >Diabetes UK—support charity
- >dial-a-ride
- >diamond jubilee
- >diarrhoea
- >dictionary—"Oxford English Dictionary" "Chambers" etc
- >didicoi—slang for Gypsy or itinerant tinker
- >*Die Welt*
- >Diego Garcia—atoll in Chagos islands, part of British Indian Ocean Territory, site of US base
- >different—different from, not "to" or "than"
- >digibox
- >Digital Britain for the strategy; "Digital Britain" if a specific reference to the report
- >Digital-Trust—charity supporting the victims of digital abuse
- >Digital UK—overseeing switchover from analogue to digital TV
- >diktat
- >dilatory motion—one to postpone business by adjourning debate
- >dilute and disperse, dilute-and-disperse policy
- >dining room—House Dining Rooms are uc: Press Dining Room etc
- >Diplock courts—NI since 1972, trial without jury
- >diplomatic note
- >diplomatic service
- >dire straits
- >directive—EU directives: directive 29/81; equal treatment directive; directive on official inspection of foodstuffs; for subdivisions see documents: article I etc
- >Directly Operated Railways—ran the east coast franchise; franchise taken over by Virgin Trains East Coast February 2015
- >director general—pl. directors general; all lc: director general of fair trading; director general of telecommunications
- >director-general of the BBC
- >director of fair access—OFFA [higher ed.]
- >director of operational capability—army training
- >Director of Public Prosecutions—the DPP; heads CPS; the director; Alison Saunders  
Former DPPs: Keir Starmer 2008-13; Ken Macdonald 2003-2008; David

- Calvert-Smith 1998-2003; Barbara Mills 1992-98; Sir Allan Green 1987-92
- > Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland—Alasdair Fraser
  - > directorates of health and social care—replaced regional offices in 2002; there are four: directorate of health and social care north; the others are London; south; east; DHSCs
  - > directorates-general—1. European Commission example: external relations directorate-general, which has directorates A, B, C etc
  - 2. Council of the European Union example: directorate-general B, which has directorates I, II, III etc
  - > Disability Alliance is now Disability Rights UK
  - > Disability Confident campaign
  - > disability and carers service—merging with Pension Service on 1 April 2008 to form the Pension, Disability and Carers Service which became defunct in 2011
  - > disability living allowance
  - > Disability Rights Commission is now part of the Equality and Human Rights Commission
  - > disabled person's tax credit
  - > Disarm Trust—anti-gun charity
  - > disassociate—use “dissociate”
  - > Disasters Emergency Committee—charities umbrella group
  - > disburse—pay out money; disperse = scatter
  - > disc—not “disk”; computer discs
  - > discreet—prudent, tactful; discrete—consisting of separate parts
  - > DISC—Defence Intelligence and Security Centre
  - > Disclosure Scotland is an executive agency
  - > disenfranchise/disfranchise – both are legitimate so go with the Member
  - > disk—use disc
  - > dispatch—not “despatch”
  - > disperse—don't confuse with disburse (=pay out)
  - > Dispatch Box—at which Front Benches stand to debate
  - > dissociate—not “disassociate”; takes from
  - > Dissolution—uc when referring to the end of a Parliament
  - > dissolve—Parliament is dissolved before a general election but prorogued at the end of a Session
  - > district council—Braintree District Council (now upper case with name)
  - > district court—magistrates court in Scotland
  - > district health authorities—DHAs replaced 1996
  - > district policing partnership—NI bodies
  - > DIUS—Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills
  - > DIVA test—test for bovine TB; differentiates between infected and vaccinated animals
  - > Division—1. uc if it means a vote in the House or Committee; Division Lobby; Division bell; deferred Division
  - 2. lc if it refers to a constituency: “He long represented the Erdington division.”
  - 3. lc for legal entities: chancery division; Queen's bench division; divisional court; first division [Court of Session]

- 4. lc for sports: first division; second division;
- 5. uc in British Army unit titles: 51st Highland Division;
- >divisional court
- >Djakarta—use Jakarta
- >DLA—disability living allowance; will be replaced by personal independence payment (PIP)
- >DLO—1. Defence Logistics Organisation (now part of Defence Equipment and Support)  
2. direct labour organisation [local councils]
- >DMETA—Defence Medical Education and Training Agency
- >DMO—Debt Management Office, an exec agency under the Treasury
- >DMRC—Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre replaced by Joint Medical Command in 2008
- >DMS—Defence Medical Services
- >DNA—don't expand to deoxyribonucleic acid; DNA testing
- >do-gooder
- >do-it-yourself—hyphenated when adjectival or means DIY
- >do nothing party—Labour description of Conservative party
- >DOC—director of operational capability
- >dock workers
- >docklands—London docklands
- >docklands light railway
- >dockyard
- >doctor—1. With names: Dr Foster  
2. In degrees: doctor of philosophy; but no need to expand DPhil, PhD etc
- >Doctors and Dentists Review Body—properly Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration, but ok
- >doctrine—since the Monroe doctrine of 1823, most self-respecting US Presidents have issued one
- >dog-whistle politics
- >DHSC—Department of Health and Social Care
- >Doha round
- >dollars—with figures: \$40 million [ie US dollars] in full for the rest: 40 million Australian dollars; 40 million Canadian dollars;
- >dome—the dome; millennium dome
- >Domesday Book
- >Domestic Abuse Commissioner—Nicole Jacobs appointed as designate commissioner in 2019
- >Domestic Committees—House Select Committees that cover House admin: Accommodation and Works Committee; Administration Committee; Broadcasting Committee; Catering Committee; Information Committee
- >domiciliary—unlike ancillary, this has a second i
- >Dominie T1—RAF navigation trainer
- >dominion—uc when the former status of Canada etc is meant; the Dominions, the Dominion of Canada
- >Donbas—region of south-eastern Ukraine
- >DONG Energy—Danish energy company

- >doomsday—but Domesday Book
- >Doorkeeper—badged officer of the Houses of Parliament
- >dotcom—not “dot.com”
- >DOTAS—disclosure of tax avoidance schemes
- >DOTS—direct observation treatment, short-course [in TB]
- >dotting the i’s and crossing the t’s
- >double-dip recession
- >double Dutch
- >double-talk
- >double whammy; triple whammy [no hyphens]
- >doughnutting—h Ms clustering around a speaker to suggest a good (or diverse) attendance in the Chamber
- >Dounreay—nuclear power station
- >Dowler, Amanda—aka Milly (not Millie); murdered child
- >down, downs—Twyford down, the south downs; but County Down [NI]
- >Down’s syndrome
- >down-trodden
- >downgrade, downgrading
- >Downing Street—“Talks at No. 10”; “No. 10 is unhappy”; “Downing Street is delighted”
- >downrated, downrating
- >downside—as in “on the downside” “there is a downside”
- >downsize
- >downskilling
- >downstream (adj and adv)
- >downswing
- >downturn
- >DPA—Defence Procurement Agency ; now part of Defence Equipment and Support
- >DPP—1. Director of Public Prosecutions  
2. district policing partnership [in NI]
- >DPPO—designated public places order
- >DPTC—disabled person’s tax credit
- >Dr—abbreviation used with names: Dr Foster; no full stop
- >draconian—not Draconian;
- >draft Bill—after publication: “On the draft Corruption Bill...”
- >draftsman—a draftsman writes, a draughtsman draws; the parliamentary draftsman;  
draft legislation etc
- >Drainage Council for Northern Ireland
- >draught-proof, draught-proofing
- >draughtsman—see draftsman
- >draw down (v) drawdown (n & adj)
- >drawing board
- >DRC—1. Democratic Republic of the Congo; was Zaire  
2. Disability Rights Commission is now part of Equality and Human Rights Commission

- >drink-driver, drink-driving
- >driven—hyphenated as suffix: policy-driven etc
- >Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
- >Driver and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland—the DVLNl now Driver and Vehicle Agency
- >Driving Standards Agency now Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency
- >drop in (v) drop-in (adj): drop-in centre
- >drop out (v) drop-out (n)
- >Drug Enforcement Administration—in US
- >drug running
- >drug taking
- >drug pedlar
- >drugs squad
- >drugs tsar
- >Drumcree—scene of regular parade-related protests in NI
- >Druze—Islamic sect
- >DVSA—Driving and Vehicle Standards Agency, formerly Driving Standards Agency
- >DSACEUR—Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (General Sir John Reith)
- >DSL—digital subscriber line
- >DSM—devolved school management; (Scotland)
- >DSS—Department of Social Security; DWP from 2001
- >DSTL—Defence Science and Technology Laboratory;
- >DTI—Department of Trade and Industry
- >DTLR—Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions
- >DTT—digital terrestrial television
- >DTTO—drug treatment and testing order
- >DU—depleted uranium; used in ammunition
- >duchy— uc in formal titles of genuine entities: Duchy of Cornwall, Duchy of Lancaster; the duchy;
- >duke—Duke of Kent, the duke; Iron Duke [ie the Duke of Wellington]
- >Dulles, John Foster—US Secretary of State, 1950s
- >Dumbarton—but Dunbartonshire [with an n]
- >DUP—Democratic Unionist party
- >duty-bound—“I feel duty-bound...”
- >duty-free (n and adj) duty-frees
- >DVD—digital versatile disc [not “video”]; but don’t expand unless the speaker does
- >DVLA—Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
- >DWA—disability working allowance; replaced by disabled person’s tax credit
- >dwarf—plural dwarfs not dwarves
- >dwelling house
- >DWP—Department for Work and Pensions
- >Dŵr Cymru—aka Welsh Water
- >dydd Gŵyl Dewi—aka St David’s day
- >Dyfed—former Welsh county; Dyfed-Powys police
- >Dynamex Friction—Friction Dynamics sacked strikers leading to long dispute; the liquidated company’s assets reappeared under this name in 2003
- >dyne—unit of force; with figures: 1 dyne; 200 dynes

- >E—the drug ecstasy; E numbers (food additives) eg E471, E472e;
- >e—prefix meaning electronic is hyphenated: e-delivery; e-employ (in Cabinet Office); e-tabling; BUT email
- >e-Borders project
- >E-Skills UK—sector skills council; defunct—now the Tech Partnership
- >E. coli—E. coli 0157
- >E-2C—Hawkeye; US AEW aircraft
- >E-3—Sentry; AWACS aircraft; Sentry AEW1 in RAF
- >E3+3
- >EA-6B—Prowler; US electronic warfare aircraft
- >each other—refers to two people, one another to more than two each other's problems
- >EADS—multinational aerospace group (European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company)
- >EAFRD—European agricultural fund for rural development
- >EAGA—Energy Action Grants Agency; renamed Eaga 1999; acquired by Carillon in 2011
- >EAGF—European agricultural guarantee fund
- >EAGGF—European agricultural guidance and guarantee fund; often called FEOGA [“feeyoga”] from its French acronym; replaced in 2007 by the European agricultural guarantee fund (EAGF) and the European agricultural fund for rural development (EAFRD)
- >EAL—English as an additional language
- >EAPC—Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council
- >EASA—European Union Aviation Safety Agency
- >early-day motion—not EDM; early-day motion 179. In business questions only, text is printed unbrev'd in italics in square brackets at a suitable break in the text [ie not the middle of a sentence.] If several mentioned, stick only the first
- >early years education/provision and so on; no hyphen
- >Earth—the planet Earth; what on earth; the good earth etc
- >Earth summit—see Rio
- >east—lc, including in political references to former communist bloc: east-west relations; the east; far east; middle east; near east; uc in proper names and full titles: East Sussex County Council, East Midlands airport; East Riding of Yorkshire is a council
- >East Anglia
- >*East Anglian Daily Times*
- >East Berlin
- >east coast main line
- >east end
- >East Germany, former East Germany
- >East Jerusalem
- >east midlands—but East Midlands airport
- >East Midlands Development Agency—defunct

- >East of England Development Agency—defunct
- >East Riding of Yorkshire—a unitary authority
- >East Sussex—a county
- >Easter, Easter day, Easter recess
- >eastern bloc
- >eastern Europe
- >Eastern Partnership—EU initiative for the countries of eastern Europe and the southern Caucasus
- >*Eastern Eye*
- >*Eastern Daily Press* [Norwich/Norfolk]
- >“easyCouncil”—low-cost means of running local government; eg Barnet council
- >easyJet—founder, Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou
- >eat out to help out [scheme, programme, discount, etc]
- >EAZ—education action zone defunct policy from '90s
- >eBay
- >EBA—1. the “Everything but Arms” initiative  
2. European Banking Authority
- >EBacc—for the proposed qualification
- >EBC—English baccalaureate certificate
- >EBITDA—earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation
- >EBO—effects-based operations [defence]
- >Ebola
- >EBRD—European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- >EC—European Community; expand;
- >ECA—European Court of Auditors
- >ECAA—European Community association agreement [re immigration]
- >ECB—1. European Central Bank  
2. England and Wales Cricket Board
- >ECC—equipment capability customer [defence procurement]
- >Ecclesiastical Committee—first port of call for Church of England Measures; members from both Houses but not regarded as a Joint Committee
- >Ecclestone, Bernie—Formula 1 boss and, briefly, Labour donor
- >ECCM—electronic counter-countermeasures
- >ECE—European convention on extradition
- >ECGD—Export Credits Guarantee Department; is now part of UK Export Finance
- >Echelon—UK-US-old Commonwealth intelligence sharing scheme
- >echo—pl. echoes
- >ECHO—European Community Humanitarian Office; leave as ECHO; EU Commission disaster aid; aka Humanitarian Aid Office
- >ECHR—1. European Court of Human Rights  
2. European convention on human rights
- >ECJ—European Court of Justice
- >éclair—use éclair
- >EDMO—empty dwelling management order
- >ECO—1. entry clearance officer [immigration]  
2. energy company obligation

- >ecodesign
- >eco-management and audit scheme—see EMAS
- >eco-tourism
- >eco-town—the sites shortlisted in April 2008 were:
  - Bordon, Coltishall, Curborough, Elsenham, Ford in West Sussex, Hanley Grange, Imerys, Leeds, Manby, Marston Vale, New Marston, Middle Quinton, Pennbury, Rossington, Rushcliffe and Weston Otmoor
- >eco-warrior
- >ECOFIN—Economic and Finance Council (of Minrs); don't expand
- >ECOMOG—don't expand to ECOWAS cease-fire monitoring group; peacekeepers in Liberia, Sierra Leone defunct since 2003
- >Economic Community of West African States—ECOWAS
- >Economic and Social Committee—EU body of reps of social & economic interest groups (TUC, CBI etc);
- >Economic and Social Council—an UN body; ECOSOC
- >Economic and Social Research Council
- >economics—can be singular or plural
- >*Economist, The*
- >Economist Intelligence Unit
- >ECO—energy company obligation
- >ECOSOC—Economic and Social Council [UN, not EU]
- >ecosystem
- >ECOWAS—Economic Community of West African States
- >ECRIS—European Criminal Records Information System
- >ECSC—European Coal and Steel Community
- >ecstasy—the drug
- >ecu—European currency unit; mecu (million ecu) becu (billion ecu); became euro 1 Jan 1999
- >Edexcel—Edexcel Foundation is full title, but Edexcel will do; sets exams; 1996 merger of BTEC (qv) and ULEAC (University of London Examinations and Assessment Council)
- >EDF—1. Electricité de France; no need to expand
  - 2. European development fund
- >*Edinburgh Gazette*—official newspaper of the Crown; cf *London Gazette*
- >EDM—always use “early-day motion”; early-day motion 217
- >education action zone—managed by education action forum
- >Education and Learning Wales—see ELWa
- >education and library boards—[NI] Replaced by the Education Authority. Regions remain as per below. Northern Ireland had five, eg:
  - North Eastern education and library board;
  - the others are Belfast; South Eastern; Southern; Western;
  - not “library board” or “education board”
- >education appeals panels—LEA hears admission/exclusion appeals
- >education authorities—Scottish equivalent of LEAs
- >Education Funding Agency
- >education maintenance allowance—not “educational”, nor “award” subsidy for post-16s staying in education; EMA (not the EMA)

- >Educational Institute of Scotland—main Scottish teaching union
- >Education Otherwise—supports education outside school
- >educationist—not “educationalist”
- >EE—mobile network operator
- >EEA—1. European economic area  
2. European Environment Agency
- >EEAS—European External Action Service
- >EEC—European Economic Community; est 1957 treaty of Rome
- >EEF—rebranded as the Manufacturers Organisation; was the Engineering Employers Federation; no need to expand
- >EESC—see Economic and Social Committee
- >EETPU—Electrical, Electronics, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union; merged into AEEU; gen secy 1966-84: Frank Chapple
- >Efficiency and Reform Group—Treasury and Cabinet Office body seeking savings across Whitehall
- >efficient—hyphenated as suffix: fuel-efficient; energy-efficient
- >EFL—external financing limit
- >EFSF—European financial stability facility
- >EFSM—European financial stabilisation mechanism
- >EFSS—education formula spending share
- >EFTA—European Free Trade Association
- >Egmont group—anti-money laundering intelligence exchange
- >EH101—called Merlin in UK service; helicopter built by AgustaWestland;
- >EIA—environmental impact assessment
- >EIC—excellence in cities
- >Eid—marks end of Ramadan
- >eighteen—18 certificate; 18-certificate stuff
- >EIS—Educational Institute of Scotland
- >eisteddfod—Welsh cultural competitions; uc for the annual National Eisteddfod, the Eisteddfod; in Welsh: Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru  
lc for others, inc. the annual international one at Llangollen;
- >either—takes singular: “Is either of us involved?”  
But if one subject is plural: “Either I or my brothers are wrong.”
- >either...or—what follows either should also follow or. In the first example, two nouns; in the second, two verbs: “Either he should give the evidence or he should shut up.” “He should either give the evidence or shut up.” This example with noun after either and verb after or is wrong:  
“Either the Minister should give the evidence or shut up.”
- >either/or
- >either-way offences—may come before magistrates or a jury
- >el—as prefix in Arab names: el-Aardvark [except El Alamein]
- >El Alamein—WW2 desert battle
- >elite—no accent
- >El Mundo
- >El Niño—Pacific ocean current/weather disruption; there’s also La Niña
- >El País
- >el-Baradei, Mohamed—director general of IAEA until 2009

- >election—general election; US election; European election; local elections; by-election; council elections; parliamentary election;
- >Electoral Commission—oversees & researches election; also oversees voting procedures etc; the commission
- >Electoral Office for Northern Ireland
- >Electoral Reform Society—pro-PR
- >Electoral Reform Services—Electoral Reform Society’s balloting arm
- >electorate—are
- >Electricité de France—EDF; no need to expand
- >Electricity Association closed 2003. Replaced by Association of Electricity Producers, Energy Networks Association and Energy Retail Association
- >electricity boards—some names linger as brands for companies
- >electromagnetic
- >electron-volt—energy unit; 1 eV
- >eleven—11-plus, 11th occasion but eleventh hour
- >eleventh hour; an eleventh-hour decision
- >ELINT—electronic intelligence
- ELM – environmental land management scheme; ELM scheme/s
- >ELS—entry level stewardship
- >ELVs—end-of-life vehicles
- >ELWa—Education and Learning Wales; joint name for some mystical union (not a merger) of the National Council for Education and Training for Wales and the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales. Defunct 2006.
- >email
- >EMA—1. education maintenance allowance (qv); not the EMA  
2. European Medicines Agency
- >EMAG—Equitable Members Action Group
- >EMAS—eco-management and audit scheme (voluntary EU audit of a company’s environmental performance)
- >embargo—pl: embargoes
- >embassy—lc: the Dutch embassy
- >Embraer—Brazilian plane maker, designed RAF’s Tucano
- >embryo—pl. embryos
- >EMF—Ethnic Minority Foundation
- >emigre—use émigré(e)
- >eminent persons group—Commonwealth diplomatic missions
- >Empey, Reg—Ulster Unionist party leader, 2005-2010
- >emphysema—respiratory disease
- >empire—British empire, Roman empire, Holy Roman empire
- >EMPIRIC study—ethnic minority psychiatric illness rates in the community
- >employer’s national insurance contributions (ENICs)
- >employment and support allowance
- >Employment Appeal Tribunal—hears appeals from employment tribunals
- >employment tribunals
- >Employment Service—subsumed in Jobcentre Plus, 2002
- >Empty Homes Agency—charity, “highlights” the issue
- >EMR proposals—on electricity market reform

- >EMS—European monetary system; preceded monetary union
- >Ems telegram—Bismarck doctored this to provoke Franco-Prussian war in 1870
- >EMU—economic and monetary union (not “European”); led to euro
- >Enable—working title of Scottish Society for the Mentally Handicapped
- >enamoured—takes “of”, not “with”
- >ENB—English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting;  
now NMC
- >ENCAMS—anti-litter charity; don’t expand to Environmental Campaigns
- >endgame
- >end of life care; end of life vehicles, end of life vehicles directive (No need for  
hyphens)
- >end-year flexibility [public spending]
- >Energis—telecoms company that was wound up in 2002
- >Energus—energy skills training centre in Cumbria
- >Energy and Utility Skills—a sector skills council
- >energy crops scheme—subsidy for growing crops for burning in power stations  
(eg, willow, miscanthus)
- >Energy Saving Trust
- >energy-efficient
- >energy efficiency commitment—old name of the carbon emissions reduction target
- >Energywatch—now part of Consumer Focus
- >Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council—the EPSRC
- >Engineering Employers Federation—EEF; now known as the Manufacturers  
Organisation so no need to expand
- >Engineers and Managers Association—Prospect since 2001
- >England—as a team plural: England are playing well; otherwise singular: England  
expects...
- >England and Wales Cricket Board—the ECB
- >England rural development programme
- >English channel; the channel; channel tunnel
- >English cities fund
- >English Heritage—old buildings etc
- >English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting—replaced by  
NMC, 2002
- >English Nature—has been renamed Natural England
- >English Partnerships—regenerates derelict/vacant land;
- >English Tourist Board—became English Tourism Council 1999
- >English Tourism Council—est 1999; see tourist boards for its 10 regional entities.  
Known as VisitEngland since 2009
- >Ennahda—winner of Tunisia’s 2011 elections
- >enosis—union of Greece with Cyprus
- >Enough Food for Everyone IF campaign—IF campaign
- >enquire, enquiry—use inquire, inquiry
- >enrol, enrolled, enrolling, enrolment
- >Enron—US energy company; went bust 2002; bosses Ken Lay, Jeffrey Skilling
- >entente—entente cordiale; triple entente
- >enterprise—in titles of organisations Shetland Enterprise etc; see

Highlands and Islands Enterprise; Scottish Enterprise

- >Enterprise Northern Ireland; also Young Enterprise Northern Ireland; not the same as Enterprise Ulster
- >Enterprise Ulster—training scheme for unemployed
- >entree—use entrée
- >Entrust—trading name of Environmental Trust Scheme Regulatory Body Ltd., a not-for-profit organisation that regulates the landfill tax credit scheme whereby some of a company's liability for the tax can be put into agreed environmental schemes; Entrust will do
- >Environment Agency—est 1996 from National Rivers Authority, HM inspectorate of pollution & the 80-odd waste regulation authorities
- >Environment and Heritage Service—NI Exec agency; originally called Environment Service; est 1996
- >Environment Council—forum charity
- >Environmental Audit Committee—Select Committee that seeks to do for the environment what the PAC does for taxpayer's money
- >Environmental Industries Commission—industry pressure group
- >Environmental Protection Act 1990
- >environmentally sensitive areas scheme—funding for farmers
- >EOC—Equal Opportunities Commission; now part of the Equality and Human Rights Commission
- >EOKA—1950s Cyprus anti-UK, pro-enosis movement [don't expand]
- >E.ON UK—German energy company, runs Powergen
- >EONI—Electoral Office for Northern Ireland
- >EPA—1. see Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Acts  
2. enduring power of attorney
- >EPCS—environmental, protective and cultural services [local govt]
- >Epilepsy Action—working name of British Epilepsy Association
- >Equal—EU labour force anti-discrimination funding
- >Equality Hub—based in the Cabinet Office and includes the Government Equalities Office, Race Disparity Unit and Disability Unit
- >Equality and Human Rights Commission—formed on 1 October 2007 as a result of the merger of the Equal Opportunities Commission; the Commission for Racial Equality and the Disability Rights Commission
- >Equality Commission for Northern Ireland—in Oct. 1999, replaced:  
Commission for Racial Equality for Northern Ireland; Equal Opportunities Commission for Northern Ireland; Fair Employment Commission; Northern Ireland Disability Council
- >Equal Opportunities Commission; now part of the Equality and Human Rights Commission
- >Equal Pay Act 1970—came into effect in 1976
- >Equitable Members Action Group—EMAG
- >Equity—don't expand to British Actors Equity Association
- >ERA—European research area; EU plan for better research
- >Erasmus—EU programme to increase student mobility; don't expand to European action scheme for the mobility of university students
- >ERDF—European regional development fund;

- >ERDP—England rural development programme
- >erg—(non-SI) unit of work; with figures: 100 ergs
- >Eritrea—cap. Asmara; pres. Isaias Afewerki [2015] People’s Front for Democracy and Justice; Tigre language; UNMEE (qv)
- >ERM—exchange rate mechanism (of EMS)
- >Ernst and Young—is now known as EY
- >Erskine May—in quotes: “Erskine May”; parliamentary procedure manual
- >ERTMS—European rail and traffic management system
- >ESA—1. European Space Agency  
2. environmentally sensitive area  
3. employment and support allowance
- >ESC—European Scrutiny Committee
- >escrow—something kept in custody of a third party
- >Eskom—South African energy company
- >ESDI—European security and defence identity
- >ESDP—European security and defence policy (EU)
- >ESRC—Economic and Social Research Council
- >ESF—European social fund
- >ESOP—employee share ownership plan
- >Esprit—don’t expand to European strategic programme for research and development in information technology
- >ESS—education standard spending
- >EST—Energy Saving Trust
- >estimates—supplementary estimate; winter estimates; estimates day;
- >estuary—lc: Severn estuary
- >ETA—don’t expand to Euskadi ta Askatasuna [Basque Fatherland and Liberty]; but do expand to estimated time of arrival
- >ETB—English Tourist Board (defunct)
- >etc.—with stop if it must be used, which is v. rarely
- >ETC—English Tourism Council, known as VisitEngland since 2009
- >Ethical Trading Initiative
- >Ethiopia—cap. Addis Ababa; pres Mulatu Teshome; PM Hailemariam Desalegn (2015). former leaders: Woldegiorgis Girma; Meles Zenawi; Haile Selassie; Mengistu Haile Mariam; Amharic language
- >Ethnic Minority Foundation
- >ETI—Ethical Trading Initiative
- >ETS—emissions trading scheme
- >EU—European Union; don’t expand
- >EU3—UK, France, Germany in respect of relations with Iran
- >EU15, EU27
- >EU Council—see Council of the European Union
- >EU directives—see directives
- >EU ETS—EU emissions trading system
- >EUFOR—replaced SFOR in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2004; leader: David Leakey
- >EULEX—European rule of law mission in Kosovo
- >EUPM—EU police mission (replaces UNMIBH, 2003)

- >Euratom—don't expand to European Atomic Energy Community
- >EURES—don't expand to European employment services [EU]
- >Euribor—Euro interbank offered rate; no need to expand
- >euro—1. the currency is lc; its plural is euros; neologisms that derive from the currency rather than the continent are lc  
     With figures: €25; €250 million; €25.50; €0.50; [keyboard hint: hit alt, ctrl and 4 at the same time, or Alt Gr and 4 at the same time]  
     2. Euro- meaning the continent, is uc
- >Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council—replaced NACC in 1997; forum for NATO Ministers, ambassadors
- >euro-ins; euro-outs—countries inside and outside the eurozone
- >Euro-Mediterranean partnership—the Barcelona process whereby EU co-operates with Med. countries; qv MEDA
- >eurobond
- >Eurocontrol—European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation
- >Eurocopter—Franco-German helicopter company
- >eurocurrency
- >Eurodac—fingerprinting of asylum seekers
- >Eurodollar
- >Eurofer—European steel association
- >Eurofighter—service name: Typhoon
- >Eurogroup—meeting of Finance Ministers in the eurozone
- >Euronext—stock exchange
- >European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products
- >European agricultural guidance and guarantee fund—often called FEOGA “feeyoga” from its French acronym
- >European Anti-Fraud Office—see OLAF
- >European Bank for Reconstruction and Development—funds CEE country projects; not an EU body
- >European Banking Authority—EBA
- >European Central Bank—EU Bank of England; est 1998; president: Mario Draghi; previously Jean-Claude Trichet; Wim (Willem) Duisenberg
- >European city of culture
- >European climate change programme—the ECCP
- >European Coal and Steel Community—1951; first step to EU
- >European Commission—the Commission; Commissioner(s); the President; presidency; vice-president; has a secretariat-general with a secretary-general; see also directorates-general  
     Presidents:   2014-           Jean-Claude Juncker  
                   2004-2014   José Manuel Barroso  
                   1999-2004   Romano Prodi  
                   1995-1999   Jacques Santer  
                   1985-1995   Jacques Delors  
                   1981-1985   Gaston Thorn  
                   1977-1981   Roy Jenkins

European Commissioners—Commissioners since 2014: Frans Timmermans; Federica Mogherini; Kristalina Georgieva; Andrus Ansip; Maroš Šefčovič; Valdis Dombrovskis; Jyrki Katainen; Günther H. Oettinger; Johannes Hahn; Cecilia Malmström; Neven Mimica; Miguel Arias Cañete; Karmenu Vella; Vytenis Andriukaitis; Dimitris Avramopoulos; Marianne Thyssen; Pierre Moscovici; Christos Stylianides; Phil Hogan; Jonathan (Lord) Hill; Violeta Bulc; Elżbieta Bieńkowska; Věra Jourová; Tibor Navracsics; Corina Crețu; Margrethe Vestager; Carlos Moedas;

Commissioners 2010 to 2014: Almunia, Joaquín Almunia, László Andor; Catherine Ashton; Michel Barnier; Dacian Cioloș; John Dalli; Maria Damanaki; Karel De Gucht; Štefan Füle; Kristalina Georgieva; Máire Geoghegan-Quinn; Johannes Hahn; Connie Hedegaard; Siim Kallas; Neelie Kroes; Cecilia Malmström; Günther H. Oettinger; Andris Piebalgs; Janez Potočnik; Viviane Reding; Oli Rehn; Maroš Šefčovič; Algirdas Šemeta; Antonio Tajani; Androulla Vassiliou;

Commissioners 2004 to 2009

Joaquín Almunia; Jacques Barrot; Joe Borg; Stavros Dimas; Benita Ferrero-Waldner; Ján Figel'; Mariann Fischer Boel; Franco Frattini; Dalia Grybauskaitė; Danuta Hübner; Siim Kallas; László Kovács; Neelie Kroes; Markos Kyprianou; Charlie McCreevy; Peter Mandelson; Louis Michel; Andris Piebalgs; Janez Potočnik; Viviane Reding; Olli Rehn; Vladimír Špidla; Günter Verheugen; Margot Waldström;

Commissioners 1999 to 2004:

Mario Monti; Franz Fischler; Erkki Liikanen; Frits Bolkestein; Philippe Busquin; Pedro Solbes Mira; Poul Nielson; Günter Verheugen; Chris Patten; Pascal Lamy; David Byrne; Michel Barnier; Viviane Reding; Michael Schreyer; Margot Wallström; António Vitorino; Anna Diamantopoulou  
vice-presidents: Neil Kinnock; Loyola de Palacio

- >European Commission for Democracy through Law—see Venice Commission
- >European Committee for Standardisation—known as CEN (qv)
- >European Communities (Amendment) Act 1986—Single European Act
- >European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993—the Maastricht treaty
- >European Community—the EC; follow Member's usage; used to describe EEC, Euratom, ECSC; now EU for most purposes
- >European Convention—aka Convention on the Future of Europe; the Convention; met Feb 2002 to June 2003 to consider the future of Europe; president: Valéry Giscard d'Estaing; article I-17; article I-9(3);
- >European convention on human rights—policed by European Court of Human Rights; est 1950; don't expand to European convention for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms; article 6; fifth protocol; Human Rights Act 1998 incorporated it into British law
- >European Council—biannual EU leaders' meetings; not the same as the Council of

- the European Union (qv); eg Feira Council or Laeken summit;  
venues have included: Thessaloniki; Tampere;
- >European Court of Auditors—examines EU accounts
  - >European Court of Human Rights—not an EU body; run by Council of Europe; rules on complaints under European convention on human rights; the Court; the European Court; cf ECJ
  - >European Court of Justice—arbitrates EU treaty disputes; the Court; the European Court; cf ECHR; has president, advocates-general,
  - >European Defence Agency
  - >European development fund
  - >European economic area—trade agreement between EFTA and EU
  - >European Economic Community—the EEC; follow usage;
  - >European Environment Agency—EU body, includes candidate countries
  - >European External Action Service
  - >European financial stability facility—EFSF
  - >European financial stabilisation mechanism—EFSM
  - >European Free Trade Association—still limping along
  - >European Investment Bank—the EIB; finances EU projects
  - >European Investment Fund—EU funding for SMEs
  - >European Medicines Agency—EMA
  - >European Monetary Institute—the ECB since 1998
  - >European ombudsman—in 2015, Emily O’Reilly
  - >European Organisation for Nuclear Research—CERN, qv
  - >European Parliament—has Members; MEP ok without expansion; its committees are lc;
  - >European Research Group—Eurosceptic Conservative MPs
  - >European regional development fund—EU structural fund
  - >European Scrutiny Committee—Select Committee that refers European documents for scrutiny by European Committees
  - >European social fund—EU structural fund
  - >European Space Agency—not EU body
  - >European Committee—European Committee A (with B and C) considers stuff referred from the European Scrutiny Committee; previously referred to as European Standing Committee A
  - >European Training Foundation—EU agency, est 1995
  - >European Union—1. the EU (don’t expand) consists of 28 member states; the Fifteen (ex the Six etc); the Union;
    - 1957: France, Belgium, Netherlands, Italy, Luxembourg., West Germany
    - 1973: UK, Ireland, Denmark
    - 1981: Greece
    - 1986: Portugal, Spain
    - 1995: Austria, Finland, Sweden
    - 2004: Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia
    - 2007: Romania and Bulgaria
    - 2013: Croatia
- Greenland withdrew 1985; GDR entered in 1990 on reunification

2. Follow usage for Common Market, EEC, EC
3. EU presidency is six-monthly rotating chairmanship of Council of Ministers, not same as EU Commission President

- >Europhile
- >Europhobe
- >Europol—don't expand to European Police Office; EU cops info exchange
- >Eurosceptic
- >Eurostar
- >Eurostat—European Commission statistical office; don't expand
- >Eurotunnel
- >Eurovignette—HGV payment scheme
- >eurozone
- >Eurydice—EU programme of comparative education studies
- >eve—Christmas eve, new year's eve
- >EVEL—English votes for English laws
- >even steven
- >even-handed, even-handedly
- >*Evening Chronicle*—[Newcastle]
- >*Evening Express*—[Aberdeen]
- >*Evening Gazette*—[Middlesbrough]
- >*Evening Mail*—the Brum paper is the *Birmingham Evening Mail*
- >*Evening News*—[Edinburgh]
- >*Evening Post*—[Bristol]
- >*Evening Standard*—the London *Standard*
- >ever closer union (no hyphen)
- >ever present—1. an ever-present danger  
2. the danger is ever present
- >Every Child a Reader
- >Every Child a Writer
- >Every Child Matters
- >every day (noun phrase); everyday (adj.): "I see her every day."  
"This is a tale of everyday life."
- >everything—the "Everything but Arms" initiative, regulation; allows least developed countries duty-free trade access to EU
- >evidence-based—"It must be evidence-based" "an evidence-based approach"
- >evildoer
- >EW—1. early warning  
2. electronic warfare
- >ex—prefix is hyphenated: ex-President Clinton; ex-wife;
- >ex cathedra—from the chair of office, ie authoritatively
- >exa—SI prefix denoting a factor of a million million million ( $10^{18}$ )
- >examining bodies—Ofqual approves and monitors qualifications and AQA, Edexcel and OCR administer the exams
- >excellence in cities—Govt urban education initiative
- >Exchequer—uc when it means anything to do with the Treasury
- >ExcludedUK—a platform for those who are excluded from UK Government's covid-19 financial support measures

- >Executive—follows the same rules as “Government”; the Scottish Executive; the Executive are
  - >Executive agency
  - >exhort—not “exort”
  - >Exocet—French air-to-surface missile used by Argentina in Falklands
  - >expatriate—not “expatriot”
  - >explanatory memorandum
  - >explanatory notes—background info published with Bills etc.
  - >Export Credits Guarantee Department—is now part of UK Export Finance
  - >*Express*; formerly the Daily Express
  - >*Express and Star*—[Wolverhampton etc]
  - >External Action Service – EU’s diplomatic service
  - >extracurricular
  - >extradition cases—see Chahal, Ramda, Soering
  - >extraordinary rendition—sending suspects to third countries where they are tortured
    - and the information is used as intelligence
  - >extraterritorial, extraterritoriality
  - >eyewitness
  - >EY—new name for Ernst and Young
  - >EYF—end-year flexibility
  - >Eyjafjallajökull – Icelandic volcano
- 
- >f40—fair education funding forum; lobby group of local authorities
  - >F-14—Tomcat; F-14B, F-14D; US carrier fighter
  - >F-15—Eagle; US strike fighter; F-15C, F-15E
  - >F-16—Falcon (or Fighting Falcon); US fighter; F-16A, F-16C
  - >F-22—Raptor; US fighter
  - >F-35—the joint strike fighter, replaces Harrier; also known as Lightning II
  - >F-117—Nighthawk; the stealth fighter
  - >F/A-18—Hornet; US multi-role fighter; F/A-18C, F/A18E
  - >FA—Football Association
  - >FA cup—the cup final
  - >FAA—Fleet Air Arm
  - >facade—use façade
  - >face—“That is why we are faced with problems,” is usually better as “That is why we face problems.”
  - >factor VIII—blood-clotting agent
  - >Factory Acts—no date required; umbrella term for legislation including: Factories Acts 1802, 1844, 1847 [popularly known as the Ten Hours Act], 1850, 1937, 1964; the Factory Act 1874; Factory Act Extension 1867; Factory and Workshop Act 1878, 1891, 1901; Labour in cotton mills, etc. Act 1819; Labour of children, etc., in factories Act 1833
  - >Faculty of Advocates—Scottish equivalent of the Bar
  - >Faculty of Public Health—was the Faculty of Public Health Medicine
  - >FAE—fuel-air explosive

- >fag end
- >Fahrenheit—32°F; minus 32°F;
- >FAINs—family advice and information networks [legal pilot scheme 2002 to 2007]
- >fair do's
- >fair education funding forum—f40; lobby group of local authorities
- >fair employment tribunals—in NI
- >FairFuelUK
- >Fairtrade fortnight, Fairtrade branded products
- >Falcon—Army theatre communications system
- >Falkland Islands
- >fall back (v) fall-back (n and adj.)
- >fall out (v) fallout (n)
- >Falluja [in Iraq]
- >Falun Gong—Chinese sect
- >family—usually plural: “My family are great.”  
Singular if the concept is meant: “The family is the bedrock of our society.”
- >family division—of High Court
- >family health services authorities—FHSAs arrived 1990, merged with DHAs 1996  
to form unitary HAs, themselves abolished 2002
- >family-friendly—hyphenated: “Our policies are family-friendly.”  
“This is a family-friendly approach.”
- >Family Justice Board
- >FANI—Fire Authority for Northern Ireland; became Northern Ireland Fire &  
Rescue Service Board in 2006
- >FAO—Food and Agriculture Organisation [UN]
- >far east
- >far-reaching—it is far-reaching; a far-reaching provision;
- >farad—SI unit of capacitance; with figures: 1 farad; 25 farads
- >FARC—Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia; FARC or the FARC will do;  
left-wing rebellion since 1964
- >fare payer
- >farm gate—prices at the farm gate; farm-gate prices
- >farm woodland premium scheme—DEFRA funding for farmers; was closed to new  
applicants in 2005 and replaced by the English woodland grant scheme,  
which closed to new applicants in 2014; applications for Countryside  
Stewardship begin in July 2015
- >farm worker
- >Farmers Union of Wales—nothing to do with NFU
- >*Farmers Weekly*
- >FAS—financial assistance scheme [pensions]
- >fascism, fascist
- >Faslane—naval base
- >FASM—future attack submarine; FASM cancelled in 2001 and replaced by  
maritime underwater future capability (MUFC)
- >fast track (n) fast-track (v) and (adj)—he is on the fast track;  
it should be fast-tracked; we need to fast-track it;
- >Fasttrax—MOD PFI re HET

- >Father Time
- >FATF—Financial Action Task Force
- >father—uc with names: Father Brown
- >Father of the House—the longest continuously serving Member.  
It's ok to refer to him without a constituency reference.  
It's not ok to refer to him as “the Father”.
- >Fathers 4 Justice
- >fathom—6 feet, esp. in depth soundings; with figures: 4 fathoms
- >fatwa—Islamic legal opinion
- >FBI—Federal Bureau of Investigation; don't expand
- >FBU—Fire Brigades Union
- >FCILC—Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission
- >FCLV—future command liaison vehicle
- >FCO—Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- >FDI—foreign direct investment
- >FE—further education; expand once; “I worked in FE.”
- >feather bed (n); feather-bed (v) feather-bedded; feather-bedding
- >FEBA—forward edge of the battle area
- >Federal Reserve—in US; the Fed; Alan Greenspan; Ben Bernanke; Paul Volcker;  
Janet Yellen
- >federation—uc in full titles, which must be checked; singular;  
“the federation” after expansion
- >Federation of Small Businesses
- >feedingstuffs—animal fare; we eat foodstuffs
- >feedstock recycling—returns plastic waste to plastic manufacture process
- >feedstuffs—animal fare
- >feelgood factor
- >feet—with figures: 5 feet, 100 feet, 6 feet 4 inches, a 4-foot putt, 6½ feet
- >FEFC—see Further Education Funding Councils
- >femto—SI prefix denoting a thousand million millionth ( $10^{-15}$ )
- >fen—the fens, the fenland, fenlands. There is a council called Fenland.
- >FEOGA—see EAGGF; replaced by European Agricultural Guarantee Fund  
(EAGF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development  
(EAFRD) in 2007
- >Fera—Food and Environment Research Agency
- >festival—Ic: festival of Britain
- >fete—use fête, fêted
- >FETS—future engineer tank system
- >fewer and less—fewer = number; less = amount. Thus:  
“Less bread, fewer slices.”  
“The Chamber is less full because there are fewer Members present.”
- >FGA—formula grant allocation [local government finance]
- >FGD—flue gas desulphurisation
- >FHSAs—family health services authorities; (defunct);
- >fiancé, fiancée
- >fibre-optic cables; fibre optics
- >field—in North sea: Miller field, Forties field

- >*Field, The*
- >field marshal—one l in “marshal”; uc with names:  
Field Marshal Montgomery
- >field sports—hunting, shooting and fishing; their detractors call them bloodsports
- >FIFA—runs world football; don’t expand; president, Sepp Blatter
- >FIFG—financial instrument for fisheries guidance [EU fund]
- >fig leaf
- >figures—see also money; dates; ages; times;
  1. Figures from one to nine are out in full, 10 and above are numerals:  
“He had nine apples and 10 pears.” “Nine out of 10 cats prefer it.”
  2. It is not necessary use 500,000 or 0.5 million for half a million” but  
1.5 million not “one and a half million” etc
  3. see also under millions; billions; percentages;
  4. see also under ordinal numbers for first, second, 10th etc
  5. for measurements, see separate unit entries & under >imperial measures
- >Filipino—pl. Filipinos; fem. Filipina; single l and p
- >Film Council—top British film biz quango; abolished in 2011 with many of its  
functions passing to the British Film Institute
- >final salary pension scheme
- >film titles—use quotes: “Casablanca”
- >Financial Action Task Force—est 1989 by G7 v. money laundering
- >financial assistance scheme—for employees of underfunded pension funds
- >Financial Conduct Authority
- >financial instrument for fisheries guidance—FIFG
- >financial memorandum
- >Financial Ombudsman Service
- >financial perspective—in EU
- >Financial Policy Committee—will regulate financial services and markets; est. 2013
- >Financial Reporting Council—oversees several financial regulators
- >Financial Reporting Review Panel—which has within in it a review panel
- >Financial Services Authority—chairman: Lord Adair Turner; predecessors Callum  
McCarthy and Howard Davies; abolished 2013
- >Financial Services Compensation Scheme
- >Financial Services Skills Council
- >Financial Stability Board—established by G7 and successor to the Financial  
Stability Forum; chair—Mark Carney; previously Mario Draghi
- >Financial Statement and Budget Report—with quotes please: “Financial Statement  
and Budget Report”; otherwise known as the Red Book
- >*Financial Times*
- >find—it is usually better to avoid people “finding themselves”:  
“Young people find themselves living in a twilight world.”  
= “Young people live in a twilight world.”  
“I find myself in agreement...” = “I agree...”
- >fine tuning—Noun is two words: “The economy needs fine tuning.”  
Verb is hyphenated: “He is fine-tuning/has fine-tuned/will fine-tune the  
economy.”
- >fine-toothed comb

- > fines—level 1; level 3 etc.
- > fintech—financial technology; fintech sector
- > Finucane, Patrick—lawyer murdered by loyalists 1989 in murky circs.
- > FireControl—network of regional control centres; scrapped 2010
- > fire authorities—see fire service
- > Fire Authority for Northern Ireland; became Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service Board in 2006
- > Fire Brigades Union—general secretary: Matt Wrack; formerly Andy Gilchrist
- > fire services uc—eg Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service
- > Fire Service College—Exec agency
- > fire services inspectorate; replaced by chief fire and rescue adviser’s unit in 2007
- > firefighter, firefighting
- > fireman
- > firepower
- > first—followed by secondly, thirdly, etc
- > First Buy scheme—help for first-time house buyers
- > first division, second division (football etc)
- > First Division Association—the FDA; top civil servants trade union;  
in full: Association of First Division Civil Servants
- > first hand—I heard it at first hand; first-hand information
- > First Homes—new scheme to help first-time buyers
- > First Minister—in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland; Deputy First Minister
- > first past the post; first-past-the-post system
- > First Reading—the first, formal stage of a Bill: the reading out of its title on the Floor. The Whip, Minister, or Member in charge names a day for Second Reading. The Bill is read the First time (but a Second time and the Third time)
- > First Sea Lord
- > First Secretary—title used by Alun Michael in Wales to 2000; correct title is now First Minister; currently Carwyn Jones; predecessor Rhodri Morgan
- > first world war, world war one, the great war, 1914 to 1918
- > firth—firth of Forth, Solway firth
- > first class—it is first class; a first-class decision
- > first-time buyer
- > fish—some debate faves: anglerfish; capelin; megrim; pandalus; pout; saithe; sand eel; nephrops [=shrimps]
- > Fish Fight campaign
- > fishmeal
- > fish producers organisations—Ic: Cornish fish producers organisation
- > fisheries—sea areas: division IIIa; sub-area VIII etc
- > Fisheries 2027—fisheries management plan
- > Fisheries Conservancy Board for Northern Ireland; abolished 2009; its functions transferred to the Department of Culture, Arts And Leisure (DCAL)
- > Fisheries Research Services—Scottish Exec agency; merged with the Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency and the Scottish Government Marine directorate to form Marine Scotland in 2009
- > fishing—if heard in context of e-mail fraud, it should be “phishing”
- > *Fishing News*

- > FITs—feed-in tariffs
- > Five Eyes (FVEY)—intelligence alliance of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, UK and USA
- > five year forward view—Government’s strategy for the NHS contained in the document “Five Year Forward View”
- > fixed penalty notice—FPN
- > FLA—future large aircraft; the A400M
- > flag day
- > flag-officer, flag-lieutenant, flag-captain
- > flagpole
- > flagship
- > flatlining
- > flaunt—to display ostentatiously; not to be confused with flout
- > fleet—the fleet (meaning the Royal Navy); the Mediterranean fleet; the sixth fleet; the Fleet (London prison or river);
- > Fleet Air Arm
- > Fleet Street—the papers may have gone, but the term remains
- > “flex”—relates to rail fares
- > flier—not “flyer”
- > *Flight International*
- > flightpath
- > flim-flam
- > FLIR—forward looking infrared
- > floodbanks
- > floodgates
- > Floodline—a flood warning and advice service
- > floodplain
- > floodwater
- > Flood Re—not-for-profit scheme to ensure flood insurance is widely available
- > floor—the Floor of the House is uc, but “The hon. Member who has the floor...”
- > FLS—funding for lending scheme
- > flout—to defy; not to be confused with flaunt
- > flu—ok in most circumstances, but use “influenza” in headings
- > fluid ounces—with figures: 1 fl oz; 20 fl oz = 1 pint;
- > fluorine—fluoridate, fluoridation; not “fluoridisation”
- > fly ash—fine ash from pulverised burnt power station fuel used in brick making etc
- > flyposting
- > fly-tipper, fly-tipping, to fly-tip, fly-tipped
- > flyer—use flier
- > flyover
- > FMD—foot and mouth disease
- > FOAS—future offensive air system
- > FOBTs—fixed odds betting terminals
- > fo’c’sle—contraction of forecandle; follow usage
- > focused, focuses, focusing—single s [not focussed etc]
- > Focus—the ubiquitous Lib Dem local campaign leaflet is “Focus”
- > foetal, foetus

- >FOI—freedom of information
- >fold—always in words, no hyphens: twofold, twentyfold, hundredfold, manifold  
If it is simply a plural, it may be better to use “two” etc
- >Fontainebleau
- >Food and Agriculture Organisation—UN agency
- >Food and Drink Federation
- >food bank
- >Food Safety Promotion Board—NSMC implementation body; Saferood
- >Food Standards Agency—est 2000; current chair of board is Heather Hancock;  
previously: Jeff Rooker; Sir John Krebs; Tim Bennett.
- >foot and mouth disease
- >Football Association—chairman Greg Clarke. Other names: Greg Dyke; David  
Bernstein; Lord Triesman. Adam Crozier; Mark Palios; Geoff Thompson, Brian Barwick,  
Sir Trevor Brooking
- >football clubs—Manchester United, Manchester United football club, Leicester City,  
up the City, right up United;
- >Football Foundation—quango funds grassroots football facilities
- >Football League—runs championship and divisions two & three but not premier  
league
- >Football Supporters Association; became Football Supporters Federation (FSF)  
in 2002
- >footbridge
- >footfall—number of people coming into shops
- >footpath
- >footwear
- >foolproof
- >forever
- >for evermore
- >Foras na Gaeilge—Irish language promotion body
- >forbear—1. To refrain or abstain from; an ancestor is a forbear  
2. Takes no preposition: “forbear saying”, not “forbear to say,” or  
“forbear from saying”.
- >*Forbes Magazine*
- >force research unit—Army intelligence in NI; Gordon Kerr; renamed  
Joint Support Group in 2005
- >forces—lc, British and other: French forces; our forces
- >forebear—an ancestor; to refrain from is “forbear” without an e
- >forego—to precede; a foregone conclusion [Often confused with “forgo”—to do  
without]
- >Foreign Affairs Council
- >foreign currencies—in full except euros and US dollars
- >foreign words—not italicised.
- >Forensic Science Service—Executive agency; closed 2012
- >Forensic Science Northern Ireland—Executive agency
- >foresight programmes
- >forest—usually lc: Sherwood forest, but New Forest, Forest of Dean  
uc in place names: Forest Hill;

- >Forest Enterprise—Exec agency of Forestry Commission
- >Forest Research—Exec agency of Forestry Commission
- >Forestry Commission
- >forex—lc; foreign exchange; the forex market
- >forgo—to do without. Often confused with “forego”
- >form-filling
- >former Soviet Union
- >former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia—follow Member’s usage; Macedonia is ok if used
- >former Yugoslavia—note FRY is Federal Republic of Yugoslavia—existed until 2003, when it became Serbia and Montenegro.
- >formula—pl. formulae or formulas; go with usage
- >Formula 1
- >fortress Britain, fortress Europe, fortress Falklands etc
- >forum—pl. forums or fora; go with usage
- >FOS—Financial Ombudsman Service
- >foster parent
- >Fostering Network—charity
- >four—4x4 vehicles; 401(k) scheme [US pensions];
- >Foundation Trust Network; renamed NHS Providers in 2014
- >four-square
- >foxhunting—foxhunt; a foxhunter is a type of horse;
- >Foxbat—NATO code name for MiG-25
- >foxhound
- >Foxhunter—troubled radar for Tornados
- >Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission—NSMC implementation body;
- >Foyle Fisheries Commission—due for subsumption into FCILC (qv); taken over by the Loughs Agency
- >FPAG—Fuel Poverty Advisory Group
- >fracking—hydraulic fracturing
- >fractions—only hyphenated when adjectival: “A two-thirds majority,” but “A majority of two thirds.” Two and a half years ago, one third of my electorate...
- >framework decisions—approximate, or align, the laws of EU member states
- >franc—in full; the franc; the French franc; the Belgian franc; 10,000 Swiss francs; 10 francs to the pound;
- >France—Pres: François Hollande; PM: Jean-Marc Ayrault;  
Other politicians: Nicolas Sarkozy, François Mitterrand; Charles de Gaulle; Jacques Chirac
- >*France-Soir*
- >Franco-German relations etc
- >Franco-Prussian war;
- >Frank—“Talk to Frank”, the national drugs helpline & a campaign; the “Frank” campaign
- >Fraser—it’s Private Frazer with a z in “Dad’s Army”
- >Frau—legal if used by Member; Fräulein likewise
- >FRC—Financial Reporting Council
- >free trade, free trade area

- >free-for-all (n)
- >Freedom of Information Act—date problematic; don't bother to specify
- >Freedom to Marry—campaigns on same-sex marriages
- >freehold, freeholder
- >freeload, freeloader, freeloading
- >freeport
- >Freeview—ie of digital TV [It's a company]
- >French francs—in full: 20 million francs, 20 French francs; euro introduced in 1999
- >FRES—future rapid effect system [armoured vehicle, due 2007]; as of 2014, it seemed FRES had delivered nothing but invoices
- >Fresh Start—“A Fresh Start: the Stormont Agreement and Implementation Plan”—“Fresh Start” agreement
- >Fresh Start group—examines our relationship with the EU
- >fresh water (n) freshwater (adj)
- >Friction Dynamics—see Dynamex Friction; ceased trading 2006
- >fridge—don't expand to “refrigerator”, except in formal contexts such as headings
- >friendly—as suffix, hyphenated: user-friendly, family-friendly
- >Friendly Societies Commission—transferred to FSA, then FCA
- >Friends of the Earth
- >front—western front etc
- >Frontex—European border security force
- >Frontiir—a Myanmar-based telecommunications and internet company, not to be confused with Frontier Myanmar, a Myanmar-based English-language periodical
- >Front Bench—Front Bencher; Front-Bench spokesman. Avoid making the Front Bench say or do much. Try Front-Bench spokesman, team, Members etc
- >frontline (noun and adjective)
- >front-loading; front-loaded cuts
- >frontrunner
- >FRRP—Financial Reporting Review Panel
- >FRS—1. Fisheries Research Services; became part of Marine Scotland in 2009  
2. Fellow of the Royal Society
- >FRS 17—with space; accounting standard for pension schemes
- >FRU—force research unit [NI]; renamed Joint Support Group in 2005
- >FRY—Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; existed until 2003, when it became Serbia and Montenegro; Montenegro then gained independence in 2006
- >FSA—1. Food Standards Agency  
2. Financial Services Authority; abolished 2013  
3. Football Supporters Association; became Football Supporters Federation (FSF) in 2002
- >FSB—Federation of Small Businesses
- >FSBR—“Financial Statement and Budget Report” ie the Red Book
- >FSNI—Forensic Science Northern Ireland
- >FSS—1. formula spending share; SFA (settlement funding assessment) since 2013; [local govt finance]  
2. Forensic Science Service; closed 2012

- >FSTA—future strategic tanker aircraft
- >FTSE—don't expand to Financial Times Stock Exchange; FTSE 100; FTSE 250; the FTSE; the Footsie;
- >Fuchs—Army nuclear/chemical detection vehicle
- >fuel duty escalator—broke down, 2000; resurrected, then scrapped and replaced by fair fuel stabiliser in 2012
- >Fuel Poverty Advisory Group—NDPB, est 2002 [not Committee]
- >fuel-air explosive
- >fuel-efficient
- >full-fibre broadband
- >fuel-poor—the fuel-poor; they are fuel-poor; fuel-poor pensioners
- >fulfil—fulfilled, fulfilling, fulfilment
- >full-hearted
- >full time—1. The referee blew for full time.  
2. He works full time.  
3. He has a full-time job.  
4. I shall not take the full time available to me
- >full-time equivalent
- >fullness—not fulness
- >fulsome—pejorative meaning obsequious, excessive [ie, not “full”, “a lot of”]
- >fund—lc: social fund, national insurance fund; European funds  
uc: Consolidated Fund, International Monetary Fund, & lottery dosh distributory organisations
- >fundholder, fundholding, GP fundholding
- >fundraiser, fundraising
- >Funding Agency for Schools—for GM-schools; abolished 1999
- >funding for lending scheme
- >Further Education Funding Council for England—the FEFC; replaced by Learning and Skills Council (qv) in 2001; LSC closed in 2010 and was replaced by the Skills Funding Agency
- >furans—organic compounds that arise from incomplete combustion of waste
- >Further Education Funding Council for Wales—the FEFCW; replaced by National Council for Education and Training for Wales; abolished 2006
- >future—1. “future” is often redundant when the future tense is evident:  
“The situation in future will continue to develop.”  
2. For “future prospects”, try “prospects”
- >future attack submarine
- >future command liaison vehicle
- >Future Force 2020—envisaged make-up of the British armed forces
- >future high streets fund
- >future jobs fund; scrapped 2011
- >future large aircraft—the Airbus A400M
- >Future Leaders programme—seeks to identify future heads
- >future offensive air system
- >future rapid effect system—armoured vehicle project [due 2007-11]; as of 2014, it seemed FRES had delivered nothing but invoices
- >Future Reserves 2020—FR2020; consultation on the make-up of the armed forces

- >future strategic tanker aircraft
  - >Futurebuilders—offered loans to third sector organisations; closed to new applicants in 2010
  - >FUW—Farmers Union of Wales
  - >FVEY—see “Five Eyes”
  - >FY—financial year
  - >FYROM—former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; see Macedonia
  - >Fylingdales—RAF early-warning radar base
- 
- >G—G7, G8, G20 etc. No need to expand. Stands for Group of Seven etc. the G7 summit; the G8 countries; the G8 is singular
  - >G-Cloud—Government scheme for cloud procurement services
  - >GAAP—generally accepted accounting practice; may also be, esp. in US, generally accepted accounting principles
  - >GAAR—general anti-abuse rule
  - >GAD—Government Actuary’s Department
  - >Gaddafi—Colonel or President Gaddafi [Libya] full name: Muammar al-Gaddafi; deposed and killed in 2011
  - >Gaelic—1. uc as adj. or for the languages
  - >Gaelic Development Agency— Bòrd na Gàidhlig (promotes Gaelic language) [Scotland]; Comunn na Gàidhlig is a Gaelic development body/social enterprise
  - >Gaeltacht (where Irish is spoken)
  - >GAERC—General Affairs and External Relations Council; Lisbon treaty split its functions between the General Affairs Council and the Foreign Affairs Council in 2009
  - >gaff—blow the gaff
  - >gaffe—blunder
  - >Galileo—European satellite navigation system; opposed by US **in 2002**
  - >gallery—1. uc in House terms: Press Gallery; Strangers Gallery or Public Gallery (follow usage); the Gallery; (but “playing to the gallery”);  
2. Upper case for art galleries: National Gallery; Walker Art Gallery
  - >gallon—8 pints; with figures: 5 gallons; with miles per gallon, mpg is ok after it’s been expanded once
  - >GambleAware
  - >game changer
  - >Game Conservancy Trust—shooting fraternity; became the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust in 2007
  - >games—Olympic games; Commonwealth games
  - >Gaming Board for Great Britain—the Gaming Board will usually suffice; replaced by the Gambling Commission in 2007
  - >gang of four—in Mao’s China or in UK’s SDP
  - >gangmaster, Operation Gangmaster (set up in 1998)
  - >Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority; formerly the Gangmasters Licensing Authority, est. 2005
  - >gangway—in the Chamber, uc: Members below the Gangway

- >GAntiP—general anti-avoidance principle
- >gaol, gaoler—use jail, jailer
- >Garda Síochána—the Irish police; the Garda [the organisation]  
a garda is a policeman; pl: gardai
- >Garner, Jay—US general who briefly ran Iraq (2003)
- >Garvaghy Road—Portadown march route [NI]
- >Gas and Electricity Markets Authority—governing body of Ofgem
- >gaslighting—to gaslight; gaslit (past participle)
- >gate—as suffix meaning “scandal analogous to Watergate” no hyphen if possible:  
Conragate, Irangate, Aardvarkgate, Plebgate
- >GATS—general agreement on trade in services
- >GATT—general agreement on tariffs and trade; led to WTO in 1995
- >Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance—formerly the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation
- >gauss—unit of magnetic induction; with figures: 1 gauss; 25 gauss;
- >Gazelle AH1, HT2, HT3, HCC4—general purpose helicopter
- >Gazette—see *London Gazette*, *Belfast Gazette*, *Edinburgh Gazette*, which are the official newspapers of the Crown, publishing appointments, insolvencies etc. hence the term “gazetted” of an appointment.
- >Gazprom—huge Russian gas company
- >GBA—Governing Bodies Association; formed the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS) in 2002
- >GBU—don’t expand to guided bomb unit; GBU-12 Paveway II
- >GCC—Gulf Co-operation Council
- >GCHQ—Government Communications Headquarters; GCHQ will do
- >GCSE—don’t expand to general certificate of secondary education;
- >GDC—General Dental Council
- >GDP—gross domestic product but no need to expand
- >GDS—1. general dental services  
2. Government Digital Service; set up in 2011
- >gender—1. It is permissible to use “they” to cover both sexes in cases where the singular would, strictly, be required  
2. In legislation, “he” covers both sexes, so don’t “correct” people, especially Ministers, to “they” or “he or she”  
3. Don’t change people who use “he or she” to “they”  
4. Don’t change people who use “she” where “he” might be expected  
5. Don’t put “he or she” into the mouths of Members who wouldn’t say it.  
It is often possible to pluralise your way out of trouble.
- >Gene Therapy Advisory Committee; moved to Health Research Authority (HRA) in 2011
- >general—rank is lc, but with a name: General Eisenhower
- >General Affairs and External Relations Council—Lisbon treaty split its functions between the General Affairs Council and the Foreign Affairs Council in 2009
- >General Affairs Council
- >general agreement on tariffs and trade—GATT
- >general agreement on trade in services
- >General Assembly—of the UN; uc and singular

- >General Belgrano—Argentine cruiser sunk by UK in 1982
- >General Council of the Bar—the Bar Council
- >General Council of the Bar of Northern Ireland
- >General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR—often, no need to expand
- >General Dental Council
- >general election
- >General Medical Council—chair since 2014: Professor Terence Stephenson;  
former presidents: Professor Graeme Catto; Sir Donald Irvine
- >General Officer Commanding Northern Ireland; post abolished in 2009
- >General Optical Council
- >General Register Office for Scotland—merged with the National Archives of  
Scotland to form National Records of Scotland in 2011
- >General Social Care Council—regulated social workers (est 2001); taken over by  
Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) in 2012
- >General Synod—the General Synod of the Church of England is its parliament. It  
passes Acts known as Measures, which must be laid before both Lords and  
Commons. They can be accepted or rejected but not amended.
- >General Teaching Council—there are separate GTCs for Scotland, Wales & NI;  
no need to give nation identifier if it is clear which is meant; now defunct in  
England; role taken over by the Teaching Agency and became National  
College for Teaching & Leadership (NCTL) in 2013
- >Generation Rent—organisation campaign to improve the private rented sector;
- >generation X (baby boomers); generation Y (millennials);
- >genetically modified organism (GMO)
- >Genetic Interest Group—genetic disorders charity organisation; name was  
changed to Genetic Alliance UK in 2010
- >Geneva convention—presently, there are four, adopted in 1949, with two protocols  
adopted in 1977; a third protocol was added in 2005
- >gentleman's agreement—not gentlemen's
- >Geneva II—UN peace conference on Syria
- >GEO—Government Equalities Office; now part of DCMS
- >geopolitical
- >Georgia—cap. Tblisi; pres. (since 2013) Giorgi Margvelashvili; predecessors:  
Mikhail Saakashvili; Eduard Shevardnadze; Zviad Gamsakhurdia; breakaway  
regions: Abkhazia and South Ossetia
- >Germany—  
Chancellor, Angela Merkel, 2005-  
President, Joachim Gauck (since 2012)  
old politicians: Gerhard Schröder
- >Gershon, Peter—civil service efficiency review 2004
- >Get Safe Online—provides advice on online and information security
- >Get Set programme—aimed to involve young people in the Olympics; now  
managed by the British Olympic Association and British Paralympic  
Association
- >ghetto—pl. ghettos
- >ghillie—not “gilly” or “gillie”;
- >Ghurka—wrong; use Gurkha

- >Giant Viper—mine clearance system; superseded by Python in 2010
- >gibe—not “jibe”
- >Gibraltar—the Rock of Gibraltar; the Rock; the Governor; the Gibraltar Council, the Council; Council of Ministers, the Council; House of Assembly known as the Gibraltar Parliament since 2006  
politicians: Peter Caruana; Joe Bossano
- >GICS—Government Information and Communication Service; became Government Communication Network in 2004 and Government Communication Service in 2014
- >GIG—Genetic Interest Group; name was changed to Genetic Alliance UK in 2010
- >giga—prefix indicating  $10^9$  or a thousand million; symbol: G
- >gigabecquerels—with figures 25 Gbq
- >gigabit
- >giga-electron-volt—25 GeV
- >gigafactory
- >gigahertz—with figures 25 GHz
- >gigajoule—with figures: 200 GJ
- >gigawatt—with figures: 25 GW
- >gigawatts electric—with figures 25 GWe; ‘e’ specifies the electric output, as distinct from the heat output, of a CHP plant.
- >gigawatt-hours—with figures: 25 GWh
- >Gini coefficient—often mentioned in discussions about wealth distribution
- >gipsy—use Gypsy
- >girlfriend, boyfriend
- >Girls Schools Association
- >giro, girocheque—Girobank was privatised 1990; taken over by Alliance & Leicester in 2003, which was acquired by Santander in 2010, finally laying to rest Harold Wilson’s people’s bank
- >Giscard d’Estaing, Valéry—president of European Convention; President of France 1974-81
- >give and take
- >give away (v); giveaway (n and adj.)
- >give to—try “give”
- >GLA—1. Greater London Authority  
2. Gangmasters Licensing Authority
- >GlaxoSmithKline—2000 merger of Glaxo Wellcome & SmithKline Beecham; GSK
- >GLC—Greater London Council [defunct]; abolished in 1986 by Margaret Thatcher
- >Glidewell, Iain—1998 report on CPS
- >Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; Global Fund
- >Global Partnership for Education
- >GLOBE International—international body of parliamentarians that responds to environmental challenges
- >Glorious Revolution—1688 constitutional settlement after deposition of James II; enacted by the Bill of Rights in 1689
- >Gloster—1. aircraft company built Gloster Meteor, Gladiator etc

2. The Glosters is nickname of Gloucestershire Regiment in its various incarnations

- >GM—1. genetically modified (no hyphens)  
2. grant-maintained (eg GM schools)
- >GMB—doesn't stand for anything; general secy: Paul Kenny; formerly John Edmonds
- >GMBATU—now GMB; was General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union
- >GMC—General Medical Council
- >GMO—genetically modified organism; GMOs
- >GMP—guaranteed minimum pension
- >GMS—general medical services
- >GMWU—General and Municipal Workers Union; now GMB
- >GNI—gross national income; no need to expand
- >GNVQ—general national vocational qualification; no need to expand; last awarded in 2007
- >go—from the word go
- >go ahead (v) go-ahead (n)
- >goalposts
- >GOATs—Ministers in a Government of all the talents
- >gobbledegook [not "gobbledygook"]
- >gobsmacked
- >GOC—General Officer Commanding
- >GoCo—Government-owned contractor-operated
- >God, gods—God help us; God-given; God-forsaken; lap of the gods;
- >Godspeed
- >gold command
- >gold dust, gold mine
- >gold plate (n) to gold-plate (v) gold-plating
- >gold standard
- >gold-digger
- >golden jubilee
- >Golden Temple also known as the Harmandir Sahib
- >Good Friday
- >Good Friday agreement—follow Member's usage; some Unionists always call it the Belfast agreement; some call it the Belfast/Good Friday agreement
- >good samaritan
- >good will (n) good-will (adj.) goodwill (in business)
- >goodbye—"We must say goodbye to full employment."
- >Goode, Roy [Royston]—pension law review 1992
- >goodness—for goodness' sake
- >Google—the search engine; to google—to use said search engine
- >GOSE—Government office for the south-east; abolished and closed in 2011
- >GoSkills—passenger transport sector skills council; merged with People 1st in 2011
- >GovCo—Government-owned company
- >gov.uk—website for Government services and information; replaced Direct.gov and

## Business link in 2012

- >Governance Office—supports the Clerk to the House and Management Board
- >Governing Bodies Association—ie schools; became the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS) following a merger in 2002
- >governing council—in Iraq; dissolved 2004
- >Government—1. the institution is uc and plural: “The Government are...”, but they always have a singular attribute: “The Government have lost their head and changed their mind.”  
NOTE: The Government can be who, that or which.  
These rules also apply to foreign Governments.
- 2. The concept of government is lc and singular: “But government is more art than science.” “When we were in government...”  
machinery of government; responsibilities of government; local government; regional government; central and local government; local and central Government; Cabinet government; devolved government
- >Government Actuary’s Department—the Government Actuary
- >Government Communications Headquarters—GCHQ will do
- >Government Digital Service—part of Cabinet Office
- >Government Gateway—central website for accessing online Government services
- >Government Information and Communication Service; became Government Communication Network in 2004 and Government Communication Service in 2014
- >Government Member—an MP who belongs to the party or parties in government; a member of the Government is a Minister
- >Government of Wales Act 1998—est devolution; [“gower”]
- >Government offices for the regions—not “of”; closed 2011; former GORs to be known simply as “regions”
  - Government office for the east midlands
  - Government office for the east of England
  - Government office for London
  - Government office for the north-east
  - Government office for the north-west
  - Government office for the south-east
  - Government office for the south-west
  - Government office for the west midlands
  - Government office for Yorkshire and the Humber
- >Government Whip
- >governmental
- >governor—1. usually lc: chairman of the governors, prison governor
  - 2. Governor of the Bank of England; the Governor; the deputy governor
  - 3. Governor of Hong Kong etc; the Governor
- >Governor-General—uc Governor-General of Australia; the Governor-General; pl. governors-general;
- >GOWA—Government of Wales Act 1998 [“gower”] = devolution
- >GPMG—general purpose machine gun
- >GPMU—Graphical, Paper and Media Union; gen. secy: Tony Dubbins; became

part of Unite in 2007

- >GPO—General Post Office [long gone]
- >GPRS—general packet radio service; enhanced GSM
- >GPS—global positioning system; no need to expand
- >GPSoc—GP Systems of Choice—funds the provision of clinical IT systems
- >Gracious Speech—another name for Queen’s Speech
- >grade—grade A; grade A-plus; grade A\*; grade B; grade 1; grade 2;  
listed buildings: grade I, grade II\*, grade II
- >graffiti—is a plural with the singular “graffito”,  
but “graffiti is a major problem...” seems euphonious
- >Grameen bank—founder - Muhammad Yunus
- >Grameen Foundation
- >grams—not “gramme”; with figures: 200 grams
- >Grand Chamber—part of European Court of Human Rights
- >grand national
- >grandad
- >grant aid (v) grant-aid (n and adj.); the work is grant-aided
- >grant in aid—not hyphenated
- >Graphical, Paper and Media Union; became part of Unite in 2007
- >grassroots
- >grateful—I am grateful to someone or for something  
Wrong: I am grateful to be able to speak  
Right: I am grateful for the opportunity to speak...
- >gray—SI unit of absorbed dose of ionised radiation; with figures: 200 gray
- >Gray, Bernard—author of report into defence acquisition
- >grazeable
- >Gray Cancer Institute—Gray laboratory; became Gray Institute for Radiation  
Oncology and Biology in 2008
- GREAT campaign, also GREAT Britain campaign—aims to attract students, visitors and  
business to the UK
- >great lakes—can refer to those between Canada and the US or those in central  
Africa; great lakes region: areas of Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and  
DRC
- >Great Reform Act—1832 electoral reform that standardised the franchise and  
abolished some rotten boroughs; if you need to date it try “The Great Reform  
Act of 1832”, not “Great Reform Act 1832” (which wasn’t its title)
- >great war, first world war, world war one, 1914 to 1918
- >Greater Glasgow, Greater London, Greater Manchester etc
- >Greater London Assembly—properly the London Assembly
- >Greater London Authority
- >Greater London Council—the GLC [abolished 1986]
- >Greece—  
Pres: Prokopis Pavlopoulos; former pres: Karolos Papoulias; PM: Alexis  
Tsipras; former PMs: Antonis Samaras; Panagiotis Pikrammenos; Lucas  
Papademos; George Papandreou; Costas Karamanlis
- >green belt; green-belt land
- >greenfield site; a green field

- >Green Book—1. Detailed figures for the autumn statement (as the Red Book is to the Budget)
  - 2. Guide to Members' Allowances (until 2010)
  - 3. lc: the green book, information on vaccines and vaccination procedures
- >Green Economy Council
- >green goddess—ageing fire engines
- >green investment bank for general references; UK Green Investment Bank for the constituted company; UK GIB
- >green line (eg in Beirut, Cyprus)
- >Green Ministers Sub-Committee—of the Cabinet Environment Committee; Green Ministers; disappeared under Gordon Brown
- >green on blue attacks—no hyphens
- >Green Paper—Government policy discussion document with scope for consultation may be developed into a White Paper and incorporated in legislation. Full titles in quotes, but general references to the rural Green Paper or Green Paper
  - on education don't need them. Other bodies' green papers are lc.
- >Green party—the Greens; a Green councillor; but general references to “green issues” are lc
- >green pound
- >greenfield—greenfield sites, development etc but “There were green fields there when I was a lad.”
- >Greenham Common—ex US base in Berkshire
- >greenhouse effect
- >greening—taking account of environmental considerations
- >grey water—gently used, “relatively clean” waste water from sources such as the bathroom, kitchen and laundry; as opposed to black water, from toilets; grey-water recycling
- >Griffin HT1—training helicopter
- >GRIP—governance for railway investment projects; GRIP 3
- >Grimbarian—inhabitant of Grimsby
- >grisly—means ghastly; not to be confused with grizzly which is a type of bear
- >Groceries Code Adjudicator—Christine Tacon
- >GROS—General Register Office for Scotland; merged with the National Archives of Scotland to form the National Records of Scotland in 2011
- >GrowthAccelerator—provides service to businesses
- >ground—watch how many grounds are involved
- >groundbreaking
- >groundhog day—“Groundhog Day” for the film
- >groundnut scheme—notorious failed 1940s African development scheme
- >ground rent grazing—buying up worthless freeholds to screw leaseholders on the Insurance
- >groundwork
- >group-think
- >Growing Places fund—designed to fund infrastructure projects
- >Grundtvig—EU adult education programme; replaced by Erasmus+ in 2014
- >GSCC—General Social Care Council; closed 2012; functions transferred to

## Health and Care Professions Council

- >GSM—global system for mobile
- >GSVQ—general Scottish vocational qualification; being replaced by SGA
- >GTAC—Gene Therapy Advisory Committee; moved to Health Research Authority (HRA) in 2011
- >GTC—General Teaching Council—there are separate GTCs for Scotland, Wales & NI; no need to give nation identifier if it is clear which is meant; now defunct in England; role taken over by the Teaching Agency and became National College for Teaching & Leadership (NCTL) in 2013
- >Guantanamo Bay—meaning the US base or prison in Cuba; Camp X-Ray; Guantanamo bay – the waters around said base
- >*Guardian, The*; but it's ok to say “a typical *Guardian* reader”
- >guardian ad litem—represents kids etc. in legal cases
- >guardian's allowance
- >Guards Division—the Guards
- >guerrilla—2 l's, 2 r's
- >guest house
- >guesstimate
- >guidebook
- >Guildford Four—Gerard [Gerry] Conlon, Patrick [Paddy] Armstrong, Carole Richardson, Paul Hill
- >guillotine—procedure to limit debating time. Always lc: guillotine motion; limits within one are sometimes called knives
- >Gujarat, Gujarati—not “-erat”
- >gulf—lc except when “the Gulf” means the Persian gulf; gulf of Hormuz; the Gulf war; second Gulf war
- >Gulf Co-operation Council—don't expand to Co-operation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf
- >gulf stream—Atlantic current
- >GUM—genito-urinary medicine; also a department store in Moscow
- >gundog
- >gun crew
- >gunboat
- >gunfight
- >gunman
- >gunnels—not “gunwhales”; as in “packed to the gunnels”
- >gunrunner
- >gunshot
- >gunship
- >gunslinger
- >gung-ho
- >Gurkhas—Brigade of Gurkhas;
- >GW—gigawatt; GWh = gigawatt-hours; GWe = gigawatt electricity
- >GVA—gross value added
- >Gwydyr House, Whitehall—Wales Office building
- >Gymnich—informal meeting of EU Foreign Ministers; named after a castle in Germany

- >Gypsy—uc, not “gipsy”
  
- >H—words beginning with “h” take “a” when the stress is on the first syllable: a house; a horrible tale; a hypothetical question; but they take “an” when the stress is on the second: an historic occasion; an horrific tale;
- >H1N1—swine flu virus
- >H5N1—avian flu virus strain
- >H-bomb
- >Haass, Richard—often misspelt US State Department official
- >Habitat—see UN-Habitat
- >Habitat Scotland—environment charity
- >habitats directive—92/43/EEC;
- >Habsburg—not Hapsburg
- >Hacked Off campaign
- >Haddon-Cave, Charles—conducted Nimrod inquiry
- >haemo—use UK form of prefix not US “hemo-”: haemoglobin
- >Haemophilia Society
- >haemorrhage
- >Hague, The—thus The Hague convention etc
- >hair shirt
- >hairspray
- >hair-brained—use “hare-brained”
- >hair-do—pl. hair-dos
- >hair-raising
- >hair-trigger
- >hair’s breadth
- >hairstylist
- >Hajj—annual pilgrimage to Mecca
- >Halabja—Iraq used chemical weapons on Kurds, 1988
- >half-life—of radioactive materials
- >half-term
- >half-truth
- >halfpenny—also: ha’penny, ha’p’orth, tuppenny-ha’penny
- >halfway, halfway house
- >Halliday, Denis—UN official involved in Iraq, 1990s
- >hallmark
- >Hallowe’en
- > Hamas—aka Islamic Resistance Movement; [see also Palestine]
- >Hampton, Philip—2005 regulation review
- >handheld (adj)
- >hand in hand—no hyphens
- >hand out (v) handout (n)
- >hand over (v) handover (n)

- >hand-pick, hand-picked
- >handgun
- >Hanover—don't use German spelling "Hannover"
- >Hansard—that's us, ie the *Official Report*. There's a House of Lords *Hansard*; the *Hansard* Reporters;
- >Hansard Society—nothing to do with *Hansard*. A constitutional think-tank; don't bother adding "for Parliamentary Government"
- >Hapsburg—use Habsburg
- >hara-kiri
- >harbourmaster
- >hard line—he takes a hard line; he is hard-line; a hard-liner; hard-line terrorists
- >hardwired
- >hard-working—he is hard-working
- >hardwood, hardwoods
- >hare coursing
- >hare-brained—not "hair-brained"
- >Harland and Wolff
- >Harmandir Sahib; also known as the Golden Temple
- >harmony guidelines—how long troops serve away from home
- >Harrier GR7, GR9, Sea Harrier FRS2, F/A2
- >Harworth colliery—not Haworth; in Notts, but near Doncaster
- >HAT—housing action trust; ran council estates under Housing Act 1988  
eg: Castle Vale housing action trust; HATs
- >Hawk—BAE Systems jet trainer/light attack aircraft. Hawk T1, T1A, T1W;  
Hawk 200 is current export model
- >HAZ—health action zone; abandoned in 2003
- >HB—housing benefit
- >HBRO—housing benefit run-on
- >HD committee—Committee on the Grant of Honours, Decorations and Medals
- >HDA—Health Development Agency [part of NICE since 1.4.05]
- >HDI—human development index
- >HDSL—high data rate digital subscriber line
- >HE—1. higher education; "I worked in HE" is ok after 1 expansion  
2. high explosive
- >Head of Government, Head of State
- >headcount
- >headhunt—headhunted; headhunter
- >head-on
- >Headley Court—HQ of DMCR
- >headline goals [EU defence] see also Petersberg [not -burg] tasks
- >headlines—quoted but not brev'd: The headline in today's *Guardian* says, "Tory leader risks all on 80s revival".
- >headmaster, headmistress
- >Headmasters Conference—renamed 1998, see below
- >Headmasters and Headmistresses Conference—was Headmasters  
Conference  
[independent schools]

- >headquarters—takes plural
- >Head(s) of Government, Head(s) of State, Heads of Government meeting
- >headteacher
- >Headteachers Association of Scotland; renamed School Leaders Scotland in 2010
- >Healey, Denis—Labour Defence Secretary & Chancellor
- >health action zones—lc; abandoned in 2003
- >Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- >health authorities—England’s 95 health authorities were abolished in April 2002; now we have PCTs, StHAs; PCTs and SHAs abolished in 2012 and clinical commissioning groups set up; see also SHAs; (all qv); DHAs, RHAs, AHAs, FHSAs all went long ago (all qv);
- >Health and Safety Commission—oversaw HSE (the commission proposes, the executive disposes); merged with Health and Safety Executive in 2008
- >Health and Safety Executive—enforces health and safety provisions; was overseen by HSC; HSC and HSE sound the same, so watch out;
- >Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland—HSENI; est 1999
- >health and social services boards—NI health authorities: the Eastern health and social services board; dissolved 2009 and replaced by Health and Social Care Board
- >health and social services councils—NI equivalent of CHCs; Patient and Client Council (PCC) replaced the four health and social services councils in 2009
- >health and wellbeing boards
- >health boards—Scottish health authorities; NHS boards
- >Healthcall—handled miners’ compensation claims
- >healthcare—one word, but check titles of organisations
- >Healthcare Commission; abolished in 2009 and subsumed into Care Quality Commission
- >Healthcare for London; strategy discontinued since 2010
- >health councils
- >Health Development Agency—part of NICE since 1.4.05
- >Health Education Board for Scotland; merged with the Public Health Institute of Scotland (PHIS) to become NHS Health Scotland in 2003
- >Health Professions Council—est 2002, regulated 12 health professions; renamed the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) in 2012
- >Health Professions Wales—regulator, replaced WNB; abolished 2006
- >Health Promotion England—closed 2002; functions to DOH
- >Health Protection Agency—become part of Public Health England from April 2013
- >health service, the national health service
- >health service commissioner—same as health service ombudsman  
incumbent: Dame Julie Mellor (since 2012); predecessor: Ann Abraham
- >*Health Service Journal*
- >Healthwatch England—consumer champion for health and social care; local healthwatch organisations opened in April 2013
- >HealthWatch—charitable organisation that promotes evidence-based medicine
- >Healthy Start scheme—replaced the Welfare Food scheme in 2006
- >heartbreaking; heartbroken

- >hearted—as suffix: wholehearted; all others, hyphenated: cold-hearted; half-hearted;
  - kind-hearted
- >heartfelt
- >heatwave
- >heath—lc in general: Hampstead heath; uc in place names: Thornton Heath
- >heaven—the kingdom of heaven
- >heavy-handed
- >heavyweight
- >hectare—with figures: 200 hectares; 1 hectare = 10,000 square metres;
- >HEBS—Health Education Board for Scotland; merged with the Public Health Institute of Scotland (PHIS) to become NHS Health Scotland in 2003
- >Heckler and Koch—small arms makers
- >hectolitre—100 litres; with figures: 25 hectolitres
- >HEES—home energy efficiency scheme; in England, became warm front, which ended in January 2013
- >HEFC, HEFCE, HEFCW—see Higher Education Funding Council—leave in “for England” or “for Wales”
- >Heilbron, Rose—1975 report on rape law, anonymity for complainants;
- >HELCOM—the Helsinki Commission or Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission
- >Helios—EU scheme; don’t expand to handicapped people in Europe living independently in an open society
- >hell
- >hellbent
- >Hellfire—anti-tank missile
- >hello—“He called to say hello.”
- >Helms-Burton Act—US sanctions on Cuba
- >help and assistance—choose one when both occur
- >help desk
- >Help the Aged—now part of Age UK; known as Age UK since 2010
- >help to buy ISA, but Help to Buy scheme—Government support for the housing market
- >Help to Grow
- >helpline
- >Henley Centre—formerly Henley Centre for Forecasting; merged with HeadlightVision to form Henley Centre HeadlightVision in 2005; HCHLV merged with Yankelovich, Inc. in 2008 to form The Futures Company
- >henry—SI unit of inductance; 2.4 henries
- >Henry VIII—Henry VIII orders, Henry VIII clause, Henry VIII provision; of DLs that amend primary legislation
- >Henry, Tyra—abused child, 1984
- >hepatitis A, B, C
- >HEPI—Higher Education Policy Institute (est. 2002)
- >Her Majesty—uc: Her Majesty’s Government; Her Majesty the Queen, Her Majesty’s inspectorate of...; Her Majesty’s prisons;

- >Her Majesty's chief inspector—all inspectors, inspectorates and chief inspectors lc
- >Her Majesty's chief inspector of court administration—HMICA; inspectorate abolished in 2012 and functions transferred to Her Majesty's chief inspector of prisons
- >Her Majesty's chief inspector of education, children's services and skills
- >Her Majesty's chief inspector of prisons—Nick Hardwick, 2010- ; Dame Anne Owers, 2001-2010
- >Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service—a merger of Her Majesty's Courts Service and the Tribunals Service; Courts and Tribunals Service will be ok
- >Her Majesty's inspectorate of pollution—part of Environment Agency since 1996
- >Her Majesty's inspectorate of prisons—also calls itself HMI Prisons
- >Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs—2005 merger of Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise; Revenue and Customs; the Revenue; a Department
- >Her Royal Highness
- >*Herald, The*—[Glasgow]; it's ok to say "the Glasgow *Herald*"
- >Hercules—RAF name of Lockheed C-130
- >hereditaries—term for hereditary peers
- >hereditary peer
- >Heriot-Watt University
- >Heritage Fund—it has two parts: as the National Lottery Heritage Fund, it distributes national lottery grants to heritage projects; as the Heritage Fund, it distributes non-lottery funding to heritage organisations.
- >Herman Van Rompuy—former President of the European Council (note the big V)
- >hero—pl. heroes
- >heroin—a drug not to be confused with the worthier "heroine"
- >Herr—ok if used by Member: Herr Schröder
- >hertz—SI unit of frequency, 1 cycle per second; 23 Hz
- >Herzegovina—see Bosnia and Herzegovina
- >HESA—Higher Education Statistics Agency
- >HET—1. heavy equipment transporter [defence]  
2. Historical Enquiries Team (NI)
- >Hezbollah—militant Lebanese Shi'ite faction; leader: Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah
- >HFA—hill farm allowance; ended 2010 and uplands ELS introduced
- >HFEA—Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority
- >HGC—Human Genetics Commission; abolished 2010
- >HHG—Helsinki headline goals [EU defence]
- >hiccup—not hiccough; qv HICP
- >HICP—harmonised index of consumer prices
- >hide-bound
- >high commission, high commissioner—always lc; for names, see under "United Nations"
- >high contracting parties—to treaties etc
- >High Court of Justice—the High Court; the Court; NI has one too; superior civil court with chancery, Queen's bench and family divisions
- >High Court of Justiciary—in Scotland, the superior criminal court
- >high level—meetings at a high level; high-level meetings; high-level waste
- >high-level panel [UN – don't add "on threats, challenges and change" unless needed]

- >High Pay Commission; reported in 2011
- >High Representative
- >high sheriff—pageantry sinecure in England
- >High Speed 1; High Speed 2; HS2; HS2 Ltd but note high-speed rail;  
HS2 has three phases: phase 1, phase 2a and phase 2b
- >High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill—note spaces either side of hyphen
- >high street, high street shops—but there are some real High Streets
- >high tech (n) high-tech (adj)
- >high-falutin’
- >high-minded
- >Higher Education Funding Council for England—leave the “England” in unless the  
reference is very clear; the HEFCE; see also SHEFC; [no NI equiv.]
- >Higher Education Funding Council for Wales—leave the “Wales” in unless the  
reference is very clear
- >Higher Education Policy Institute
- >Higher Education Statistics Agency
- >higher rate taxpayer
- >higher still—“Higher Still” reforms, Scottish exams
- >highers—Scottish post-16 exams; replaced by national qualifications from 2004
- >highland—the highlands; highlands and islands;  
Highland regional council (singular, abolished 1996)
- >Highlands and Islands Enterprise—replaced Highlands and Islands development  
board 1992. Independent of Scottish Enterprise.  
Has 10 LECs (local enterprise companies):  
Argyll and the Islands Enterprise; Caithness and Sutherland Enterprise;  
Inverness and Nairn Local Enterprise Company; Lochaber Enterprise; Moray  
Badenoch and Strathspey Enterprise; Orkney Enterprise Company Ltd; Ross  
and Cromarty Enterprise; Shetland Enterprise; Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise;  
Western Isles Enterprise; local enterprise companies abolished 2007 and  
replaced with 15 enterprise areas
- >Highness—His Royal Highness, Her Royal Highness
- >highway code, the
- >
- >highways authority—responsible for roads; usually the local council
- >High North—geopolitical terms for not precisely defined area of the Arctic
- >hijack, hijacker, hijacking
- >hill, hills—Tower hill, the Mendip hills, the Mendips, but uc in place names:  
For Hill, Streatham Hill station
- >hill farm allowance—HFA; ended 2010 and uplands ELS introduced
- >hill livestock compensatory allowance—now HFA; HFA ended 2010 and uplands  
ELS introduced
- >Hinckley—in Leics., the power station has no c: Hinkley Point
- >Hindi—official language of India
- >Hindu, Hinduism
- >Hindustani—a form of Hindi
- >Hinkley Point power station—in Somerset; not same as Hinckley, Leics.
- >HIP—home information pack; scrapped 2010

- >HIPC—heavily indebted poor countries [not “highly”]
- >His Majesty—see Her Majesty
- >His Royal Highness
- >historic/historical—historic means “famous or important in history”, historical means “relating to history”. Thus an historic event is a notable one while an historical event is merely one that happened in the past: historical child abuse
- >Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England—became English Heritage in 1999
- >Historic Buildings Council for Scotland; abolished 2003 and functions transferred to Historic Scotland
- >Historic Scotland—Exec agency
- >Historical Enquiries Team
- >hit and run; hit-and-run fatalities
- >HIV—human immunodeficiency virus; don’t expand; HIV/AIDS; HIV-positive; note that “HIV virus” is a tautology;
- >Hizb ut-Tahrir—a radical Islamic party
- >HLCA—hill livestock compensatory allowance
- >HLOS—high-level output specification (pronounced “aitch-loss”)
- >HLS—higher level stewardship scheme; promotes management of the countryside; see also ELS and OELS
- >HM—see Her or His Majesty
- >HMC—Headmasters and Headmistresses Conference
- >HMCI—see chief inspector
- >HMCTS—Her Majesty’s Courts and Tribunals Service
- >HMG—Her Majesty’s Government
- >HMICFRS—Her Majesty’s inspectorate of constabulary and fire and rescue services; formerly Her Majesty’s inspectorate of constabulary
- >HMIP—1. Her Majesty’s inspectorate of probation
  2. see Her Majesty’s inspectorate of pollution; defunct; part of Environment Agency since 1996
  3. Her Majesty’s inspectorate of prisons; the two HMIPs are due to merge, along with inspectorates for CPS and courts, in March 2007
- >HMOs—houses in multiple occupation
- >Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service—replaced National Offender Management Service in 2017; chief executive Jo Farrar 2019-
- >HMRC—Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs; Revenue and Customs
- >Her Majesty’s Prison Service—child agency of Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service
- >HMT—Her Majesty’s Treasury
- >HMX—explosive used to detonate nuclear weapons
- >HNC—higher national certificate; no need to expand
- >HND—higher national diploma; no need to expand
- >hoard—to store (v) a store (n) “horde” means “a multitude”
- >hobby-horse
- >hodgepodge—hotchpotch also acceptable, follow usage
- >Hodgson report—1984 on confiscation of crime proceeds
- >Hoffmann, Lord —Law Lord until 2009

- >hoick
- >Holbrooke, Richard—Clinton’s envoy to Balkans etc
- >holocaust, but Holocaust Memorial Day
- >holiday activities and food programme
- >holidaymaker
- >holy grail
- >Holy Land—ie Israel
- >Holy Roman empire—polity established by Charlemagne in 800; became loose, elective German kingdom that fell under Habsburg dominance in the middle ages. Dissolved 1805.
- >Holy Scripture
- >Holy See—ie the Vatican
- >holy writ
- >homebuyer—see also under homebuy schemes
- >home civil service
- >home counties
- >home help
- >homeowner—but home ownership
- >Home Rule—uc for Ireland in 19th and early 20th century
- >homeworker, homeworking
- >home-brew
- >homecoming
- >home-grown
- >home-made
- >Home-Start—family support charity
- >HomeBuy Direct—shared equity scheme
- >homebuy schemes—Housing Corporation schemes for social housing tenants etc. social homebuy, new build homebuy; Housing Corporation became part of Homes and Communities Agency in 2008
- >homeland
- >Homes and Communities Agency est. 2008
- >homogeneous—not “homogenous”
- >Hong Kong—special administrative region (SAR) of the People’s Republic of China; Chief Executive: Carrie Lam (2017-); CY Leung (2012-17); Donald Tsang (2005-2012); Tung Chee Hwa (1997-2005); last Governor: Chris Patten  
Legislative Council, sometimes called LegCo [“ledge-koe”]  
Executive Council; Basic Law; Sino-British joint declaration; joint declaration
- >Hongkonger
- >honorarium, honoraria
- >Honourable Artillery Company
- >hoo-hah
- >Hoogstraten, Nicholas van—controversial landlord/business man
- >Hoop Scheffer—see de Hoop Scheffer
- >hoover—lc, unless you mean the company, the building or the person
- >horde—a multitude; hoard means “to store” or “a store”
- >hoodie—as in hug a hoodie
- >Horizon—international frigate project; we withdrew c. 1999

- >Horlicks—a right Horlicks
- >horn—the horn of Africa; Cape Horn
- >Horserace Betting Levy board—administers horserace betting levy
- >horse-racing—may be one word or hyphenated in titles
- >horse-trading
- >horsepower—with figures: 200 hp
- >horticulturist—not “horticulturalist”
- >hospital—u.c. in titles: Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children;  
Brighton General Hospital;
- >hotspot
- >hotchpotch—hodgepodge also acceptable, follow usage
- >hotbed
- >hotline
- >house—Apsley House, Mansion House; inner, outer house [Court of Session]  
Companies House is an Executive agency
- >house builder, house building, house building industry
- >House of Commons—singular and uc; the House; the Commons; lower House
- >House of Commons Commission—runs House of Commons through the  
Management Board; the Commission
- >House of Lords—singular and uc; the Lords; the upper House; their lordships; in the  
Commons, often referred to as “the other place” or “another place” but this  
isn’t compulsory.
- >House of Lords Appointments Commission—est 2000 to recommend non-party life  
peers; chairman: Lord Kakkar; former chairman: Lord Jay of Ewelme
- >House of Representatives—US lower House
- >Household Cavalry—Household Cavalry Regiment; Household Cavalry Mounted  
Regiment
- >housing benefit
- >Housing Corporation—regulates RSLs; became part of Homes and Communities  
Agency in 2008
- >Housing for Wales—see Tai Cymru
- >Howard League for Penal Reform; Howard League is okay
- >hp—horsepower; with figures: 200 hp
- >HPA—Health Protection Agency; became part of Public Health England in 2013
- >HPC—Health Professions Council;
- >HPW—Health Professions Wales renamed the Health and Care Professions  
Council (HCPC) in 2012
- >HRA—housing revenue account
- >HSC—Health and Safety Commission; sounds just like “HSE”. HSC and HSE  
merged in 2008
- >HSE—Health and Safety Executive; sounds just like “HSC”. HSC and HSE merged in  
2008
- >HSSB—health and social services board [NI health authorities]; dissolved 2009 and  
replaced by Health and Social Care Board
- >HSSC—health and social services council [NI CHCs]; Patient and Client Council  
(PCC) replaced the four health and social services councils in 2009
- >hubbub

- >HUD—head-up display
- >hugger-mugger
- >hullabaloo
- >Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority—chair: Sally Chesire (since 2014); former chairs: Dame Suzi Leather; Ruth Deech
- >Human Genetics Commission—ex Human Genetics Advisory Commission to 1999; abolished 2010
- >Human Rights Act 1998—incorporated ECHR into British law; not always necessary to specify date
- >Human Rights Commission—usually means Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (qv); others proposed but should be lc until they come into being [as of May 2003] Equality and Human Rights Commission set up in 2007; see also: United Nations Committee on Human Rights; IHRC
- >Human Rights Watch
- >Human Tissue Authority
- >Humble Address
- >humanism
- >hundred—1. written out in full when it means “lots”: hundreds of people, not 100s of people
  2. lc for the Anglo-Saxon territorial unit
- >hundredweight—112 lb; with figures: 5 cwt
- >Hunting-BRAE—consortium of Hunting Engineering, Brown and Root and AEA Technology; runs AWE; Hunting-BRAE lost the contract to run AWE in 1999
- >Huntingdon Life Sciences—animal rights activist target
- >hurricane names—e.g. Hurricane Katrina
- >Hussein, Saddam—died 2006
- >Hutton, Lord Brian—2003 inquiry into suicide of Iraq weapons expert Dr David Kelly
- >Hutu—central African people found in Rwanda, Burundi
- >hybrid Bill—“a public Bill which affects a particular private interest in a manner different from the private interest of other persons or bodies of the same category or class” (Erskine May)
- >hybridity
- >hydroelectric—hydro is ok;
- >hyperpower
- >hyphens—guidance for all circumstances not being possible, here are a couple of pointers. Further guidance is scattered throughout.
  1. He took a well-earned rest. His rest was well earned.  
The work was of high quality. It was high-quality work
  2. No hyphen required with adverbs ending -ly, eg: poorly drafted legislation
- >hypothecation—revenue from a tax used for a particular purpose
  
- >I—sometimes regarded as the genteel version of “me”; the following are wrong:
  - “They put it to my friend and I.” “They were seen by the Minister and I.”
  - The test is to try the sentence with “I” alone: “They put it to I.”

- >i's—dotting the i's and crossing the t's
- >IAAF—International Association of Athletics Federations; was International Amateur Athletic Federation to 2001
- >IACS—integrated administration and control system [MAFF red tape] MAFF dissolved 2002; IACS administered by Rural Payments Agency
- >IAEA—International Atomic Energy Agency
- >IB—incapacity benefit; replaced by employment and support allowance in 2008
- >IBMS—Institute of Biomedical Science
- >IBRD—International Bank for Reconstruction and Development i.e. the World Bank
- >ICA—1. invalid care allowance [carer's allowance from 2003]  
2. Institute of Contemporary Arts  
3. see ICAEW
- >ICAEW—Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales; drop the “England and Wales” if context is clear
- >ICAI—Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland; aka Chartered Accountants Ireland; Independent Commission for Aid Impact
- >ICAO—International Civil Aviation Organisation
- >ICAS—1. independent complaints advocacy service  
2. Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland
- >ICBM—intercontinental ballistic missile
- >ICC—1. International Criminal Court  
2. International Cricket Council  
3. International Chamber of Commerce
- >ICES—International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
- >ICFTU—International Confederation of Free Trade Unions; became part of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) in 2006
- >ICGS—Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme
- >ICJ—1. International Court of Justice [at The Hague]  
2. International Commission of Jurists
- >ICO—Information Commissioner's Office
- >ICOMOS—International Council on Monuments and Sites
- >ICR—Institute of Cancer Research
- >ICRC—International Committee of the Red Cross
- >ICRtoP—International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect
- >ICSTIS—Independent Committee for the Supervision of Standards of Telephone Information Services; renamed PhonepayPlus in 2007
- >ICT—information and communications technology; intra-company transfers
- >ICTA—Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988
- >ICTR—International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
- >ICTY—International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia
- >ID card—at least one “identity card” first
- >IDA—International Development Association
- >Ideas Fund—a Wellcome/British Science Association programme not to be confused with the restoring your railway ideas fund
- >Identity and Passport Service—renamed HM Passport Office in 2013
- >idiosyncrasy—not –cracy
- >IDP—internally displaced person

- >IEA—International Energy Agency
- >IEE—Institution of Electrical Engineers; became part of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) in 2006
- >IEEE—Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
- >IEP—intercity express programme
- >IETA—International Emissions Trading Association
- >if—1. ifs and buts  
2. if/whether: if “whether” fits, use it
- >IFA—independent financial adviser
- >IFAD—International Fund for Agricultural Development
- >IFC—International Finance Corporation
- >IFF—1. identification friend or foe [military]  
2. international finance facility [aid]
- >IFOR—implementation force (NATO in Bosnia, 1995-6);
- >IFR—in-flight refuelling
- >IFS—Institute for Fiscal Studies
- >IGAD—see Intergovernmental Authority on Development
- >IGC—intergovernmental conference; the IGC, IGCs
- >IHA—Independent Healthcare Association; closed 2004
- >IHM—Institute of Healthcare Management
- >IHRC—Islamic Human Rights Commission
- >IHSM—Institute of Health Services Management; IHM since 1999
- >IHT—inheritance tax
- >IIAC—Industrial Injuries Advisory Council
- >IICD—Independent International Commission on Decommissioning; disbanded 2010
- >IiP—Investors in People
- >IISS—International Institute for Strategic Studies
- >ijara—Islamic property finance instrument
- >ILAs—individual learning accounts; scrapped 2002
- >ILEA—see Inner London education authority [“illyer”]; abolished by Thatcher in 1990
- >ILEX—Institute of Legal Executives; Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEX) since 2012
- >ILF—independent living fund [for disabled people]
- >ILGA—International Lesbian and Gay Association; full name: International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association
- >ill health—no hyphen
- >Ilisu dam—not “Ilusu”; Turkish project
- >ILO—International Labour Organisation
- >IMC—Independent Monitoring Commission [in NI]; concluded 2011
- >IMEI—international mobile equipment identity [number]
- >IMF—International Monetary Fund
- >IMO—International Maritime Organisation
- >Immigration Advisory Service—charity; ran out of money and closed in 2011
- >immigration adjudicator—first appeal stop; appeals to first-tier tribunal since 2010

- >immigration and nationality directorate—of Home Office; replaced by the Border and Immigration Agency in 2007, which was subsumed into the UK Border Agency in 2008
- >immigration appeal tribunal
- >immigration appellate authority—ran adjudicators and tribunals; part of Courts Service; superseded in 2010 by the asylum and immigration chamber of the first-tier tribunal
- >immigration service—part of IND; part of UK Border Agency since 2008
- >immigration services commissioner;
- >imperial, imperialism
- >Imperial Cancer Research Fund—Cancer Research UK since 2002
- >imperial measures—see also separate entries. The following are not abbreviated after figures: feet; yards; inches; square feet; square yards; square inches; cubic inches; cubic feet;

Miles are given in full except in the abbreviations mph, mpg, Acres, poles, cubic yards etc out in full

Numerals, not decimals, are usually used for fractions: 2½ inches, but “a mile and a half” etc in colloquial use

- >imperial preference—the Tories split in 1903 over replacing free trade with a system of tariffs that would have favoured the empire
- >implementation body—NSMC (qv) has six
- >imply/infer—I imply something by what I say; you infer something from what I say.
- >important—for crucially or vitally important, use vital or crucial
- >Improve—sector skills council [food industry]
- >IMRO—Investment Management Regulatory Organisation; taken over by FSA in 2001; FSA became FCA in 2013
- >in/out referendum; in-or-out referendum—on whether the UK should remain in the EU
- >in excess of—try “more than”
- >in receipt of—try “receive\ed\ing”
- >in so far as
- >in the course of—try “during”
- >in the region of—try “about”
- >in view of the fact that—try “as”, “since”, “given”, “because” etc
- >in-built
- >in-flight refuelling
- >in-house
- >in-patient, out-patient
- >in-service date [military]
- >in-work training
- >inasmuch as
- >INC—Iraqi National Congress; leader: Ahmad Chalabi]
- >Inc.—ok in company names
- >incapacity benefit; phased out 2008-14; replaced by ESA

- >inches—with figures: 6 inches; 4 feet 6 inches; a 6-inch nail; 2½ inches; 2 square inches in; 2 cubic inches;
- >Incirlik—NATO base in Turkey
- >income support
- >incorporated—Inc. may be used in company names
- >IND—immigration and nationality directorate [Home Office]; replaced by the Border and Immigration Agency in 2007, which was subsumed into the UK Border Agency
- >independent—politically: he sits as an independent; an independent councillor; an independent-controlled council; independent Unionist;
- >*Independent, The*
- >*Independent on Sunday, The*
- >Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner—Dame Sara Thornton, appointed May 2019; previously Kevin Hyland, appointed November 2014
- >Independent Commission for Aid Impact—ICAI;
- >Independent Commission for Police Complaints for Northern Ireland—until 1988, Police Complaints Board; from 2000, Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland
- >independent commission on policing for Northern Ireland—the Patten commission; Chris Patten’s report replaced RUC with PSNI; reported Sept. 1999
- >Independent Commission for the Location of Victims’ Remains—re the “disappeared” in Northern Ireland
- >Independent Commission on Banking—chair: Sir John Vickers; Banking Commission is okay
- >Independent Committee for the Supervision of Standards of Telephone Information Services—ICSTIS; renamed PhonepayPlus in 2007
- >independent complaints and advocacy service—NHS; not an exec agency; aka independent complaints advocacy service
- >Independent Expert Panel—IEP, determines sanctions in cases brought against MPs under the Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme
- >Independent Healthcare Association; closed 2004
- >Independent International Commission on Decommissioning—the IICD; the Decommissioning Commission; head: General John de Chastelain inspectors: Cyril Ramaphosa, Martti Ahtisaari; disbanded 2010
- >Independent Monitoring Commission—re paramilitary activity in NI; concluded 2011
- >Independent Office for Police Conduct, formerly the Independent Police Complaints Commission
- >Independent Panel for Special Education Advice; Independent Parental Special Education Advice (IPSEA) since 2009
- >Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority—IPSA not “the IPSA”; chair: Professor Sir Ian Kennedy 2009-
- >Independent Police Complaints Commission—replaced Police Complaints Authority 2004; covers England and Wales
- >Independent Reconfiguration Panel—provide advice on NHS service changes
- >Independent Review Service for the Social Fund—ie the office of the social fund commissioner; complaints about social fund; social fund (and review service) abolished in 2013

- >Independent Safeguarding Authority; merged with the Criminal Records Bureau in 2012 to form the Disclosure and Barring Service
- >Independent Schools Council
- >Independent Schools Council information service—ISCis
- >Independent Schools Information Service—became ISCis in 2001
- >Independent Television Commission; replaced by Ofcom in 2003
- >individual learning accounts—ILAs; fraud-prone adult training scheme scrapped in 2002
- >Indonesia—cap. Jakarta; pres.: Joko Widodo; (2014- ); formerly Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (2004-14); Megawati Sukarnoputri; Suharto; Sukarno; Aceh province; Jemaah Islamiyah organisation
- >Industrial Injuries Advisory Council (IIAC)
- >Industry and Parliament Trust
- >indy-lite—possible option in a Scottish independence referendum
- >INEOS—chemical company
- >Inequality Briefing—pressure group providing information on social mobility
- >initials—For people: W. G. Grace; Mr J. Bloggs;
- >infer—see imply
- >infighting
- >infill (n and v); infilled, infilling; infill housing;
- >inflation-proofing; non-inflation-proofed
- >influenza—flu is ok in most contexts, but use “influenza” in headings
- >Information Commissioner—supervisory body for Data Protection Act 1998 and Freedom of Information Act 2000; the commissioner (Christopher Graham from June 2009; previously Richard Thomas); Information Commissioner’s Office
- >Information Committee—was a Domestic Committee of the House; replaced by Administration Committee in 2005
- >Information Tribunal—formerly known as the Data Protection Tribunal; became part of the first-tier tribunal in 2010
- >infraco—infrastructure company
- >infrared
- >Infrastructure Planning Commission; abolished 2012; functions transferred to the Planning Inspectorate
- >Ingushetia—n. and adj. Ingush; n. pl. also Ingush; cap. Magas, previously Nazran; pres. Yunus-bek Yevkurov (2008- ); predecessor: Murat Zyazikov; rival republic: North Ossetia; disputed region: Prigorodny
- >Inland Revenue—the Revenue; Board of Inland Revenue; singular from 2005: Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs (HMRC)
- >inquire, inquiry—not enquire, enquiry
- >INLA—Irish National Liberation Army
- >Inland Revenue—the Revenue; the Board of Inland Revenue; part of Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs (HMRC) since 2005
- >inner city—the inner city but inner-city areas
- >inner house—of Court of Session (in Scotland)
- >inner London, but inner-London areas
- >Inner London Education Authority (ILEA)—pronounced “illyer”; abolished by

Thatcher in 1990; ex-chair: Frances Morrell

- >innocuous—two n's
- >Innogy—energy company; taken over by RWE in 2002 and renamed npower ((in 2014 RWE Npower Renewables Limited changed its name to RWE Innogy UK Limited)
- >Innovate UK—the UK's innovation agency
- >Inns of Court
- >inoculate—one n
- >Inset—in-service training; schools close on inset days
- >inshore
- >Insolvency Service—Exec agency
- >inspector—down in titles: inspector of pollution, schools inspector  
uc with names: Inspector Thomson
- >inspectorate—uc if it is an Executive agency such as the Vehicle Inspectorate (which closed in 2003) lc if it isn't: Her Majesty's inspectorate of constabulary
- >install—two l's: installed, installing, installs (NB: instalment)
- >instil—one l; instilling, instilled, instils
- >institute—1. Check; out in full first time; singular; uc if independent body,  
2. Even members of such organisations get confused about whether it's an institute or an institution and whether it's "of" or "for", so check carefully  
3. look under chartered institute too
- >Institute for Employment Research—Warwick University.
- >Institute for Fiscal Studies—dir: Paul Johnson (2011- ); formerly Robert Chote, Andrew Dilnot
- >Institute for Government
- >Institute for Public Policy Research—the IPPR; centre-left think-tank; ignore attempt to rebrand as ippr – its own press releases do
- >Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence; became part of DrugScope in 2000, which closed in March 2015
- >Institute of Actuaries; merged with the Faculty of Actuaries in 2010 to form the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA)
- >Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM)
- >Institute of Biomedical Science—Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences to 1994
- >Institute of Cancer Research
- >Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales—drop "in England and Wales" if context is clear
- >Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland; aka Chartered Accountants Ireland
- >Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS)
- >Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA)
- >Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers (ICS)
- >Institute of Child Health
- >Institute of Credit Management; became the Chartered Institute of Credit Management (CICM) on 1 January 2015
- >Institute of Directors (IoD)
- >Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA)

- >Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers; became part of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) in 2006
- >Institute of Energy; merged with the Institute of Petroleum in 2003 to form the Energy Institute (EI)
- >Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)
- >Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)
- >Institute of Export (IOE)
- >Institute of Financial Services (IFS – also Institute for Fiscal Studies)
- >Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM)
- >Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST)
- >Institute for Government
- >Institute of Healthcare Management—est 1999
- >Institute of Health Services Management—became IHM in 1999
- >Institute of Insurance Brokers; merged with British Insurers Brokers Association (BIBA) in 2011
- >Institute of Legal Executives; Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEX) since 2012
- >Institute of Management—est 1992; became Chartered Management Institute (CMI) in 2002
- >Institute of Occupational Medicine (IOM)
- >Institute of Petroleum; merged with the Institute of Energy in 2003 to form the Energy Institute
- >Institute of Physics (IOP)
- >Institute of Road Safety Officers; merged with Road Safety GB in 2013
- >Institute of Sports Medicine—based at UCL; became Institute of Sport and Exercise Medicine (ISEM) in 2005
- >Institute of Sports Sponsorship; merged with European Sponsorship Consultants Association in 2003 to form European Sponsorship Association (ESA)
- >Institute of Travel and Tourism
- >Institute of Wastes Management—not “waste”; became Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM) in 2003
- >institution—follow same rules as “institute”
- >Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE); founded in 1818
- >Institution of Electrical Engineers; became part of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) in 2006
- >Institution of Incorporated Engineers; became part of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) in 2006
- >Institution of Mechanical Engineers; ( IMechE); founded in 1847
- >Institution of Mining and Metallurgy; merged in 2002 with the Institute of Materials to form the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM3)
- >Institution of Professionals, Managers and Specialists—Prospect since 2001
- >instruction—the House can issue instructions to Committees on how to consider legislation
- >integrated pollution control (IPC) est by Environmental Protection Act 1990; integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) est by 2008 EU directive
- >Intelligence Corps—Army
- >Intelligence and Security Committee (ISC)—committee of parliamentarians with

- oversight of intelligence services etc; appointed by and reported to PM; since 2013 reforms, ISC members report to Parliament
- >Inter-American Development Bank
- >inter-city—inter-city connections, services etc. British Rail operated InterCity as a trade name; IEP—intercity express programme
- >inter-country adoption
- >Inter-Parliamentary Union—the IPU; est. 1889
- >inter-relate—use interrelate
- >interactive
- >Interahamwe—instrument of 1994 Rwandan genocide; exiled in DRC
- >interception of communications commissioner
- >interconnector—electricity links with various EU states
- >interdepartmental
- >Interdepartmental Committee—uc if parliamentary
- >intergenerational
- >intergovernmental
- >Intergovernmental Authority on Development—IGAD; superseded IGADD (IGA on Drought and Development) 1996;
- >intergovernmental conference—the IGC, IGCs
- >Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)—WMO & UNEP-run; est. 1988
- >Interior Ministers—uc; in UK = Home Secretary
- >inter-ministerial group—e.g. inter-ministerial group for environment, food and rural affairs
- >internal market—in NHS, created 1990, abolished 1999; replaced by PCGs in 1999; PCTs established in 2002 and abolished in 2013; CCGs replaced PCTs in 2013
- >Internal Revenue Service—in US
- >International Agency for Research on Cancer—WHO agency
- >International Amateur Athletic Federation—renamed International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) in 2001
- >International Association of Athletics Federations—pres. Sebastian Coe; previously Lamine Diack (1999-2015) (ex Primo Nebiolo); interim gen-sec/CEO: Jean Gracia; former gen secs: Essar Gabriel; former gen-secs: Pierre Weiss; Istvan Gyulai
- >International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- >International Bank for Reconstruction and Development—the World Bank
- >International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
- >International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)—UN specialised agency
- >International Commission of Jurists (ICJ)
- >International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP)
- >International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)—founder: Henry Dunant; pressure group; drafted Geneva conventions; not the body for national red cross societies (see Int. Fed of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies...)
- >International Confederation of Free Trade Unions; merged with the World Confederation of Labour to form the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) in 2006

- >International Council for the Exploration of the Sea—ICES
- >International Council on Monuments and Sites—ICOMOS
- >International Court of Justice—at The Hague; the ICJ
- >International Criminal Court—the ICC
- >International Criminal Police Organisation—Interpol is ok
- >International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR)—in Arusha, Tanzania
- >International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia—the ICTY
- >International Development Association—World Bank body
- >International Diabetes Federation (IDF)
- >International Emissions Trading Association (IETA)—greenhouse gases
- >International Energy Agency (IEA)
- >International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- >International Finance Corporation (IFC)—World Bank body
- >international finance facility—UK aid proposal in 2003; International Finance Facility for Immunisation launched in 2004
- >International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)—UN body
- >International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)
- >International Labour Organisation (ILO)—UN specialised agency
- >International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA); full name: International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association
- >International Maritime Organisation (IMO)—UN specialised agency
- >International Monetary Fund—the IMF; boss: Christine Lagarde (2011- ); formerly Dominique Strauss-Kahn; Rodrigo de Rato y Figaredo; Horst Köhler
- >International Olympic Committee (IOC)
- >International Organisation for Migration (IOM)—was Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM) 1951-89;
- >International Organisation for Standardisation—the ISO [not IOS – the name is from the Greek work “isos” meaning equal] tries to agree world commercial & industrial standards; ISO 9000 [don’t expand]
- >International Peace Bureau (IPB)—in Switz.
- >International Peace Research Association (IPRA)—conferences rotate every two years from one peace research centre to another
- >International Power—demerged part of National Power, 2000; International Power rebranded as GDF Suez Energy International in 2012; the French parent group GDF Suez renamed Engie (pronounced Angie) in 2015
- >International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement—overarching body; qv ICRC & Int. Fed. of Red Cross and Red Crescent...
- >international security assistance force—see ISAF; disbanded Dec 2014: successor organisation: Resolute Support Mission (RSM); Resolute Support; Operation Resolute Support
- >International Telecommunication Union (ITU)—UN specialised agency; not “Telecommunications”
- >International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF); [not ITWF]
- >International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea—ITLOS
- >International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO)
- >International Whaling Commission (IWC)
- >International Women’s Day

- >international years—use lc
- >internet
- >Interpol—don't expand to International Criminal Police Organisation
- >Interreg—EU money to overcome difficulties of border areas, eg with utilities networks; Interreg II, IIIA etc
- >interrelate
- >interruptions—make every effort to discover who said what. If all else fails use [*Interruption.*] to account for an otherwise unaccountable response or loss of continuity by the Member. It is not used merely to reflect noise or lulls no matter how loud or prolonged: it must relate to the report.
- >InterTradeIreland—trade name of Trade and Business Development Body (in NI)
- >intifada—Palestinian uprising in occupied territories
- >INTO—Irish National Teachers Organisation (INTO)
- >invalid care allowance—paid to carers; became carer's allowance in 2003
- >Invest in Britain Bureau—renamed Invest UK [2000]; UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) since 2003
- >Invest Northern Ireland (Invest NI)—development agency resulting from 2002 merger of: LEDU (Local Enterprise Development Unit); IDB (Industrial Development Board); the industrial research and technology unit; and bits of the Northern Ireland Tourist Board
- >Invest UK—attracts inward investment; became UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) in 2003
- >Investigatory Powers Commissioner
- >Investigatory Powers Tribunal—investigates complaints about the conduct of the intelligence agencies
- >Investment Management Regulatory Organisation—FSA took over in 2001; FSA became FCA in 2013
- >Investment Security Unit—set up by the National Security and Investment Act 2021
- >Investors in People—iIP
- >in vitro fertilisation
- >Ioannina compromise—enough EU Council votes to delay a decision
- >IOC—International Olympic Committee; president: Thomas Bach (2013- ); former president: Jacques Rogge (2001-2013) [ex Juan Antonio Samaranch]
- >IoD—Institute of Directors
- >IOM—1. International Organisation for Migration (IOM)  
2. Institute of Occupational Medicine (IOM)
- >IPC—integrated pollution control; est by Environmental Protection Act 1990; integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) est by 2008 EU directive
- >IPCC—1. Independent Police Complaints Commission, now the Independent Office for Police Conduct  
2. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- >IPMS—Institution of Professionals, Managers and Specialists; Prospect since 2001
- >iPod; iPhone; iPad
- >IPP sentences—indeterminate sentences for public protection; abolished 2012
- >IPPC—integrated pollution prevention and control; qv IPC
- >IPPR—see Institute for Public Policy Research

- >IPSA—not “the” IPSA—Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority
- >IPSEA—Independent Panel for Special Education Advice; Independent Parental Special Education Advice since 2009
- >Ipsos MORI
- >IPT—1. integrated project team [defence procurement]  
2. insurance premium tax
- >IPTF—International Police Task Force (ie, UN in Bosnia); task handed over to the European Union Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUPM) in 2003; mission ended 2012
- >IPU—Inter-Parliamentary Union; the IPU
- >IR35—no space; tax avoidance rules, disliked by self-employed
- >IRA—no need to expand to Irish Republican Army; the Provisional IRA; army council; the provisionals; see also Official IRA; Real IRA; Continuity IRA
- >IRA-Sinn Féin—plural; follow Member’s usage if he says “Sinn Féin-IRA”
- >Iran—was Persia until 1935; cap. Tehran  
constitution: Wali Faqih (supreme religious leader) - Ayatollah Khamenei [not to be confused with Ayatollah Khomeini, d. 1989]  
President: Hassan Rouhani (2013- )  
previously: Mahmoud Ahmadinejad; Mohammed Hosseini Rafsanjani; Mohammad Khatami;  
other politicians: Mohammad Javad Zarif, (Foreign Minister 2013- ); Manouchehr Mottaki (former Foreign Minister)  
Majlis-e-Shura-e Islami = Islamic Consultative Assembly = parliament; the Majlis  
Shura-e-Nigahban = Council of Guardians or Guardian Council  
the Shah (Muhammad Reza Pahlavi) [deposed 1979]  
Mohammad Mossadeq [PM deposed by UK-US backed coup 1953]  
revolutionary guards  
Shahab-3 [ballistic missile]  
places: Bam [earthquake in 2003] Bushehr, Natanz [nuclear sites], strait of Hormuz
- >Iran-Iraq war
- >Iraq—see updated [style sheet](#)
- >Iraq Commission; reported 2007
- >Iraq governing council (2003-2004)
- >Irbil—cap. of Kurdish Autonomous Region in Iraq [not “Arbil]
- >Ireland—follow Member’s usage exactly: Northern Ireland; southern Ireland; Ulster; the Six Counties; the Nine Counties; the north; the south; Eire; the Republic of Ireland; the Republic; the island of Ireland; Irish Free State;

Ireland—some political terminology:

Taoiseach = PM, pronounced “Tee-shuck”; pl. Taoisigh, pronounced “Tee-she”

Tánaiste= Deputy PM [tanishte];

Oireachtas = Parliament;

Dáil Éireann, the Dáil = lower House [“doyle”];

Senead Éireann, the Senead = upper House;

TD = Teachta Dála = MP [pl: Teachtaí Dála];

Ceann Comhairle = Speaker

Parties—Fianna Fáil; Fine Gael; Progressive Democrats; Labour  
Sinn Féin [qv for names and terminology]

Politicians present: Enda Kenny; Michael D. Higgins; Bertie Ahern;  
Dermot Ahern; Brian Cowen; Mary McAleese; Mary Harney; politicians  
past: Michael Collins; Liam Cosgrave; Eamon De Valera; Garret  
FitzGerald; Charles Haughey; Jack Lynch; Albert Reynolds; Mary  
Robinson

police – see Garda [plural: Gardaí]; Garda Síochána

Foras na Gaeilge – promotes Irish language (in north and south)

RTÉ—no need to expand to Raidió Teilifís Éireann

- >IRISC—handled miners' compensation claims; don't expand to Aon IRISC unless Aon is mentioned; claims processed by Capita since 2004
- >Irish box—area of the Irish sea; Irish conservation box (ICB) since 2004
- >Irish Free State—name of Republic of Ireland from 1922 to 1949
- >*Irish Independent*
- >Irish Language Agency (Foras na Gaeilge)—under North/South Language Body
- >Irish National Liberation Army—republican terrorist group
- >Irish National Teachers Organisation (INTO)
- >*Irish News, The*
- >*Irish Times, The*
- >Irish Tourist Board—Bord Fáilte Éireann; the Republic's promotion body; Fáilte Ireland since 2003
- >Iron and Steel Trades Confederation; merged with KFAT(the National Union of Knitwear, Footwear & Apparel Trades) to form Community in 2004
- >Iron Chancellor—Bismarck
- >iron curtain
- >Iron Duke—Wellington
- >Iron Lady—Thatcher
- >IRS—1. Independent Review Service for the Social Fund; social fund (and review service) abolished in 2013  
2. Internal Revenue Service [US]
- >ISA—individual savings account
  - 1. help to buy ISA
  - 2. lifetime ISA
- >ISAF—international security assistance force; Afghanistan 2001-14; commanded by General John R. Allen; previously: General Stanley McChrystal; disbanded Dec 2014: successor organisation: Resolute Support Mission (RSM); Resolute Support; Operation Resolute Support
- >ISC—1. Intelligence and Security Committee  
2. Independent Schools Council
- >ISCis—Independent Schools Council information service
- >ISD—in-service date
- >ISDN—integrated services digital network

- >ISDS—investor-state dispute settlement; gives investors the right to seek damages against a host state
- >ise—suffix: always use –isation, -ise, -ised, -ises, -ising not ize etc.
- >ISI – Inter-Services Intelligence; Pakistan’s secret service
- >ISIL—see entry for Islamic State but go with usage
- >ISIS—1. Independent Schools Information Service
  2. pulsed neutron source at Rutherford Appleton lab [doesn’t stand for anything]
  3. Islamic State of Iraq and Syria—(no need to expand)
  4. Now try ICES
- >Islam, Islamic—Sunni, Shi’a, Shi’ite, Ahmadiyya
- >Islam4UK—proscribed in 2010
- >Islamabad—capital of Pakistan
- >Islamic Development Bank
- >Islamic State—was known as ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) or ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant); follow Member’s usage; no need to expand; leader: Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi
- >Islamic Human Rights Commission (IHRC)—independent London-based body
- >Islamophobia— not Islamaphobia
- >islands council—see regional council
- >Isle of Dogs
- >Isle of Grain—in Kent; Grain power station mothballed in 2012;
- >Isle of Man—Isle of Man Tourist Board; closed 1986; Dept of Economic Development manages tourism
- >Isle of Wight, the Island, Islander
- >Isle of Thanet
- >Isles of Scilly—Isles of Scilly Tourist Board; subsumed into Islands Partnership in 2012
- >Ismaili—Islamic sect
- >ISO—see International Organisation for Standardisation; ISO 9000; don’t expand
- >isotopes—hyphenated, always numerals: carbon-14; caesium-137; uranium-235; uranium-238 etc
- >ISP—internet service provider
- >ISPA—instrument for structural policies for pre-accession [EU fund]; replaced by instrument for pre-accession assistance (IPA) in 2007
- >Israel—some political parties: Likud, Kadima; Zionist Union
- >ISSG—International Syria Support Group
- >ISTAR—intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition and reconnaissance
- >ISTC—Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, merged with KFAT to form Community in 2004
- >ISYF—International Sikh Youth Federation
- >IT—information technology; expansion not compulsory
- >Italy—Pres: Sergio Mattarella (2015- ); predecessor: Giorgio Napolitano; PM: Matteo Renzi (2014- ); Previously: Enrico Letta. Mario Monti; Silvio Berlusconi
- >ITAR—international traffic in arms regulations [US] not “ITAR regulations”

- >ITC—Independent Television Commission; replaced by Ofcom in 2003
- >ITEM Club—economic forecasters
- >ITER—international thermonuclear experimental reactor; 1992- project between EU, Japan, US and Russia; joined by China and Korea in 2003 and by India in 2005; ITER Organisation established 2007
- >ITLOS—International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
- >ITSO—Government-backed not-for-profit organisation that develops smart cards for public transport
- >ITT—initial teacher training
- >ITU—International Telecommunication [not –s] Union
- >ITV Digital—renamed ONdigital, went bust 2002
- >IVF—in vitro fertilisation
- >IWC—International Whaling Commission
- >ize—suffix: see ise
- >*Izvestiya*

- >jack-in-the-box
- >Jaguar—1. RAF strike aircraft: Jaguar GR1A, GR3, T4  
2. battlefield secure communications system
- >jail, jailer—not gaol, gaoler
- >Jakarta—not “Djakarta”
- >Jane’s—defence etc publisher; *Jane’s Defence Weekly*; *Jane’s Intelligence Review*; *Jane’s International Defence Review*
- >Jarvis—contractors in PFI, rail maintenance; co-owned Tube Lines; Tube Lines owned by TfL since 2010
- >Javelin—high-speed train
- >JDAM—joint direct attack munition [US]
- >JCA—joint combat aircraft; Harrier replacement; the JSF or Lockheed F-35 was been selected; F-35 took to the skies 2012
- >Jemaah Islamiyah—Indonesian Islamists
- >jerries
- >jerry-built
- >Jerusalem—East Jerusalem, West Jerusalem, a new Jerusalem
- >*Jerusalem Post, The*
- >JET—Joint European Torus—EU fusion research; at Culham
- >jet zero; Jet Zero Council
- >Jew—Jew; Jewishness; Jewry; the Jews; Jewish; Jewish state; Judaism
- >*Jewish Chronicle*
- >JHA—justice and home affairs [EU]
- >jibe—use “gibe”
- >JIC—Joint Intelligence Committee
- >jigsaw
- >jihad
- >JIT—just-in-time
- >JNCC—Joint Nature Conservation Committee
- >job share, job sharing

- >Jobcentre Plus—2002 merger of Benefits Agency and Employment Service; my local jobcentre; Burnley Jobcentre Plus office; ceased to exist as an executive agency in 2011 and became a public brand of DWP; Jobcentre Plus job search tool replaced by Universal Jobmatch (run by Monster) in 2012
- >Jobmatch
- >Jobs Growth Wales—programme for the unemployed in Wales
- >jobseeker
- >jobseeker’s allowance—JSA
- >jobsworth
- >Johannesburg
- >Johnny-come-lately—pl: Johnny-come-latelies
- >join with—try join
- >joined-up—joined-up thinking; joined-up government; we must think joined-up etc; but “My dad joined up in 1939.”
- >joint combat aircraft—UK requirement for Harrier replacement; the US joint strike fighter (or Lockheed F-35) was been selected; F-35 took to the skies 2012
- >Joint Committee—ie of Commons and Lords; always uc
- >Joint Committee, main governance structure under the withdrawal agreement
- >Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills
- >Joint Committee on House of Lords Reform; reported 2003; Joint Committee on the Draft House of Lords Reform Bill reported in 2012
- >Joint Committee on Human Rights
- >Joint Committee on the National Security Strategy
- >Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments—its Commons members sometimes meet
  - separately as the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments to consider Commons-only DLs
- >Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation—advisory body
- >joint comprehensive plan of action—Iran nuclear deal
- >Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
- >Joint Helicopter Command
- >Joint Intelligence Committee; the committee; oversees GCHQ & MI6
  - Chairman: Jon Day; previously Sir Alex Allan, Sir Richard Mottram; John Scarlett
- >Joint Ministerial Committee on EU negotiations; proper title is Joint Ministerial Committee (EU Negotiations)
- >Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)—forum for Natural England (formerly English Nature), Northern Ireland’s Council for Nature Conservation and Countryside, Natural Resources Wales (formerly Countryside Council for Wales) & Scottish Natural Heritage
- >JNIM—Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin, al-Qaeda branch active in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger
- >Joint Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Regiment—RAF Honington; renamed the Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiation and Nuclear Regiment (Joint CBRN Regiment) in 2005; disbanded 2012

- >Joint Rapid Reaction Force (JRRF)—British military rapid response force
- >Joint Research Centre (JRC)—EU research institutes
- >joint terrorism analysis centre (JTAC)—part of MI5
- >Joseph Rowntree Foundation—does social policy R&D; the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust and Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust are all grant-making charities
- >joint strike fighter—Lockheed F-35; Harrier replacement, selected to meet UK joint combat aircraft requirement; F-35 took to the skies 2012
- >joule—SI unit of energy or work; symbol: J; with figures: 25 J; 1 J; see also kilo-, mega-, giga-
- >Joule—EU non-nuclear energy programme; defunct 1998
- >*Journal*—the official record of the House's doings
- >joyrider, joyriding
- >JP—justice of the peace
- >Jr.—eg: George Bush Jr.
- >JRF—Joseph Rowntree Foundation
- >JRRF—Joint Rapid Response Force
- >JSA—jobseeker's allowance
- >JSF—joint strike fighter; the Lockheed F-35; selected to meet UK joint combat aircraft requirement
- >JTAC—joint terrorism analysis centre [MI5]
- >JTIDS—joint tactical information distribution system
- >jubilee—golden jubilee; silver jubilee; royal jubilee; Queen's jubilee
- >Jubilee Debt Campaign—replaced Jubilee 2000 [third-world debt]
- >Judaism, Judaic, Judaica
- >judge—uc with name: Judge Jeffreys
- >Judges Council
- >judges' rules—for questioning suspects and taking statements; first formulated 1912; covered by PACE code C since 1984
- >judgment—not judgement
- >Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland—est 2002; chairing member: Sir Muir Russell (2008- ); former chair: Sir Neil McIntosh
- >Judicial Appointments Commission (JAC)—not same as Commission for Judicial Appointments;
- >Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (JCPC)
- >judiciary—lc; may be singular or plural: The judiciary is an important institution. The judiciary are up in arms about it because their pensions are at stake.
- >Juice—green energy venture by Greenpeace and National Wind Power launched in 2003; npower Juice no longer available to new customers
- >junction—junction 6. Railway and road junctions are lc: Spaghetti junction. But in stations and place names: Clapham Junction station, Clapham Junction
- >just deserts—not "desserts"
- >just-in-time—shops hold stuff in warehouses and get it last minute
- >justice—with names: Mr Justice Aardvark
- >Justice—lawyers' human rights organisation
- >Justice and Home Affairs Council—ie of EU Ministers
- >Justice for Subpostmasters Alliance (**JFSA**)

- >justice of the peace
- >justice oversight commissioner—Lord Clyde [NI]; final report 2006
- >Justices’ Clerks Society—
- >Juvenile Justice Board—in NI; became Youth Justice Agency, 2003
  
- >K—kelvin; 22 K (no need for ° symbol)
- >k—when used colloquially to mean 1,000: “A broker on 400 k.”
- >Kalashnikov—Soviet assault rifle; = AK47
- >kandak—battalion in Afghan army
- >Karbala—Iraqi city
- >kat—use “khat”
- >Kattegat—Danish waters
- >Katyn—site of Russian massacre of Poles; denied & blamed on Nazis
- >KC—see QC
- >KC-10, KC-135—US tanker aircraft
- >KDP—Kurdistan Democratic party; leader: Massoud Barzani
- >kelvin—SI unit of thermodynamic temperature measured in degrees equivalent in magnitude to the degree centigrade.  
As it measures absolute temperature, rather than temperature relative to the freezing point of water, it doesn’t require the ° symbol:  
“At a temperature of 29 K.”  
References to the Kelvin scale are uc: “Using the Kelvin scale...”  
“In degrees Kelvin...”
- >Kennedy, Ian—2001 report on Bristol royal infirmary paediatric ops;  
names: Steve Bolsin
- >kerb-crawler, kerb-crawling (nouns); to kerb-crawl (v) kerb-crawling (adj.)
- >kerfuffle
- >key escrow—third party holds decryption info
- >key stage—key stage 2, key stage 3 etc (schools)
- >Key to Success programme—aims to improve standards in primary and secondary schools
- >key worker
- >Keynes, John Maynard—Keynesian, Keynesianism
- >KFAT—National Union of Knitwear, Footwear & Apparel Trades
- >KFOR—Kosovo peace implementation force; NATO in Kosovo, 1999-  
don’t expand
- >Khalsa—Sikh order
- >Khamenei—correct spelling of Ayatollah Khamenei
- >Khan, Mohammad Sidique—7/7 suicide bomber
- >Khomeini, Ayatollah
- >khat—not “qat” or “kat”
- >Khrushchev, Nikita—Soviet leader c1956-64
- >kibosh—not “kybosh”
- >kickstart scheme—funding for employers to create six-month job placement schemes for young people; the beneficiaries of said scheme are kickstarters

- >kick-start—hyphenate verb and noun in general references
- >Kyiv—not Kiev
- >kilo—SI prefix denoting a factor of 1,000; symbol: k (not K)
- >kilobyte—always in full: 20 kilobytes
- >kilocalorie—always in full: 12 kilocalories
- >kilograms—with figures: 25 kg
- >kilogray—unit of radiation; with figures: 153 kilogray
- >kilohertz—with figures: 25 kHz
- >kilojoule—with figures: 27kJ
- >kilometres—with figures: 25 km
- >kilometres per hour—with figures: 100 kph
- >kiloton—unit of explosive power equivalent to 1,000 tons of TNT; kilotonnage  
With figures: 100 kilotons;
- >kilovolt—with figures: 300 kV
- >kilowatt—with figures 200 kW
- >kilowatt-hour—with figures: 200 kWh; 2.5p per kWh
- >kind of—sometimes better to use “such”:  
“These kinds of organisations...” is usually better as “Such organisations...”  
“some kind of method...” = “some method...”  
But it is not a banned word.
- >king—for monarchs and constitutional entities: the King of Spain,  
King Henry VIII, the King. “I dined with the King.”  
In general, lc: “Medieval kings and queens.”
- >King’s counsel, KC—see Queen’s counsel, QC
- >King’s Cross station; around King’s Cross;
- >King’s Fund—health charity
- >King’s Lynn
- >King’s Own Scottish Borderers
- >kingdom—in full titles: the Kingdom of Denmark, United Kingdom  
otherwise lc: throughout this kingdom [even when it means the UK];  
the kingdom of heaven
- >Kirkuk—Kurdish town in Iraq
- >kitemark
- >KLA—Kosovo Liberation Army
- >knacker’s yard—pl: knackers’ yards
- >knee-jerk
- >kneecap (n & v) kneecapping
- >Knight, Ted—former leader of Lambeth council known as Red Ted
- >knives—time limits within a guillotine motion
- >knock about (v) knockabout (n and adj)
- >knock down (v) knock-down (n and adj) knock-down prices
- >knock on (v) knock-on (n and adj); knock-on effect
- >knock out (v) knockout (n and adj) knockout blow
- >knot—ship or aircraft speed of 1 nautical mile per hour;  
with figures: 1 knot; 25 knots
- >know-how (n); to know how
- >Konver—EU aid for areas dependent on defence industry

- >Koran—the Koran
- >KOSB—King’s Own Scottish Borderers
- >Kosovo—Kosovans, Kosovars, Kosovar Albanians; follow usage places: Pristina; Prizren; Racak; people: Ibrahim Rugova; Bajram Kosumi; Nexhat Daci
- >Kosovo Liberation Army
- >kowtow
- >KPMG—don’t try to expand; accountants
- >Krakow
- >kuru—human scrapie-like disease
- >Kut—not “al-Kut” [Iraq]
- >kybosh—use “kibosh”
- >Kyoto protocol—1997 agreement under UNFCCC cut greenhouse gases
  
- >*La Repubblica*
- >*La Stampa*
- >la reyne le veult—Norman French formula used to signify Royal Assent
- >la reyne s’avisera—“the Queen will deliberate”; signifies refusal
- >laager—Afrikaans for “encampment” esp. a wagon circle; laager mentality = uncompromising last-ditch defence
- >LABGI—local authority business growth incentives scheme
- >labor—always use UK spelling: Labour day; Israeli Labour party; Australian Labour party
- >Labour—the Labour party, Labour and Co-operative party, Labour Members (ie of Parliament), members of the Labour party (whether MPs or not); the labour movement; old Labour; new Labour; always singular: “Labour is set for a seventh term.”  
“The Labour party is a crusade or it is nothing.”
- >Labour Against the Euro established in 2002
- >labour force survey
- >*Labour Market Trends* discontinued in 2006
- >Labour Relations Agency—in NI
- >lacklustre
- >LACS—League Against Cruel Sports
- >LACORS—Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services
- >Laeken declaration, summit etc. [EU, place in Belgium]
- >Laffer curve—shows relationship between tax rates and tax revenue
- >LaingBuisson—independent health care sector analysts
- >laissez-faire
- >lake—uc when immediately before name: Lake Windermere; great lakes, great lakes region
- >Lake district; Lake District national park; the lakes; the south lakes
- >Laken—is wrong; it’s spelt Laeken
- >Lam, Carrie, Hong Kong Chief Executive, July 2017-
- >lamp post
- >*Lancashire Evening Post*
- >*Lancet, The*

- >Land—German state; pl. Länder;
- >Land Command (from 1995 to 2008)—of British Army; Erskine barracks, Wilton  
Became HQ Land Forces from 2008 to 2011. Subsumed into Army  
Headquarters in November 2011.
- >Land Registry—Exec agency of LCD; don't bother with the "HM"
- >Land Rover—vehicle and company; two words, no hyphens
- >Land's End
- >land agent
- >land girl—female farm worker, esp. in WW2
- >landline—means of telecommunication over land
- >landlocked
- >landfill
- >landholder, landholding
- >landing-craft
- >landing-stage
- >landing-strip
- >landlubber
- >landmark
- >land mass
- >landmine
- >landowner
- >Lands Tribunal—for England and Wales; for Scotland; for Northern Ireland; all uc;  
add national identifiers when needed
- >landslide
- >Lantra—sector skills council for the environmental and land-based sector
- >lap dancing; lap-dancing club
- >lapdog
- >laser—laser-guided weapons
- >Laskar Jihad—Islamist group established in 2000, believed to have disbanded
- >LASPO—Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012
- >LATE—Labour Against the Euro
- >late night levy—gives local authority the discretion to charge for a late alcohol  
licence [no hyphen]
- >Latin—uc in all meanings and compounds
- >Latin America, Latin Church
- >Latin names of plants and animals—the genus is uc, the species lc:  
Staphylococcus aureus; Homo sapiens
- >LATS—landfill allowance trading scheme
- >laughter—the formula [*Laughter.*] may be used instead of [*Interruption.*] to explain  
a response or loss of continuity. It is not used merely because something was  
a  
joke (even if funny) or to reflect loud or long laughter.
- >law—Clare's law; Sarah's law
- >law-abiding—he is law-abiding; a law-abiding citizen
- >LAW 80—man-portable anti-tank weapon
- >Law Commission—est 1965; advises Govt on consolidation, revision
- >Law Lords—Lords of Appeal in Ordinary and other top judge-peers

- >Law Officers—the Lord Chancellor, the Attorney General, the Solicitor General;  
in Scotland: Lord Advocate; Solicitor General for Scotland [no hyphens]
- >Law Society—“the Law Society” will do unless there is pressing need  
for “Law Society of England and Wales”; [solicitors]
- >Law Society of Northern Ireland—in full unless clear
- >Law Society of Scotland—in full unless clear
- >lawbreaker, lawbreaking
- >lawmaker; lawmaking
- >lawn mower
- >Lawrence, Philip—murdered headteacher; wife Frances
- >Lawrence, Stephen—murdered black teenager; Macpherson report
- >lay-by—pl: lay-bys
- >lay-out (n)
- >Layfield, Frank—report on rating 1976 [local government]
- >LGBT—lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender; no need to expand
- >LGBTI / LGBTQI / LGBTQI+—do not expand, given different interpretations of the QI+
- >LCD—the Lord Chancellor’s Department
- >LCO—legislative competence order—see also Measures and Matters
- >LCJBs—local criminal justice boards
- >LDA—London Development Agency closed March 2012
- >LDCs—least developed countries
- >LDD—local development document [planning]
- >LDDC—London Docklands development corporation—existed 1980-98
- >LDF—local development framework
- >LDO—local development order
- >*Le Figaro*
- >*Le Monde*
- >le roy le veult, le roy s’avisera—see la reyne le veult
- >LEA—1. local education authority  
2. Leasehold Enfranchisement Association
- >Lea valley—the River Lea etc. But some entities spell it “Lee”  
Lee valley regional park, Lee valley trading estate
- >leader—generally lc: world leaders, leader of the council, leader of the Labour party,  
Tory leader
- >Leader—EU money for rural areas (under EAGGF)
- >Leader of the House—never just “the Leader”; Deputy Leader of the House
- >Leader of the Opposition—never just “the Leader”; the hon. Member’s leader;  
deputy Leader of the Opposition
- >leading edge programme—replaced beacon schools, 2003
- >League Against Cruel Sports
- >League of Arab States—use Arab League
- >League of Nations—inter-war proto-UN
- >leapfrog (n) and (v)
- >Learning and Skills Council—created by merging Further Education Funding  
Council and TECs (2001); there are 47 local learning and skills councils and 1  
national Learning and Skills Council; closed March 2010; replaced by Skills  
Funding Agency and the Young People’s Learning Agency

- > Learning and Skills Development Agency—was Further Education Development Agency 1995-2000; Functions split in 2006 then merged again in 2008 into the Learning and Skills Improvement Service
- > Learning and Teaching Scotland—est 2000; advises on curriculum As of 2010, subsumed into larger body that is now called Education Scotland
- > learndirect
- > LearnNet—internet education resource run by DFES ???
- > LEASE—Leasehold Advisory Service; ch: Lord Richard
- > leasehold, leaseholder
- > Leasehold Enfranchisement Association
- > LECs—local enterprise companies
- > led—1. hyphenated as suffix: demand-led; policy-led  
2. spellcheckers can't distinguish “lead” and “led”
- > Lee valley – see Lea
- > left—the left; on the left; a leftie;
- > left wing—the left wing; left-wing politics; he is left-wing
- > left winger
- > Legal Aid Board—part of Legal Services Commission, 1999 which then became Legal Aid Agency in 2013
- > legal cases—versus is abbreviated and italicised: *Pepper v. Hart*, *R v. Smith* and
- > Legal Services Agency Northern Ireland; formerly Northern Ireland Legal Services Commission. An Executive agency of the Department of Justice others; *In re S* and others
- > Legal Services Board—oversees the regulation of lawyers
- > Legal Services Commission—replaced Legal Aid Board 1999 and replaced by Legal Aid Agency in 2013
- > LegCo—Legislative Council [in Hong Kong]
- > Leggatt, Andrew—2001 report on tribunal system
- > Legislative Grand Committee—considers a consent motion for issues that are deemed to be English or English and Welsh only
- > legislature—the building or the estate of the realm
- > legitim—Scots law: that to which children are entitled to out of a deceased father's moveable estate; aka bairn's part;
- > Lehman Brothers; Lehman's is okay fourth largest investment firm in USA until it filed for bankruptcy September 2008
- > Leonard Cheshire Disability—disabled charity (named after its RAF pilot founder); was Cheshire Homes
- > Leonardo da Vinci—EU vocational training programme; eSt 1995
- > LEP—see local enterprise partnership where their names are listed
- > less and fewer—less = amount, fewer = number. Thus:  
“Fewer slices, less bread.”  
“There are fewer Members present in the Chamber, so it is less full.”
- > less favoured areas—farm subsidy scheme
- > less well off—those who are less well off; the less well-off; less well-off people
- > let down (v) let-down (n)
- > let off (v) let-off
- > letters of the alphabet—1. “Occasion” has two c's and an s; dotting the i's and

crossing the t's; conservative with a small c.

2. The F-word, L-word etc

3. the nth degree

- >levelling-up agenda; the Government are determined to level up; the Government will continue levelling up
- >levelling-up fund
- >level 3 fine
- >levels—the Somerset levels
- >LFAs—less favoured areas
- >LFATGW—light forces anti-tank ground weapon
- >LFEPA—London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority [“el-fee-pa”]
- >LGA—Local Government Association
- >LGB—laser-guided bomb
- >LGBT—lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender; LGBT+
- >LGCE—see Electoral Commission
- >LGIU—Local Government Information Unit [not LGiU]
- >*L’Humanité*
- >LHC—local health council [Scotland]
- >LHCC—local health care co-operative [Scotland]
- >liabilities management authority—proposed nuclear clean-up body
- >liaise, liaison—not “liase”; it has 2 i’s. The spellchecker won’t spot it.
- >Liaison Committee—Select Committee charged with the running of Select Committees; chooses reports for debate on floor etc.
- >Lib-Lab—the Lib-Lab pact, policies, Members etc. Pre-1914, Members supported by Labour and the Liberals were known as Lib-Labs
- >Lib-Lab pact—may refer to 1970s arrangement that kept the minority Labour Government in power or local council deals
- >liberal—lc for liberal values, liberal-minded etc; uc if it pertains to the Liberal Democrats or the old Liberal party
- >*Liberal Democrat News* replaced by *Ad Lib*
- >Liberal Democrats—the party name is “Liberal Democrats”, so they are plural: “The Liberal Democrats have chosen an awkward name.” It’s ok to follow Members in calling them Liberals. See Liberal party for history.
- >Liberal party—most of the old Liberal party merged with the SDP in 1988 to form the Social and Liberal Democrats, renamed in 1989 the Liberal Democrats. It’s ok to follow Members in calling them “the Liberals” etc. A rump still trades under the name Liberal party (notably Michael Meadowcroft, who represented Leeds, West 1983 to 1987)
- >*Libération*
- >Liberia—cap. Monrovia; pres. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf [2006]; earlier leaders Charles Taylor, Samuel Doe; George Weah
- >Liberty—was National Council for Civil Liberties; director, Shami Chakrabarti
- >LIBOR—(no need to expand) London interbank offered rate; rate at which banks lend to one another
- >library—uc for House of Commons Library; House of Lords Library; the Library; the Library of the House; the Libraries of both Houses; the Librarian; lc otherwise: Birmingham library; exception: British Library

- >library boards—[NI] see education and library boards
- >Libya—cap. Tripoli ; Colonel (Muammar al-) Gaddafi; Baghdadi Mahmudi  
[2006]; jamahiriya system; national transitional council
- >licence (n) license (v) licensee, licensed, off-licence
- >licence holder
- >lieutenant—uc with names: Lieutenant Smith, Lieutenant General Jones (No hyphen  
in British Army; lc otherwise
- >LIFE—EU financial instrument for the environment; LIFE III;
- >life peer
- >life raft
- >lifebelt
- >lifeblood
- >lifeboat
- >lifeguard
- >lifejacket
- >lifelong
- >lifestyle
- >lifetime
- >lifetime ISA
- >>LIFFE—London international financial futures and options exchange
- >>LIFT—local improvement finance trust [NHS PPPs]
- >light of—in the light of; not in light of
- >light pollution—ie glare from street lights, domestic lighting etc.
- >light-hearted, light-heartedly
- >lightweight
- >lightweighting—use of lightweight materials in auto industry for fuel efficiency, etc
- >Lighthouse labs
- >like and such as—“Towns like Hull” means towns similar to but not including Hull.  
“Towns such as Hull” means a group of towns including Hull.
- >Limehouse declaration—1981 founding document of SDP
- >Limited—see Ltd
- >limited—as suffix, hyphenated: cash-limited, time-limited
- >lines—tube lines: Jubilee line, Northern line
- >Lingua—EU language education programme
- >lip service
- >liquefied natural gas—LNG
- >lira—singular; the lira; 1 lira; pl. is lire 200 million lire; replaced by euro 2002
- >list 99 —secret register of people barred from working with children by DFES
- >listed buildings—grade I, grade II\*, grade II
- >lite—as suffix: alcohol-lite, regulation-lite
- >little England, little England tendency, little Englanders
- >litre—with figures: 2 litres; a 2-litre engine
- >LITRG—low incomes tax reform group; an initiative of the Chartered Institute  
of Taxation
- >liveable, liveability, liveability fund [ODPM]
- >*Liverpool Echo*
- >livestock—are

- >Livestock and Meat Commission for Northern Ireland
- >Livingstone, Ken—led GLC 1981-86; represented Brent, East 1987-2001; Mayor of London 2000-2008
- >Lloyd's—with apostrophe, the insurer: Lloyd's of London; Lloyd's names; he is a name; *Lloyd's List* is London's oldest daily paper; *Lloyd's Shipping Index* published daily;
- >Lloyds bank—no apostrophe
- >LLU—local loop unbundling; to end BT monopoly of local services
- >Llŷn peninsula—N Wales; not “Lleyn” or “Llyn”
- >LMA—liabilities management authority
- >LMCA—Long-Term Medical Conditions Alliance merged with National Voices in 2008 to create one unified umbrella charity
- >LMS—local management of schools; LEA delegates budget to school
- >loath, loathe—see loth
- >Lobby—Lobby of the House: Central Lobby, Aye Lobby, No Lobby, Lobby correspondent; “He should join us in the Lobby [not Lobbies] tonight.”
- >lobby—lobby group, lobbyist, to lobby, a powerful lobby  
“There was a lobby in Parliament square...”
- >Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services
- >local authority, local authorities
- >Local Collect service
- >local criminal justice boards—style: North Wales local criminal justice board
- >local education authority—LEA, LEAs
- >local enterprise companies—uc in titles: Shetland Enterprise etc
- >local enterprise partnerships—Black Country local enterprise partnership. The following 39 LEPs appear on the DCLG website:

Black Country; Buckinghamshire Thames Valley; Cheshire and Warrington; Coast to Capital; Cornwall and Isles of Scilly; Coventry and Warwickshire; Cumbria; Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire; Dorset; enterprise M3; Gloucestershire; Greater Birmingham and Solihull; Greater Cambridge; Greater Peterborough; Greater Lincolnshire; Greater Manchester; Heart of the South West; Hertfordshire; Humber; Lancashire; Leeds city region; Leicester and Leicestershire; Liverpool city region; London Economic Action Partnership; New Anglia; North East; Northamptonshire; OxLEP—Oxfordshire local enterprise partnership; Sheffield city region; Solent; South East; South East Midlands; Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire; Swindon and Wiltshire; Tees Valley; Thames Valley Berkshire; The Marches; West of England; Worcestershire; York and North Yorkshire.

- >local government
- >Local Government Act 1985—abolished metropolitan country councils
- >Local Government Association—the LGA; from 1996 merger of Association of County Councils (ACC); Association of District Councils (ADC); Association of Metropolitan Authorities (AMA)
- >Local Government Boundary Commission for England—took over from the boundary committee in April 2010

- >Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland
- >Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales
- >Local Government Commission for England; replaced local government boundary commission for England 1992; subsumed in Electoral Commission as boundary committee for England in 2002; taken over from by Local Government Boundary Commission for England in 2010
- >Local Government Information Unit—think-tank
- >Local Government Staff Commission for Northern Ireland
- >local health and social care groups—NI equivalent of PCTs
- >local health care co-operatives—Scottish PCT units
- >local health council—Scottish version of CHCs taken over by Scottish Health Council in 2005
- >local health groups—in Wales, replaced internal market 1999; became local health boards in 2003
- >local improvement finance trusts—NHS PPPs
- >local loop unbundling—to end BT monopoly of local services
- >Local Partnerships—joint venture between Local Government Association and Partnerships UK
- >local safeguarding children boards
- >loch—lc unless immediately before name: Loch Lomond but Campbeltown loch
- >lock out (v) lockout (n)
- >Lockerbie—Dec 1988; PanAm flight 103
- >lockstep—prevents the Welsh Government from varying income tax
- >LOCOG—London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games
- >Löfstedt review—into health and safety
- >logbook
- >Logistics Command—RAF
- >logjam
- >Loizidou case—see Cyprus
- >Lomé convention—governed EU-ACP relations 1976-2000
- >London Array—wind farm in Thames estuary. Largest operational offshore wind farm in world, opened in July 2013
- >London Assembly—correct title of Greater London Assembly; has members
- >London Councils— new name for Association of London Government
- >London Development Agency; closed in March 2012
- >London Docklands development corporation—existed 1981-98
- >London Fire Brigade
- >London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority
- >*London Gazette*—since 1665, the official newspaper of the Crown, publishing appointments, insolvencies etc; there are *Belfast* and *Edinburgh Gazettes*
- >London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games; LOCOG
- >London School of Economics
- >London Underground is the company; London underground for the network
- >lone parent—lone-parent family
- >Long Kesh—later the Maze; closed NI prison

- >long standing—of long standing; a long-standing problem
- >long-sighted
- >long-term effect, but in the long term
- >Long-Term Medical Conditions Alliance
- >Longbow—radar for Apache helicopter
- >Longannet—last deep coal mine in Scotland; closed 2002
- >looked-after children—ie kids in care
- >loony left
- >loophole
- >lopsided
- >Lord Advocate—top Scottish legal person; Frank Mulholland; formerly: Elish Angiolini; Colin Boyd
- >Lord Chancellor—always in full; as well as being top legal person, he acted as Speaker of the House of Lords
- >Lord Chief Justice—Lord Woolf 2000-05; Lord Phillips 2005-08; Lord Judge 2008-2013; Lord Thomas 2013-
- >Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland—Sir Brian Kerr 2004-2009; Sir Declan Morgan 2009-
- >Lord Justice—with names: Lord Justice Taylor; lords justices of appeal;
- >Lord Justice Clerk—a senior Scottish judge
- >Lord Justice General—of High Court of Justiciary [Sc.]
- >lord lieutenant—lords lieutenant; ceremonial duties only
- >Lord—uc with title: Lord Howe; Lord Muck; “He was made a lord.”  
We don’t use the convention “The noble Lord, Lord Callaghan...”  
Lord Callaghan suffices.
- >Lord Mayor—of London, etc [not same as Mayor of London]
- >Lord President—1. Lord President of the Council is now President  
2. Lord President of the Court of Session [Sc.]
- >Lord Speaker—now the Speaker in the House of Lords; role formerly taken by Lord Chancellor
- >Lord’s—the cricket ground has an apostrophe
- >Lord’s Resistance Army—Ugandan insurgents
- >Lords—the House of Lords; “As was said in the Lords last night...”; Law Lords;
- >Lords amendment; Lords amendment 4 (Not Lords amendment No. 4)
- >Lords Justices of Appeal—Court of Appeal judges [also in NI]
- >Lords message
- >Lords of Appeal in Ordinary—Law Lords
- >Lords of Session—senior Scottish judges
- >Lords reason—for insisting on Lords amendments; Lords reason 35B
- >Lords Spiritual—the archbishops and those bishops who sit in the Lords
- >Lords Temporal—non-ecclesiastic Members of the Lords
- >lordship—“As their lordships made clear again...”
- >loth/loath/loathe—the adj meaning “reluctant” is loth: “I am loth to agree.”  
the verb is loathe: “I hate you, I loathe you, I despise you.”  
Don’t use “loath”
- >lottery—the national lottery; the lottery;
- >lough—as loch: Lough Neagh, Belfast lough

- >lovable—not loveable
- >low-carbon economy, etc; hyphen when used adjectivally
- >low emission vehicles—they may also be “ultra low emission vehicles”
- >low flying (n) low-flying (adj)—low flying is noisy; low-flying aircraft
- >low income—he is on low income; a low-income family
- >low level—the meeting was at a low level; a low-level meeting; low-level waste
- >low paid—those who are low paid; the low-paid; low-paid workers;
- >Low Pay Commission—sets minimum wage
- >Low Pay Unit—pressure group
- >lower House—the House of Commons
- >lower paid—those who are lower paid; the lower-paid; lower-paid workers
- >lower rate taxpayer
- >low tech (n) low-tech (adj)
- >Loyal Address—after the Queen’s Speech, the House debates a motion to thank her for it known as the Loyal Address. The Address may be respectfully amended by the Opposition.
- >loyal Opposition
- >loyalist—Ic even in Northern Ireland
- >Loyalist Volunteer Force—NI terrorists
- >LPA—lasting power of attorney
- >LPG—liquefied petroleum gas; not liquid petroleum gas
- >LRSL—long-term restricted service licence [hospital radio etc]
- >LSB—local schools budget
- >LSC—1. Legal Services Commission replaced by Legal Aid Agency 2013  
2. see Learning and Skills Council
- >LSCB—local safeguarding children board
- >LSE—London School of Economics
- >LSVT—large-scale voluntary transfer [housing]
- >Ltd—in company names, always Ltd, not Limited; don’t get too pedantic: Heinz will usually do for H. J. Heinz Co. Ltd
- >Luce report—Tom Luce on registration of deaths, 2003
- >luddism, luddite
- >luftwaffe
- >Luhansk—not Lugansk; Luhansk people’s republic, so-called Luhansk people’s republic, etc
- >Lunar house—HQ of IND
- >lunch time
- >Luxembourg—  
Head of State: Grand Duke Henri; PM: Jean-Claude Juncker [2006] Xavier Bettel 2013-
- >LVF—Loyalist Volunteer Force; NI terrorists
- >LVT—leasehold valuation tribunal
- >LWR—laser warning receiver
- >Lynx—Lynx AH7, AH9, HAS3, HAS8, Mk 3
- >Lyons, Sir Michael—2004 review of civil service relocation; 2005 local taxation

- >M—1. motorways: M1, M6, M25
  - 2. as in MA, MPhil: no need to expand
  - 3. M0, M4 – money supply stats
- >Maastricht treaty—enacted by European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993
- >MAB—Muslim Association of Britain
- >MAC—Migration Advisory Committee
- >Mac—see also Mc
  - McDonald’s is the fast food operation
- >MacDonald, James Ramsay
- >MacDiarmid, Hugh—Scottish poet, early nationalist; real name: Christopher Grieve
- >Macedonia—official title (see FYROM) disputed, stick with usage; cap. Skopje;
  - pres. Gjorge Ivanov; previously: Branko Crvenkovski [2006], succeeded Boris Trajkovski;
  - PM Nikola Grueski
- >machair—low, fertile plain in NW Scotland, Hebrides
- >Macleod, Iain—prominent 1950s Tory
- >Macmillan, Harold
- >Macmillan Cancer Support—Macmillan nurses; was Macmillan Cancer Relief
- >Macpherson, Sir William—report on Stephen Lawrence murder
- >macro—colloquially or in computing: “We must think macro.”
- >macroeconomic
- >MacSharry, Ray—CAP reforms, 1990s
- >MAD—1. mutually assured destruction
  - 2. magnetic anomaly detector [anti-submarine warfare]
- >Madam Deputy Speaker, Madam Speaker [not “Madame”]
- >Madame—legal if used by a Member: Madame Chirac
- >Mademoiselle—legal if used by Member
- >madrassah—Muslim education institution (not madrasa, medresseh etc)
- >MAFF—Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; replaced by DEFRA in 2001
- >mafia—uc if for Sicilian Mafia, lc for general; mafioso; pl. mafiosi
- >magazines—check and italicise titles
- >Maghreb countries—Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia
- >Magistrates Association
- >magistrates court—no apostrophe, lc
- >magistrates courts committee(s)—organise local courts
  - West Midlands magistrates courts committee; to be replaced by courts boards
- >Magna Carta—but not the Magna Carta
- >MAGNI—see National Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland
- >Magnox—ageing nuclear reactors
- >MAGP—multi-annual guidance programme (CFP)
- >MAIB—marine accident investigation branch
- >maiden speech—new Member’s debut utterance; traditionally non-controversial,
  - describing seat and praising predecessor
- >*Mail on Sunday, The*
- >mailbag

- >mailshot
- >Main Building—HQ of the Ministry of Defence
- >maingate decision
- >main line—the main line between London and York; it is a mainline station;  
west coast main line;
- >mainstream (n, v and adj)
- >Majlis—Parliaments in Iran etc.
- >major—uc with names: Major Attlee, Major General Watson (No hyphen in British Army)
- >Major Projects Authority
- >make up (v) make-up (n)
- >Make Votes Count—pressure group
- >malarkey
- >Malawi—cap. Lilongwe; second city Blantyre; pres. Peter Mutharika [2014] vp Saulos Chilima [2014]; earlier pres: Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda; Bakili Muluzi
- >man—Ic meaning the human race; mankind
- >man-made
- >management—when it means people, plural: “The management are hopeless.”  
When it means the activity, singular: “Management is more art than science.”
- >Management Board; replaced Commons Board of Management in 2007
- >Managing Radioactive Waste Safely programme
- >*Manchester Evening News*
- >Mandelkern group—EU ministerial taskforce on better regulation chaired by Dieudonné Mandelkern
- >Manhattan project—built A-bomb in 1940s
- >manifesto—1. pl. manifestos  
2. the Labour manifesto, manifesto pledges  
3. “The Communist Manifesto” by Marx and Engels, 1848
- >mankind
- >Mano River Union—Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Ivory Coast
- >MANPADS—man-portable air defence systems
- >manSievert—measure of radiation dosage across a population;  
with figures: 153 manSv
- >Manufacturers Organisation—the EEF; was the Engineering Employers Federation
- >manufacturing advisory service
- >manuscript amendment
- >Manweb—electricity distributor owned by ScottishPower; was once Merseyside and North-Western Electricity Board
- >many and much—many deals with number, much with quantity:  
“Many of the people,” but “Much of the population.”
- >MAP—medical assessment process [miners’ compensation]
- >Marconi—merged into BAE Systems, c. 2000
- >Marie Celeste is wrong; Mary Celeste
- >marijuana—not “marihuana”
- >marine accident investigation branch—of the DFT
- >Marine and Fisheries Agency—replaced sea fisheries inspectorate, Oct 2005

- >Marine Management Organisation
- >marine minerals guidance—marine minerals guidance note 1; MMG1
- >Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- >Maritime-Naval Ships; part of BAE Systems
- >mark—1. version, “Mrs Thatcher mark 2”
  - 2. US bombs: Mk 82 [500 lb bomb]
- >marketeer—anti-marketeer, pro-marketeer [EU]
- >marketing boards—mostly extinct or reformed; the old ones were lower case, see eg
  - milk marketing boards;
- >marketplace
- >marquess (English); uc only with name: Marquess of Queensberry
- >marquis (French); uc only with name: the Marquis de Sade
- >Marrakesh—not Marrakech
- >Marriage Guidance Council—renamed Relate in 1988
- >marriage value—property A is worth x, property B is worth y; if sold together they would be worth (x + y) + the value of any extra amenity resulting from their sale together rather than separately. That is the marriage value, and it can be negative
- >married couple’s allowance—still paid to elderly couples
- >Mars—planet, god, company, chocolate bar
- >MARS—military afloat reach and sustainability [ie new fleet supply system]
- >Marseilles
- >Marsh Arabs—Shi’a Muslims in southern Iraq
- >marshal—1. the military noun and the verb meaning “to arrange” have one l
  - 2. the military adjective is “martial”.
  - 3. US post-war aid is Marshall plan.
  - 4. uc with names: Marshal Pétain
- >martial—don’t confuse with “marshal”;
- >Mary Celeste—not “Marie”
- >Mashreq countries—Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon
- >Massachusetts
- >master—1. for degrees lc: master of arts; no need to expand: MA; MPhil etc; but note master’s degree
  - 2. with names: young Master Blair
  - 3. Scottish courtesy title: the Master of Falkland
  - 4. headmaster, schoolmaster, shipmaster,
  - 5. judges in NI: lc
- >Master of the Rolls—senior civil judge of Court of Appeal; Lord Dyson Thomas Bingham 1992-2000  
Nicholas Phillips 2000-2005 (Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers)  
Lord Justice Clarke (Sir Anthony Clarke) 2005-2009  
Lord David Neuberger 2009-2012
- >mastermind
- >Masters of Foxhounds Association
- >matériel—“available means, esp. equipment for warfare”; often wrongly changed to “material”; Chief of Defence Matériel

- >match funding—where projects can go ahead only if a community, country etc matches the money offered by the EU, Govt etc
- >mathematics—is singular
- >maths—is singular and need not be expanded to “mathematics”
- >Matters—A Matter defines the scope of the power of the Welsh Parliament to enact Measures
- >Maud committee—1940s, nuclear weapons
- >Maverick—the AGM-65 air-to-ground missile; AGM-65G;
- >Mawrey, Richard—judge in Birmingham electoral fraud case, 2005
- >maxwell—unit of magnetic flux; 2 maxwells
- >Maxwellisation—those who may be criticised in a report given the chance to comment before publication
- >Mayor—uc for a directly elected Mayor; Mayor of Doncaster; Mayor of North Tyneside; metro Mayor—a directly elected leader of a combined authority
- >Mayor of London—Ken Livingstone 2000-2008; Boris Johnson 2008-16; Sadiq Khan 2016-; the Mayor; Mayors
- >Maze, the—closed NI prison, formerly Long Kesh
- >MBO—management buy-out
- >MBT—main battle tank
- >MCA—1. Medicines Control Agency 2. Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- >MCAT—mephedrone, meow meow
- >McCartney, Robert—1. leader of UK Unionist party  
2. NI murder victim [2005]
- >McDonald’s—fast food company
- >McChrystal, General Stanley—current commander of ISAF
- >McDonnell Douglas—US aircraft company taken over by Boeing 1997
- >McKinsey—management consultancy
- >MDC—Movement for Democratic Change; Zimbabwe opposition  
leader: Morgan Tsvangirai
- >MDP—Ministry of Defence police
- >ME—myalgic encephalomyelitis but some ME groups prefer myalgic encephalopathy, so follow usage
- >ME Association
- >Meadow, Sir Roy—paediatrician involved in some controversial court cases
- >means—1. income is plural: “My means are limited.”  
2. method can be singular or plural: “It is a means to an end.”  
“Their means to this end are the 10 water authorities.”
- >means test (n); means-test (v) means-testing, means-tested  
“They are applying a means test to the benefit.”  
“It is wrong to means-test such benefits.”  
“They are considering the means-testing of benefits.”  
“They are means-testing the benefit.”  
“They are means-tested benefits.”  
“The benefits are means-tested.”  
“They will means-test the benefits if they can.”  
“They were means-tested in the 1930s.”
- >measure—covers any legislation, draft or passed, Bill, Acts, SIs etc, but Welsh

## Assembly Measure

- >Measure—Church of England Measure, the Measure. A Measure is the CoE's equivalent of an Act, passed by the General Synod and laid before Parliament for approval but not amendment; Welsh Parliament Measure (see Matters)
- >measurements—see individual entries (metres, gigawatt, etc)
- >Meat Hygiene Service
- >Mebyon Kernow—Cornish nationalist party
- >MEDA—programme through which aid to Euro-Mediterranean partnership countries is handled
- >medals—upper case: Military Cross, Victoria Cross etc
- >medevac—produces ghastly verb, “medevaced” etc
- >media—plural: the media are; television is a medium for mass communication;
- >medieval
- >Medical Devices Agency—merged with the Medicines Control Agency to come the Medical and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
- >Medical Research Council
- >Medical Training Application Service - MTAS
- >Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
- >Medicines Commission—est 1968; advises Ministers
- >Medicines Control Agency—merged with the Medical Devices Agency to become the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
- >medium—plural is media: the media are covering the story; radio is an important medium;
- >meet with—usually “meet” will suffice
- >mega—1. SI prefix indicating 1 million ( $10^6$ )  
2. Youth term meaning “great”: “That is mega.”  
3. With neologisms, hyphenation is likely to be the best course: mega-cool etc
- >megabar—not subs' paradise, but an atmospheric pressure unit;  
with figures: 2 megabars
- >megabit—with figures: 20 megabits; megabits per second is used to measure broadband speed; not to be confused with megabytes—see below
- >megabucks—colloquially, lots of money
- >megabyte—data capacity measure; with figures: 20 megabytes;
- >megacurie—unit of radioactivity; with figures: 2 megacuries
- >megacycle—unit of frequency; with figures: 3 megacycles
- >megadeath—death of 1 million people; with figures: 20 megadeaths
- >megadyne—unit of force; with figures: 1 megadyne; 25 megadynes
- >megahertz—with figures: 25 MHz; 1 MHz;
- >megajoule—with figures: 25 MJ
- >megalitre—with figures: 25 megalitres
- >megaton—unit of explosive power equal to 1 million tons of TNT  
with figures: 200 megatons; megatonnage
- >megatonne—1 million tonnes
- >megavolt—with figures: 25 MV
- >megawatt—with figures: 25 MW; MWe refers to electric output from a generator  
MWt to thermal output from a reactor or heat source

If they need expansion: megawatts electric, megawatts thermal

- > megawatt-day—with figures: 2 megawatt-days
- > megawatt-hour—with figures: 2 MWh
- > megohm—unit of electrical resistance; with figures: 4 megohms
- > Megrahi—Abdelbaset al-Megrahi; Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed al-Megrahi; Mr Megrahi (not Mr al-Megrahi)
- > Melilla—see Ceuta
- > melt down (v) meltdown (n)
- > Member—1. uc when it means a Member of this Parliament: Member of Parliament, Front-Bench Member, Back-Bench Member, Opposition Member, (and Members of the Lords)  
2. A Government Member is one who supports the Govt, a member of the Government is a Minister  
  
3. uc for Members of the European Parliament, Welsh and Northern Ireland Assemblies & Scottish Parliament  
4. MP is ok without expansion  
5. lc for members of the Cabinet, Committees, parties etc  
6. lc for “He is a member of Congress/the Dutch Parliament”
- > Member Centre—one-stop shop for Members in Portcullis House
- > Member of the European Parliament—MEP is ok without expansion
- > Member of the Legislative Assembly—ie Northern Ireland; expand first time
- > member state, member states—of EU, UN etc
- > Members Estimate Committee
- > memo—pl. memos; no need to expand
- > memorandum—pl. memorandums, not memoranda
- > Mencap
- > Mental Health Alliance—50 organisations opposing reforms to Mental Health Act 1983; [2002]
- > mental health review tribunals
- > meow meow—mephedrone; MCAT
- > MEP—Member of the European Parliament; the initials are ok:  
“Even Labour MEPs are worried.” “He is an MEP.” No need to expand
- > mephedrone—meow meow, MCAT
- > merchant bank
- > merchant marine
- > merchant navy
- > Mercosur—aka Southern Common Market; Mercado Común del Sur; Mercado Comum do Sul; Mercosul; use Mercosur
- > Merlin HM1, HC3—service name of EH101 helicopter
- > Mersey tunnels—there are two: Kingsway, Queensway
- > message—Lords message
- > messenger-at-arms—pl. messengers-at-arms
- > Messrs—no full stop
- > Met Office—this is its title
- > Meteor—1. service name of BVRAAM

## 2. Gloster Meteor was first British jet fighter

- >Methodism, Methodist
- >*Methodist Recorder*
- >metres—with figures: 2 metres; 2.5 metres; 250 metres; run the 1,500 metres; 25 square metres; 25 cubic metres;
- >metres per second—25 mps; 1 mps;
- >Metro—buses in NI
- >Metronet—leases all London underground lines except Northern, Piccadilly & Jubilee; owned by Balfour Beatty, WS Atkins, Thames Water, Bombardier & EDF Energy
- >Metropolitan Police Authority—replaced Home Secretary as the Met's police authority in 1999
- >Metropolitan Police Commissioner—ok, but formally: Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis; the commissioner
  - Cressida Dick 2017-
  - Bernard Hogan-Howe 2011-2017
  - Tim Godwin 2011-11 (acting)
  - Sir Paul Stephenson 2009-11
  - Sir Ian Blair 2005-2008
  - Sir John Stevens 2000-2005 Sir Paul Condon 1993-2000
- >Metropolitan Police Service—the Metropolitan police; the Met; some names: Lee Jasper; Gurbal Viridi; Brian Paddick; Ali Dizaei
- >metropolitan district council
- >MFA—multi-fibre arrangement
- >MFN—most favoured nation
- >MHRA—Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
- >MI5—the Security Service
- >MI6—the Secret Intelligence Service
- >MIAMs—mediation information and assessment meetings (in family proceedings)
- >micro—1. colloquially: “We must think micro.”
  - 2. SI prefix signifying one millionth; symbol:  $\mu$ , for which reason we'll have micromasures out in full
- >microbusiness
- >microeconomic, but the micro-economy
- >microelectronics
- >micromanage
- >micro-organism
- >microprudential
- >microbiologist, microbiology
- >microchip
- >microcomputer
- >microcredit
- >microfinance
- >microgeneration [electricity]
- >microgram—with figures: 2 micrograms; 0.25 micrograms
- >micrometer—gauge for measuring small thicknesses
- >micrometre—millionth of a metre: 2 micrometres

- >micron—former term for micrometre; with figures: 25 microns
- >microsievert—radiation dosage unit; with figures: 153 microsieverts
- >microsurgery
- >microwave
- >mid—as a prefix, usually hyphenated: mid-sentence; mid-October; mid-20s  
but watch out for places and titles: Mid Glamorgan
- >Mid Glamorgan—Welsh county council, abolished 1995
- >mid-Wales—a village in mid-Wales; but be careful with titles
- >midata—programme giving consumers access to their personal data; often  
pronounced as “mydata”
- >middle ages
- >middle class (n) middle-class (adj)—he is middle-class; middle-class values;
- >middle east—[see style sheet on M:drive](#)
- >middle England
- >middle way group—all-party moderate pro-hunting group
- >middleman
- >Middlesbrough—not “-borough”
- >midlands—east midlands, west midlands. But in titles, uc: West Midlands police;  
East Midlands airport
- >MiFID—markets in financial instruments directive; MiFID II
- >MIG—minimum income guarantee; MIG or the MIG; for over-60s
- >MiG—Russian aircraft maker: MiG-15, MiG-21, MiG-23, MiG-25, MiG-27,  
MiG-29, MiG-31
- >Migration Advisory Committee; the committee
- >Migration Impacts Forum—MIF
- >Migration Watch UK
- >Milan—anti-tank weapon; Milan 2;
- >miles—with figures: 200 miles, 5 miles, 3¼ miles
- >miles per gallon—out in full the first time, then 25 mpg
- >miles per hour—with figures: 25 mph
- >Militant Tendency—left-wing entryists of the 1980s
- >military—plural as a noun: the military are in control
- >military afloat reach and sustainability—fleet supply project
- >Military Cross
- >military police
- >Milk Development Council—took over research etc from old milk marketing  
boards in 1995; replaced by DairyCo in 2008
- >milk marketing boards—5 set up in 1930s: milk marketing board of England and  
Wales; Scottish mmb; Aberdeenshire and District mmb; North of Scotland  
mmb; mmb for Northern Ireland;  
replaced 1995 by Milk Marque and Milk Development Council
- >Milk Marque—replaced milk marketing boards 1995; split into three co-ops  
in 2000;
- >millennium—the millennium (two n’s)
- >Millennium Commission—spends lottery dosh on millennium projects
- >millennium development goals
- >millennium dome; the dome

- >milli—SI prefix signifying one thousandth; symbol m
- >milliampere—electric current measure; 25 milliamps
- >millibar—atmospheric pressure unit; with figures: 25 millibars
- >milligram—with figures: 25 mg; 2.25 mg; 1 mg; 0.6 mg
- >millilitre—with figures: 25 ml; 2.25 ml; 1 ml; 0.6 ml
- >millimetre—with figures: 5 mm; 0.6 mm; 5 sq mm; 5 cu mm;
- >million—1. always takes figures: 3 million, not “three”
  2. 2 million to 3 million, not “2 to 3 million”
  3. The mishear (or mistake by a speaker) of million for billion or vice versa is common, so pay attention to context
  4. Half a million does not need to appear as 500,000
- >MillionPlus—university think-tank
- >Million Jobs campaign—aims to get young people into work
- >millisecond—with figures: a millisecond; 3 milliseconds
- >millisievert—radiation dosage unit; with figures: 25 mSv
- >Milošević, Slobodan (no accent over the “c” for technical reasons)
- >Mind—mental illness charity
- >mind-boggling
- >minded—as suffix, hyphenated: EU-minded
- >mindset
- >mine countermeasures
- >mineowners
- >mineshaft
- >minehunter
- >minerals planning guidance—minerals planning guidance note 3; MPG3
- >minesweeper, minesweeping
- >mineworkers
- >Minerva—EU ICT programme
- >mini-bond—speculative illiquid security, the mass marketing of which was banned by the FCA in the wake of London Capital & Finance’s collapse into administration
- >minibus
- >minicab
- >Minimi—machine gun, aka SAW or squad automatic weapon
- >minimum income guarantee—MIG or the MIG; for over-60s
- >Minister—1. uc when it means a member of the Govt, from Secretary of State to Under-Secy (but not a PPS), in full titles and in general references to “The Minister said...”
 

The same applies to Ministers of the devolved institutions

  2. uc for generic references: “Education Ministers...he was an Education Minister.”
  3. uc for foreign Ministers: “The meeting of Finance Ministers... the Albanian Justice Minister...”
  4. “The shadow Arts Minister...shadow Ministers.”
  5. lc for ministers of religion
- >ministerial
- >ministerial code; “Ministerial Code” is the formal document published May 2010

- >ministerial titles—eg Housing Minister, short for Minister for Housing and Planning, but schools Minister, short for Minister for School Standards; if the word used appears in that exact form in the official title, put it up, otherwise put it down
- >Ministry—uc when referring to the Government; lc for religious ministry etc
- >Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food—replaced by DEFRA in 2001; its boss was the Minister of, not Secretary of State for
- >Ministry of Defence police—not same as military police; renamed as below, 2004
- >Ministry of Defence Police and Guarding Agency; MOD police;
- >Ministry of Justice
- >MINURSO—United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara;
- >minus—1. The change was minus 1.8%  
2. See temperature
- >minuscule—not miniscule
- >MIRAS—mortgage interest relief at source; abolished
- >Mirage—French aircraft: Mirage III, IV, V, F1, 2000, 2000N, 2000D
- >*Mirror, The*—is once again called the *Daily Mirror* [2004]
- >misclaims
- >mis-selling, mis-sold—the mis-selling of pensions
- >mishmash
- >mismatch
- >misspell, misspelt
- >Mitchell, (ex) Senator George—Mitchell report, plan, principles; chaired NI peace talks; also involved in Israel peace process;
- >MLA—Member of the Legislative Assembly (in NI); expand
- >MLRS—multiple launch rocket system
- >MMC—Monopolies and Mergers Commission; see Competition Commission
- >MMG—marine minerals guidance; marine minerals guidance note 1; MMG1
- >MMO—Marine Management Organisation
- >MMR—measles, mumps and rubella
- >MOAB—massive ordnance air burst [big US bomb]
- >moaning Minnie
- >MobGlob—Mobilisation for Global Justice; short title will do
- >mobile phone—don't bother with "telephone"
- >MOD—Ministry of Defence; not MoD;
- >modern-day slavery
- >Modernisation Agency—NHS reform chasers
- >Modernisation Board—oversees Modernisation Agency
- >Modernisation Committee—full title: Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons. Use shorter form
- >Mohammed, Mohammedan, the Prophet, the Prophet Mohammed
- >MOJO—Miscarriages of Justice Organisation
- >Moldova—not Moldavia; cap. Chisinau; pres. Nicolae Timofti [2012]; disputed area Transnistria, aka Trans-Dniester (follow usage), whereof main city Tiraspol and pres. Yevgeny Shechuk
- >mole—SI unit of the amount of elementary quantity (atoms, ions etc) with figures: 2 moles

- >Mombasa—not Mombassa
- >Momentum—offshoot from Jeremy Corbyn’s leadership campaign
- >monarch, the monarch, monarchy
- >Monday Club—right-wing organisation founded in 1961; originally met for lunch on Mondays
- >monetarism
- >Monetary Policy Committee—sets interest rates for Bank of England; members: Governor, two deputy governors & two exec directors of Bank + four experts appointed by Chancellor
 

Membership: Mark Carney, Governor  
Deputy Governors: Ben Broadbent; Nemat Shafik; Jon Cunliffe  
selected ex-members: Christopher Allsopp; Tim Besley; David Blanchflower  
Willem Buitter; DeAnne Julius; David Clementi; Eddie George; Ian Plenderleith;  
Sushil Wadhvani; Marian Bell; Sir Andrew Large
- >money—1. £2; £2.35 [no “p”]; £200; £2,000
  2. 35p [not 35 p or 0.35 or £0.35];
  3. £2 million; prefer decimals in large sums: £2.5 million; £2.55 million; but if necessary: £2,364,237.25;
  4. use £2 billion not £2,000 million
  5. £2 to £3 million is more likely to be £2 million to £3 million;
  6. million and billion are easily misheard or mis-said, so use your nous
  7. for US dollars: \$17,000; \$1.20; 20 cents
  8. for euros: €2,000; €2.20; 20 cents [ctrl, alt and 4, even if no symbol on key board]
  9. All other currencies are in full: 6 francs to the euro etc
  10. £250,000-worth, 50p-worth
- >Money Advice Service—was the Consumer Financial Education Body
- >money laundering
- >money resolution
- >moneylender
- >moneys—not “monies”
- >Monitor—working name of the Independent Regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts
- >Monitoring Commission—see Independent Monitoring Commission [NI]
- >Monnet, Jean—EU pioneer
- >Monopolies and Mergers Commission—Competition Commission from 1998
- >Monroe doctrine—President James Monroe’s 1823 warning to European powers to stay out of the Americas
- >Monsieur—now legal to use eg Monsieur Chirac if appropriate
- >Monte Bello islands—nuclear tests
- >Monte Cassino—two s’s; monastery/WW2 battle
- >Monterey—California, known for pizza cheese Monterey Jack
- >Monterrey—Mexico, site of 2002 international development conference
- >Montreal protocol—to protect ozone layer
- >MONUSCO—United Nations organisation stabilisation mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo; previously was MONUCO
- >moonshot—but Operation Moonshot

- >MORI poll—no need to expand
- >*Morning Star*
- >mortgagee—lender in a mortgage, usually a bank or building society”
- >mortgagor—borrower in a mortgage
- >Morton’s fork—after John Morton, a Minister of Henry VII who argued that the ostentatiously rich could afford forced loans (benevolences) while those who lived without display must be able to pay because of the savings made
- >Moslem—use Muslim
- >Moshtarak, Operation
- >most favoured nation status, clause etc
- >MOT—MOT-ed; once stood for Ministry of Transport
- >Motability—Govt scheme; cars & powered wheelchairs for disabled
- >mother of Parliaments—Westminster as a model for other Parliaments; first used by John Bright in 1835 of England rather than Parliament
- >mother nature—lower case unless it is a specific reference to a Greco-Roman personification
- >motion—lc: Adjournment motion; Budget motion; early-day motion; take-note motion; guillotine motion; timetable motion; programme motion; motion 3 on the Order Paper [not No. 3];
- >motorbike
- >motorcar
- >motorcycle, motorcycling, motorcyclist
- >motorsport
- >motorways—M1, M6, M25; junction 6
- >motto—pl. mottoes
- >MOU—memorandum of understanding
- >mount—uc if immediately before name: Mount Rushmore
- >mountains—lc: Atlas mountains, mountains of Mourne
- >movable—use moveable
- >movement—the labour movement, trade union movement, co-operative movement.
- >Movement for Democratic Change—Zim. opposition; leader: Morgan Tsvangirai
- >MOX—mixed oxide
- >Mozambique—cap. Maputo; pres. Felipe Nyusi; previously: Armando Guebuza, PM Carlos Agostinho do Rosário; first pres. Samora Machel; parties Frelimo, Renamo
- >MPA—Major Projects Authority
- >MP—Member of Parliament; initials are ok: “People write to their MPs.” (not MP’s); no need to expand
- >MPC—Monetary Policy Committee
- >MPDS—multi-purpose decontamination system
- >MPG—minerals planning guidance; minerals planning guidance note 1; MPG1
- >MPIG—minimum practice income guarantee; helps fund GP practices
- >MPPS—money purchase pension scheme
- >Mr—1. Has no full stop; Mr Justice Aardvark; pl: Messrs  
2. Crime: “He is a Mr Big.” “The Mr Bigs of crime.”
- >MRAV—multi-role armoured vehicle [ISD 2007]

- >MRC—Medical Research Council
- >MRI—magnetic resonance imaging, but “an MRI scan” will often do
- >MRM—mechanically recovered meat
- >mRNA
- >Mrs —has no full stop
- >MRSA—methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (no need to expand)
- >MRU—Mano River Union
- >Ms—no full stop; it doesn’t stand for anything
- >MSBP— Munchausen syndrome by proxy
- >MSEs—micro and small enterprises
- >MSF—1. Médecins Sans Frontières
  - 2. don’t expand to Manufacturing, Science, Finance; merged with AEEU in 2001 to form Amicus; then general secy: Roger Lyons. Amicus merged with Unite in 2007
- >MSP—Member of the Scottish Parliament; don’t expand
- >MTAS—Medical Training Application Service
- >mudflats
- >mujaheddin—for general references; please check specific groups
- >Mukhabarat—former Iraqi intelligence service
- >mulesing—controversial practice of removing strips of wool-bearing skin to prevent flystrike, a parasitic infection, in sheep
- >Mull of Galloway; Mull of Kintyre
- >multi-agency working
- >multi-annual guidance programme—MAGP; sets CFP fish quotas
- >multi-fibre arrangement—1974 deal on textiles exports
- >multi-fuel—multi-fuel firing (boilers etc)
- >multimodal
- >multi-religious
- >multi-role armoured vehicle—due 2007
- >multibillion
- >multicultural
- >multidisciplinary
- >multi-ethnic
- >multifaceted
- >multilateralist
- >multilingual
- >multimedia
- >multimillion
- >multinational (n & adj)
- >Multinational Division—in Iraq
- >multiple launch rocket system
- >Multiple Sclerosis Society
- >multiplex
- >multiracial
- >multitask
- >Munchausen syndrome—illness where people seek attention by feigning illness
- >Munchausen syndrome by proxy—seek attention by causing harm to others

- > murabaha—Islamic property finance instrument
- > Murphy-O'Connor, Cardinal Cormac
- > museum—usually uc: Ashmolean Museum, British Museum, Museum of London
- > Muskoka initiative—aims to achieve millennium development goal of reducing maternal, infant and child mortality
- > Muslim—not “Moslem”
- > Muslim Association of Britain
- > Muslim Brotherhood
- > Muslim Council of Britain—secretary general: Dr Shuja Shafi; was Sir Iqbal Sacranie
- > muxco—multiplex operator; Muxco—name of company that operates radio multiplexes
- > MW, MWe, MWh, MWt—see megawatt
- > myalgic encephalitis—some groups prefer myalgic encephalopathy, so follow usage
- > Myanmar—follow usage; don't correct to Burma; use Burma in titles; qv Burma
- > mydata—midata is the programme giving consumers access to their personal data
- > Myners, Paul—2001 report on institutional investment
- > myplace initiative—aims to provide world-class youth facilities
- > myriad—there are myriad solutions; not “a myriad of solutions”
  
- > n—let us take n apples; the nth degree;
- > NACAB—National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux now Citizens Advice
- > NACC—North Atlantic Co-operation Council; now EAPC (1997); stands for Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council
- > NACODS—National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfirers
- > Nacro—do not expand to the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
- > NACVS—National Association of Councils for Voluntary Service now National Association for Voluntary and Community Action NAVCA
- > NAFO—1. Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation  
2. National Association of Fire Officers, which is now the National Association of Healthcare Fire Officers
- > NAFTA—North American free trade agreement
- > Nagorno-Karabakh—largely Armenian enclave within Azerbaijan; locally called Artsakh
- > NAHT—National Association of Head Teachers
- > naive, naively, naiveté, naivety [no diaeresis]
- > Najaf—Iraqi city, not “an-Najaf” etc.
- > NALGO—National and Local Government Officers Association; now Unison
- > name—1. plural surnames: keep up with the Joneses; the Davises have moved;  
2. with initials: W.G. Grace (no space between initials)  
3. Lloyd's names; he is a name
- > named day question—a written question tabled for answer on a specific day
- > nano—SI prefix denoting one thousand millionth ( $10^{-9}$ )
- > nanogram—2 nanograms
- > nanometre—2 nanometres

- >nanosecond—2 nanoseconds;
- >NAO—National Audit Office
- >NAPF—National Association of Pension Funds
- >NAPO—National Association of Probation Officers is now just Napo
- >Napoleonic
- >NASDAQ—don't expand; US high-tech stocks market; was  
National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations
- >NAS—National Apprenticeship Service
- >NASS—National Asylum Support Service
- >NASUWT—don't expand to National Association of Schoolmasters Union of  
Women Teachers; gen. secy Chris Keates; previously Eamonn O'Kane, Nigel  
de Gruchy
- >NATE—National Association for the Teaching of English
- >NATFHE—now University and College Union; previously the University and  
College Lecturers Union, although NATFHE initials retained. They stood  
for National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education but we  
just used NATFHE
- >National AIDS Trust
- >National Air Traffic Services—NATS
- >National and Local Government Officers Association—now Unison;
- >National Apprenticeship Service
- >National Army Museum
- >National Asthma Campaign now Asthma UK
- >National Asylum Support Service
- >National Association for Special Educational Needs—NASEN
- >National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
- >National Association for the Teaching of English
- >National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux—uses Citizens Advice as its  
“operating name”
- >National Association of Councils for Voluntary Service— now National  
Association for Voluntary and Community Action NAVCA supports local  
CVS; helps with new deals, HAZs etc
- >National Association of Healthcare Fire Officers—part of Amicus
- >National Association of Governors and Managers—the NAGM (educ.), now the  
National Governors Association
- >National Association of Head Teachers—the NAHT  
general secretary: Russell Hobby; formerly Mick Brookes, David Hart
- >National Association of Pension Funds
- >National Association of Probation Officers – now just Napo
- >National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers—see  
NASUWT [no need to expand]
- >National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education—now  
University and College Union. Previously the University and College  
Lecturers Union, although NATFHE initials retained.
- >National Asthma Campaign now Asthma UK
- >National Audit Office—works under Comptroller and Auditor General with Public  
Accounts Committee on financial operations of Government and many bodies

in receipt of public funds. Set up under National Audit Act 1983. Replaced Exchequer and Audit Department. Don't confuse with Audit Commission

- >National Blood Authority—oversees National Blood Service
- >National Blood Service
- >National Cancer Alliance
- >National Care Homes Association
- >National Careers Service
- >National Childminding Association; changed its name to Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years (PACEY)
- >National Children's Home—now Action for Children, but also see NCH
- >National Citizen Service—aims to improve the skills of teenagers
- >National Clinical Assessment Authority—now National Clinical Assessment Service est 2001; oversees doctors' performance
- >National Coal Board [defunct]
- >National College for Teaching and Leadership—was the National College for School Leadership
- >National Consumer Council now Consumer Futures
- >National Council for Careers now National Careers Council
- >National Council for Civil Liberties—now called Liberty
- >National Council for Education and Training for Wales—& see ELWa now defunct
- >National Council for Educational Excellence
- >National Council for One Parent Families—now Gingerbread
- >National Council for Vocational Qualifications—ended 1997; see QCA
- >National Council for Voluntary Organisations
- >National Crime Agency—established 2013
- >National Crime Squad 1998-2006, when it merged to become part of SOCA
- >National Criminal Intelligence Service—["en-siss"]; became part of SOCA, which in turn became NCAA
- >National Criminal Justice Board—est 2003, Ministers & top civil servants
- >National Cyber Force
- >National Dairy Council—this is correct title, despite its logo
- >national debt
- >National Economic Development Council—Neddy; abolished 1992
- >National Economic Development Office—abolished 1992
- >National Employment Panel—NDPB, was new deal task force
- >National Employment Savings Trust—NEST
- >National Employers Liaison Committee—re TA, reserves NOW SaBRE Support for Britain's Reservists & Employers
- >National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts, NESTA—now Nesta
- >National Energy Action—charity aiming to eradicate fuel poverty
- >national executive committee—lc for Labour party and all others
- >National Exhibition Centre—near Birmingham
- >National Fallen Stock Company
- >National Farmers Union—don't add "of England and Wales" unless context is unclear; NFU Wales is a region hereof and see also under FUW
- >National Farmers Union of Scotland
- >National Federation of Fish Friers

- >National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations
- >National Federation of Retail Newsagents
- >National Federation of SubPostmasters—NFSP
- >National Federation of Women's Institutes
- >national focus for chemical incidents
- >National Forest Company—Govt-run scheme to create woodland
- >National Front
- >NFSP—National Federation of SubPostmasters
- >National Galleries of Scotland
- >National Gallery
- >national grid—electricity transmission
- >National Grid Company—set up in 1990 now part of National Grid plc
- >national grid for learning—DFES internet education resource
- >national health service, the health service, the NHS
  - NB – see also under NHS (NHS executive, NHS Direct etc)
- >National Highways—formerly Highways England; don't confuse with highways authorities
- >National Infrastructure Commission; chair: Lord Adonis
- >National Institute for Biological Standards and Controls
- >National Institute for Health and Care Excellence—still to be known as NICE
- >National Institute of Adult Continuing Education—NIACE
- >National Institute of Economic and Social Research
- >National Institute of Mental Health
- >National Library of Scotland
- >National Library of Wales
- >national loans fund
- >national lottery
- >National Lottery Charities Board—the NLCB; now Community Fund
- >National Lottery Commission—Oflot to 1999; oversees lottery
- >National Lottery Community Fund, formerly the Big Lottery Fund
- >national lottery distribution fund—holds money raised by sale of lottery tickets until required by the lottery distributing bodies
- >National Lottery etc. Act 1993—set up national lottery
- >National Memorial Arboretum
- >National Museums Scotland—runs six museums
- >National Nursery Education Board—NNEB; see CACHE
- >National Offender Management Service—unified Prison Service and probation service; chief exec. Michael Spurr; was Phil Wheatley, formerly Martin Narey; replaced by Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service in 2017
- >national park—Lake District national park, Peak District national park
- >national park authority—Lake District national park authority etc
- >National Patient Safety Agency—defunct, with functions transferred to NHS Commissioning Board Special Health Authority
- >National Pensioners Convention—gen secy, Dot Gibson; formerly Joe Harris; luminaries Rodney Bickerstaffe, Jack Jones
- >national planning policy framework
- >National Playing Fields Association—now Fields in Trust

- >National Police Chiefs' Council
- >National Policing Board
- >National Policing Improvement Agency—now defunct
- >National Power—privatised electricity company, split up in 2000 to form Innogy and International Power—now RWE npower
- >National Probation Service—child agency of Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service
- >national qualifications—replacing present exams in Scotland
- >National Quality Board—chair, David Nicholson; sets benchmarks for improving the health service
- >National Radiological Protection Board - defunct
- >National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education—NRC
- >National Rivers Authority—Environment Agency since 1996
- >National Schizophrenia Fellowship—working name: Rethink
- >National Security Adviser—Sir Mark Sedwill, as of April 2017, previously Sir Mark Lyall Grant; Kim Darroch; Sir Peter Ricketts
- >NSC—National Security Council
- >National Security Secretariat
- >National Security Council—established May 2010; chaired by PM to oversee all aspects of Britain's security; National Security Adviser: Sir Mark Lyall Grant
- >national socialism—see Nazi
- >National Society for Epilepsy
- >National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
- >national statistician—John Pullinger; replaced Jil Matheson (one I in Jil); formerly Karen Dunnell, Len Cook
- >National Statistics—now UK Statistics Authority Govt stats organisation, launched 2000, includes Office for National Statistics
- >National Theatre
- >national training organisations—more than 70; lc: Gas Industry national training organisation; uc if they have a gimmicky moniker: Healthwork UK
- >National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse; now part of Public Health England
- >National Trust
- >National Trust for Scotland
- >National Union of Journalists
- >National Union of Knitwear, Footwear and Apparel Trades—KFAT now part of Community
- >National Union of Marine, Aviation and Shipping Transport Officers now Nautilus International
- >National Union of Mineworkers
- >National Union of Public Employees—now Unison
- >National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers—RMT will do
- >National Union of Students—the NUS
- >National Union of Teachers—the NUT; general secretary: Christine Blower; was Doug McAvoy
- >National Wind Power—part of Innogy, which is now RWE npower
- >nationalist—Scottish nationalist, Welsh nationalist; in NI: the nationalists;

- >nationwide
- >NATO—don't expand; North Atlantic Treaty Organisation; not "Nato"  
Secretary-General: Jens Stoltenberg; was Anders Fogh Rasmussen; formerly Jaap de Hoop Scheffer; Lord (George) Robertson
- >NATO Parliamentary Assembly—was North Atlantic Assembly
- >NATO-Russian Permanent Joint Council—the PJC has been replaced by NATO-Russia Council
- >NATS—do not expand; before privatisation, it was National Air Traffic Services
- >Natural Capital Committee
- >Natural England—new name for English Nature
- >Natural Environment Research Council
- >nature—sometimes dispensable. For  
"The amendments are technical in nature," try:  
"The amendments are technical."
- >*Nature*
- >Nature Conservancy Council—became English Nature 1991
- >naught—means "nothing", as in "come to naught"; nought means "zero", as in "a  
one with six noughts after it."
- >nautical mile—2,025 yards; see knot
- >naval, royal naval
- >Navy—uc when it means the Royal Navy; naval, royal naval foreign navies are lc:  
US navy, French navy; our merchant navy is uc, others are lc;
- >Nazi—Nazi party; Nazis; Nazism; denazification;
- >NBC—nuclear, biological and chemical
- >NBS—1. National Blood Service  
2. National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for Scotland  
[abolished 2002]
- >NCA—National Cancer Alliance
- >NCAA—National Clinical Assessment Authority; now National Clinical Assessment Service
- >NCB—National Coal Board [defunct]
- >NCC—National Consumer Council; now Consumer Futures
- >NCCL—National Council for Civil Liberties; now called Liberty
- >NCH—now Action for Children was NCH Action for Children 1994-2001, was National Children's Home to 1994
- >NCIS—National Criminal Intelligence Service defunct, became part of SOCA and then NCA
- >NCJB—National Criminal Justice Board
- >NCS—1. National Crime Squad Defunct, becoming part of SOCA  
2. National Citizen Service
- >NCVO—National Council for Voluntary Organisations
- >NDA—Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
- >NDDP—new deal for disabled people
- >NDPB—non-departmental public body
- >Neale analysis—of reading ability
- >neanderthal

- >near east
- >near to—try “near”: “It is near Bristol” is better than “It is near to Bristol.”
- >NEA—new enterprise allowance (no “the”)
- >Neave, Rikki—abused child, 1996
- >NEC—1. national executive committee (usually of the Labour party)
  2. National Exhibition Centre (near Birmingham)
  3. network enabled capability [MOD]
  4. National Extension College
- >NEDC—National Economic Development Council [1962-92]
- >Neddy—the NEDC
- >NEDO—National Economic Development Office [1962-92]
- >NEET—not in education, employment or training; plural—NEETs
- >NEF—New Economics Foundation
- >negative procedure—for delegated legislation
 

Powers provided for by primary legislation. The Govt can take the powers unless the House disagrees. The motion to annul or revoke the powers is moved by the Oppn, often after they have come into force. There is no obligation to debate a motion under the negative procedure. See also “prayer”.
- >Negroponte, John—US diplomat, active in central America (1980s), UN & Iraq
- >neither—takes singular; see either
- >neither...nor—follow same rules as for either...or
- >NELC—National Employers Liaison Committee now SaBRE Support for Britain’s Reservists & Employers
- >NEMA—Nottingham East Midlands airport
- >nem. con.—with no objections (ergo not necessarily unanimous);
 

“It passed nem. con”; From nemine contradicente
- >neo-con/ neo-conservative
- >neonatal
- >NEPAD—New Partnership for Africa’s Development
- >Nepal—was the Kingdom of Nepal, but the monarchy was dissolved in 2008; the kingdom; cap: Kathmandu
 

Head of State: Ram Baran Yadav (the country’s first President)  
 Prime Minister: Sushil Koirala; previous PMs have included Pushpa Kamal Dahal (‘Prachandra’)  
 CPN – Communist party of Nepal; CPN (Maoist)  
 NCP – Nepali Congress party  
 panchayat system – partyless government [panchayat = ‘village council’]  
 Pratinidhi Sabha – House of Representatives  
 Rashtriya Sabha – National Assembly  
 Sher Bahadur Deuba was Prime Minister until sacked by king in 2005  
 UML – Communist party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist)  
 King Birendra, Queen Aishwarya killed by Prince Dipendra in 2001.
- >nephrops—shrimps etc
- >NERC—Natural Environment Research Council
- >nerve-racking [not “wracking”]

- >NES—NHS Education for Scotland [NDPB]
- >NEST—National Employment Savings Trust
- >NESTA—National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts; est 1998; doles out lottery dosh
- >Nestle—use Nestlé
- >net zero emissions
- >NETA—new electricity trading arrangements; est 2001
- >Netherlands, the—  
King: Willem-Alexander succeeded Queen: Beatrix
- >network enabled capability—MOD project
- >Network Rail—took over Railtrack 3.10.02; chair is Richard Parry-Jones, chief executive is Mark Carne; previous bosses have included John Armitt and Iain Coucher
- >neutral—hyphenated as suffix: revenue-neutral
- >nevertheless—1 word, unlike “none the less”
- >“never events”—medical mistakes that should never happen
- >new build—no hyphens; new build housing
- >New Decade, New Approach—agreement to restore devolved government to Northern Ireland in 2020
- >new deal—whether FDR or new Labour
- >new deal 50-plus
- >New Economics Foundation
- >New Forest
- >new Labour
- >New Opportunities Fund—est 1998; lottery dosh for education, health & environment good causes; Jun 04, became Big Lottery Fund
- >New Partnership for Africa’s Development—not “African”
- >New Policy Institute
- >New Schools Network—give advice to potential providers
- >*New Scientist*
- >New Scotland Yard
- >*New Statesman*
- >New Testament
- >new year—new year’s day, new year’s eve, the new year
- >*New York Times, The*
- >*New Yorker, The*
- >new-found (adj)
- >*News, The*—[Portsmouth]
- >News International—main UK subsidiary of News Corporation Ltd.; owns *The Sun, The Times* etc
- >*News Letter*—[Belfast]
- >*News of the World*
- >news programmes—Scotland: “North Tonight” “Frontline Scotland”
- >NewBuy—mortgage scheme for new home buyers
- >newspapers and periodicals—check and italicise titles; it’s ok to use formulations such as “in a *Guardian* interview” or “in the *Glasgow Herald*”, but

watch out for a/the in titles. Use the same style—italics—for online publications.

- >Newspeak
- >*Newsweek*
- >newton—SI unit of force; with figures: 1 newton; 25 newtons
- >Newton committee—privy counsellor review committee of Anti-terrorism, Crime Security Act 2001
- >Newtownabbey—NI, one word with –town, not –ton
- >Next Steps accommodation programme—follow-up to the Everyone In initiative to tackle homelessness during covid-19
- >Nexus—Tyne and Wear passenger transport executive
- >NF—National Front
- >NFFO—1. National Federation of Fishermen’s Organisations  
2. non-fossil fuel obligation [“noffo”]
- >NFSCo—National Fallen Stock Company
- >NFSP—National Federation of SubPostmasters
- >NFU—National Farmers Union
- >NGOs—non-governmental organisations
- >NH90—joint venture European military helicopter; Westland involved
- >NHS—national health service; no need to expand
- >NHS Appointments Commission—now called the Appointments Commission
- >NHS beacons—NHS swots
- >NHS Choices—information service providing advice on healthcare
- >NHS Commissioning Board—est. October 2011 but now called NHS England
- >NHS Confederation—trusts & health authorities
- >NHS Direct—defunct helpline; now 111
- >NHS Direct Online
- >NHS Education for Scotland—an NDPB
- >NHS England and NHS Improvement—now a single organisation; follow usage where Ministers/Members say “NHS England and Improvement”
- >NHS Estates—Executive agency
- >NHS Evidence—web-based portal providing info’ on clinical and non-clinical best practice
- >NHS executive—the part of the DOH that runs the NHS; its eight executive regions are now four DHSCs
- >NHS Future Forum
- >NHS Improving Quality—NHS IQ
- >NHS Information Authority—defunct
- >NHS LIFT—local improvement finance trust; PPP initiative
- >NHS Litigation Authority—visit its welcoming website
- >NHS Logistics Authority—est 2000; now NHS Supply Chain
- >NHS plan—10-year plan, 2000;
- >NHS Pensions Agency—Executive agency
- >NHS Professionals—supplies NHS temps
- >NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency—defunct Executive agency, now NHS Supply Chain
- >NHS regional offices—see NHS executive

- >NHS Shared Business Services—Department of Health partnership with Sopra Steria to deliver NHS corporate services
- >NHS Test and Trace—Test and Trace also acceptable; but general references to test and trace, track and trace, etc, lower case
- >NHS tribunal
- >NHS Trust Development Authority
- >NHS trusts—intr. 1990; groups of hospitals and/or services; titles: Brighton Health Care NHS Trust; the trust;
- >NHS university—launched, Oct 2001 abolished 2005
- >NHSIA—NHS Information Authority now defunct
- >NIACE—National Institute of Adult Continuing Education
- >NIACRO—Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
- >NICs—national insurance contributions
- >NICSA—Northern Ireland Child Support Agency—defunct
- >NICE—National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; was National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
- >NICEM—Northern Ireland Council for Ethnic Minorities
- >NICCEA—see CCEA
- >NICIE—Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education
- >NIESR—National Institute of Economic and Social Research
- >Nigeria—pres. Goodluck Jonathan; previously Umaru Yar’ Adua; previous incumbents include Olusegun Obasanjo and Sani Abacha
- >nightclub
- >NIHE—Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- >NIHRC—Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
- >NII—nuclear installations inspectorate [part of HSE]
- >nimby, nimbys, nimbyism—derived from “not in my back yard” but no longer requires expansion; not “NIMBY”.
- >NIMH—National Institute of Mental Health
- >Nimrod MRA4—maritime patrol aircraft; was Nimrod 2000; other variants: R1P, MR2, MR2P
- >Nine Counties—Ulster traditionally had nine, but is now the Six Counties. Follow member’s usage
- >nine-to-five—he works nine-to-five, a nine-to-five job
- >nineteen—1922 committee: all Tory Back Benchers are members; organises leadership elections etc.
- >NIPEC—Northern Ireland Practice and Education Council for Nursing and Midwifery
- >Nirex—advice etc. on disposal of radioactive waste
- >NIRS2—national insurance recording system
- >nirvana
- >NISRA—Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
- >nit-picking
- >NITeworks—network integration test and experimentation works [MOD]
- >nitrate directive—91/676/EEC
- >NIWC—see Northern Ireland Women’s Coalition;
- >NLF—national loans fund

- >NMC—Nursing and Midwifery Council
- >NMD—national missile defence [US son of star wars]
- >NNDR—national non-domestic rate (or rates) [now FGA]
- >NNEB—National Nursery Examination Board; now CACHE; the qualification will linger
- >no—1. “The answer is no.” The Irish voted no.  
2. In Divisions: the No Lobby, the Noes
- >No.—our No. 1 priority; No. 10 is unhappy [ie Downing street]
  
- >no-confidence motion; motion of no confidence
- >no-deal Brexit; without a backstop, there would be no deal
- >no-go—“That is no-go.”, a no-go area
- >non-doms
- >no one—not “no-one”
- >no win, no fee—no win, no fee arrangement
- >No to AV campaign—although its interim website also refers to NO2AV
- >Nobel prize
- >noble—“my noble Friend Lord Muck” suffices; no commas, no need to add right hon., learned etc.;
- >NOF—New Opportunities Fund; from Jun 04 Big Lottery Fund
- >Nolan Committee—see Committee on Standards in Public Life
- >NOMS—National Offender Management Service; replaced by Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service in 2017
- >non—as a prefix, hyphenated (except nonconformism)
- >non-fossil fuel obligation—[“noffo”]; replaced by renewables obligation
- >non-proliferation; the non-proliferation treaty is formally the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons
- >non-profit-making
- >non-refoulement—principle that refugees should not be sent back to face danger to their life or liberty
- >non-state actors—eg terrorist groups, parties to a civil war
- >non-U
- >nonconformism, nonconformist, nonconformity—the nonconformist Churches
- >none the less—three words, unlike nevertheless
- >NORDCAPS—don’t expand to Nordic co-ordinated arrangement for military peace support; est 1997 by Norway, Sweden, Finland & Denmark to run their contributions to peacekeeping ops.
- >Nordic Council—Scandinavian countries
- >north—the north (whether it means northern England, the northern hemisphere or the north of Ireland); north of the border; uc for councils: North Yorkshire
- >North America, South America (continents), but central America (region)
- >North American free trade agreement—not “association”
- >north Atlantic, north Atlantic alliance
- >North Atlantic Assembly—now NATO Parliamentary Assembly
- >North Atlantic Co-operation Council—now EAPC
- >North Atlantic Council—highest authority in NATO
- >North Circular Road

- >North East assembly [not “regional”]; see also One NorthEast defunct
  - >North Hoyle—Welsh wind farm
  - >North Ossetia—cap. Vladikavkaz; see Beslan
  - >North report—Peter North, 1997 on NI parades
  - >North sea
  - >north Wales—but North Wales police
  - >north-east—hyphenated and lc: the north-east
  - >North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission—NEAFC
  - >north-south divide etc (but North South Ministerial Council)
  - >North/South Language Body—NSMC implementation body;
    - under which are: Irish Language Agency; Ulster-Scots Agency
  - >North South Ministerial Council—est 1999; brings together Ministers from Northern Ireland Executive and Irish Govt; has six implementation bodies;
  - >north-west—hyphenated and lc: the north-west; some bodies insist on North West, under which qv
  - >*Northern Echo, The*
  - >Northern Ireland—follow Members’ usage: the north; the Province; the Six Counties; Ulster; the north of Ireland
  - >Northern Ireland Act 1998, 2000—devolution
  - >Northern Ireland Assembly—the Assembly; Stormont
 

First Minister	1998-2002	David Trimble
	2007-2008	Ian Paisley
	2008-2016	Peter Robinson
	2016	Arlene Foster
Deputy First Minister	1998-2001	Seamus Mallon
	2001-2002	Mark Durkan
	2007-	Martin McGuinness
- Its Ministers, Members, Committees, Speaker, Executive and Departments are all uc: Minister of Education; Education Department; its Acts must be checked and dated

List of Departments as of March 2015:

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
 Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure  
 Department of Education  
 Department for Employment and Learning  
 Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment  
 Department of the Environment  
 Department of Finance and Personnel  
 Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety  
 Department of Justice  
 Department for Regional Development  
 Department for Social Development  
 Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister; OFMDFM

- >Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders; NIACRO

- >Northern Ireland Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux; now Citizens Advice Bureaux Northern Ireland
- >Northern Ireland Audit Office; Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland is Keiran Donnelly
- >Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- >Northern Ireland Child Support Agency; now Child Maintenance Service
- >Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY)
- >Northern Ireland Council for Ethnic Minorities
- >Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education;
- >Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment—the CCEA,
- >Northern Ireland Court Service; now Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service
- >Northern Ireland Economic Council—used to advise Secy of State
- >Northern Ireland Electricity—was owned by Viridian; formerly Northern Ireland Electricity Service until privatised in 1993; now owned by EBS
- >Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Acts—the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act was first enacted in 1973, amended by the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) (Amendment) Act 1975; there were further Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Acts in 1978, 1987, 1991, 1996 and 1998; each repealed its predecessor, except the 1998 one which only modified it  
Known as the EPA but can also be included in general references to the PTA or prevention of terrorism Act; see also PTA  
The EPA and PTA were repealed by the Terrorism Act 2000
- >Northern Ireland Executive
- >Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- >Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission—until 1999, the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights; chief commissioner was Monica McWilliams; formerly Professor Brice Dickson; now Les Allamby
- >Northern Ireland (Location of Victims' Remains) Act 1999
- >Northern Ireland Parliament—the old Stormont until 1972; its Acts should be checked and dated, its Ministers etc uc
- >Northern Ireland Police Fund—looks after officers who are victims of terrorism; set up after Steele report in 2000
- >Northern Ireland Policing Board—replaced Police Authority for Northern Ireland, Nov 2001; the Policing Board; the board; ch. Anne Connolly was Sir Desmond Rea
- >Northern Ireland Practice and Education Council for Nursing and Midwifery
- >Northern Ireland Prison Service—Executive agency, Department of Justice
- >Northern Ireland Railways; now NI Railways
- >Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency;
- >Northern Ireland Tourist Board—the NITB; now Tourism Northern Ireland
- >Northern Ireland Water Council—the NIWC
- >Northern Ireland Women's Coalition—the Women's Coalition is ok. Disbanded 2006
- >Northern Irish—okay if said by Member, but don't put these words in their mouth

- >northern powerhouse
- >Northern Powerhouse Rail—also known as High Speed 3
- >Northern Research Group—Northern Conservative Back Benchers group
- >Northern Way—in quotes, please: “The Northern Way” [ODPM strategy, 2004]
- >Northstead—steward of the Manor of Northstead = Chiltern hundreds
- >Northumbrian Water
- >Norway plus, Norway-plus option
- >Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation
- >Northwest Development Agency is now defunct
- >Norwich Pharmacal order—court order for the disclosure of documents or information
- >Norwood, Melita—KGB mole, code name: HOLA
- >nosey
- >notspots—areas that don’t receive broadband
- >not-too-distant future
- >notes on clauses—background info on legislation, now usually called explanatory notes
- >notice paper—another term for the amendment paper
- >nought—means “zero”, as in “a one with six noughts after it.” Naught means “nothing” as in “come to naught.”
- >Novichok
- >NOx—oxides of nitrogen
- >NPC—National Pensioners Convention
- >NPD—national probation directorate
- >NPI—New Policy Institute
- >NPIs—non-pharmaceutical interventions
- >NPIA—National Policing Improvement Agency now defunct
- >npower—retail arm of RWE npower, formerly Innogy
- >NPS—National Probation Service
- >NPSA—National Patient Safety Agency defunct, with functions transferred to NHS Commissioning Board Special Health Authority.
- >NPT—non-proliferation treaty; full title: treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons
- >NRA— 1. national record of achievement; (students)  
2. National Rifle Association; US pro-gun lobby
- >NRF—NATO response force
- >NRPB—National Radiological Protection Board now defunct
- >NS—National Statistics
- >NSA—nitrate-sensitive area; now called NVZ nitrate-vulnerable zones
- >NS&I—National Savings & Investments
- >NSD—nuclear safety directorate; now under Office for Nuclear Regulation
- >NSFs—national service frameworks [NHS targets etc]
- >NSMC—North South Ministerial Council
- >NSPCC—National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
- >NTA—National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse; now part of Public Health England
- >ntl—communications company; merged with Telewest

- >NTOs—national training organisations; replaced by sector skills councils c. 2001
  - >Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
  - >nuclear installations inspectorate [not “industries” or “industry”]; now part of Office for Nuclear Regulation
  - >nuclear power stations—Berkeley; Bradwell; Calder Hall; Chapelcross; Dungeness; Eggborough; Hartlepool; Heysham 1 & 2; Hinkley Point A & B; Hunterston; Maentwrog; Oldbury; Penrhos; Sizewell A & B; Torness; Trawsfynydd; Wylfa;
  - >nuclear safety directorate—now part of Office for Nuclear Regulation
  - >Nuffield Council on Bioethics
  - >Nuffield Foundation
  - >Nuffield Health—runs lots of Nuffield hospitals
  - >Nuffield Trust—omit “for Research and Policy Studies in Health”
  - >NUJ—National Union of Journalists
  - >NUM—National Union of Mineworkers
  - >NUMAST—National Union of Marine, Aviation and Shipping Transport Officers now Nautilus International
  - >NUPE—National Union of Public Employees now part of Unison
  - >number—1. a number of people (things, problems, any plural)...are
    2. There are a number of people who could benefit.
    3. There is a large and growing number of volunteers.  
If you can substitute “some” or “many”, it’s going to be plural.
    4. see figures
  - >number one—use No. 1: “Our No. 1 priority...”
  - >Nuremberg—not -burg
  - >Nursing & Midwifery Council—replaced UKCC, 1.4.02
  - >*Nursing Times*
  - >NUS—National Union of Students
  - >NUT—National Union of Teachers
  - >NUTS—nomenclature of units for territorial statistics; NUTS 1, NUTS 2, NUTS 5; let euphony be your guide when it comes to expansion
  - >NVQ—national vocational qualification
  - >NVZ—nitrate-vulnerable zone
- 
- >O-grade—Scottish exam pass;
  - >O-level; A-level; O and A-level; A and O-level
  - >OAPEC—Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries; not same as OPEC;
  - >OAS—Organisation of American States
  - >Oath of Allegiance—the Oath; MPs have to take it before they can take their seats; they can affirm or swear on the Bible
  - >OAU—Organisation of African Unity; disbanded 2002 and replaced with African Union (AU)
  - >objective 1—EU aid to poor regions; objective 2, 3, 5b
  - >OBR—Office for Budget Responsibility
  - >*Observer, The*
  - >Occam’s razor—after William of Occam. The principle that “no more things should

- be presumed to exist than are absolutely necessary,” ie cut the inessential
- >OCCAR—Organisation for Joint Armament Co-operation; (in European defence procurement)
  - >occasion—try “often” for “on many occasions”.
  - >Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority; replaced by the Pensions Regulator in 2005
  - >Occupied Palestinian Territories—following usage of FCO and UN, but occupied territories
  - >ocean—lc: Atlantic ocean
  - >Ocelot—replaced Snatch Land Rover in 2010
  - >OCHA—Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs [
  - >OCPA—Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments
  - >OCR—1. OCR is ok; Oxford, Cambridge and RSA Examinations  
2. optical character recognition
  - >OCSIA—Office of Cyber Security and Information Assurance
  - >OCTF—Organised Crime Task Force
  - >OCU—operational conversion unit
  - >ODA—1. official development assistance  
2. Overseas Development Administration [DFID’s predecessor 1970 to 1997]
  - >ODCCP—Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention [UN]; renamed United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in 2002
  - >odds—10:1
  - >ODI—1. Overseas Development Institute  
2. Office for Disability Issues
  - >ODPM—what was the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (until 2006)
  - >OECD—no need to expand; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
  - >OEIC—open-ended investment company
  - >OELS—organic entry level stewardship
  - >of the order of—try “about”
  - >Ofcom—media regulator
  - >ofex—off-exchange market
  - >off message—he is off message; an off-message speech
  - >off-licence
  - >OFFA—Office for Fair Access [higher ed.]
  - >Offa’s Dyke
  - >Offer—Office of Electricity Regulation; merged into Ofgem in 1999
  - >Office for Budget Responsibility—chair Robert Chote (2010- ); formerly Sir Alan Budd
  - >Office for Civil Society—replaced Office of the Third Sector in 2010; part of Cabinet Office
  - >Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention—UN (est 1997); renamed United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in 2002
  - >Office for Fair Access— [higher ed.] director of fair access
  - >Office for Life Sciences
  - >Office for the Internal Market
  - >Office for National Statistics—the ONS; not “of”; 1996 merger of CSO and OPCS;

- part of National Statistics from 2000
- >Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs—OCHA; UN body; previously Department of Humanitarian Affairs
- >Office for Students, OfS
- >office for the supervision of solicitors—part of Law Society; defunct
- >Office for Veterans' Affairs
- >office holder
- >Office of Cyber Security and Information Assurance
- >Office of Fair Trading; closed 2014; responsibilities passed to CMA, FCA, etc
- >Office of Climate Change—worked across Government
- >Office of Electricity Regulation—merged into Ofgem in 1999
- >Office of Gas and Electricity Markets—Ofgem will do
- >Office of Government Commerce—Exec agency for purchasing; may try to call itself: OGCBuying.solutions; try to ignore this; closed 2011
- >Office of Passenger Rail Franchising—Opraf; replaced by SRA in 2001; SRA abolished in 2006
- >Office of Population Censuses and Surveys—ONS since 1996
- >Office of Public Services Reform; established 2001; closed 2005
- >Office of Rail and Road—formerly the Office of Rail Regulation
- >Office of Science and Technology—part of BERR, not same as POST; OST closed 2007
- >Office of Surveillance Commissioners (OSC)—surveillance commissioners
- >Office of Tax Simplification (OTS)—led by Michael Jack and John Whiting since 2010
- >Office of Telecommunications—Ofcom will do; duties transferred to Ofcom in 2003
- >Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments—the Commissioner for Public Appointments; proposed candidate for commissioner: Peter Riddell. Formerly: Sir David Normington (2011-16); Janet Gaymer and Dame Rennie Fritchie
- >Office of the Deputy Prime Minister—formed 2002 from most of DTLR; succeeded in May 2006 by DCLG
- >office of the e-envoy—in Cabinet Office; replaced by e-Government Unit (eGU) in 2004, whose website closed down in 2007
- >Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC)—immigration services commissioner
- >Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland—the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland; the police ombudsman; Dr Michael Maguire 2012- ; Al Hutchinson 2007-2012; was Mrs Nuala O'Loan 2000-2007
- >Office of the Public Guardian (OPG)—was the Public Guardianship Office until 2007
- >Office of Rail and Road
- >Office of the Rail Regulator—the rail regulator, the regulator; Tom Winsor; changed to Office of Rail Regulation in 2003; chief exec, Bill Emery; name changed to Office of Rail and Road (ORR) in 2015
- >Office of the National Lottery—National Lottery Commission since 1999
- >Office of the Third Sector—replaced by Office for Civil Society in 2010

- >Officers of the House, Officials of the House
- >Official IRA—from which the Provisional IRA split in the 1960s
- >*Official Journal of the European Union*—daily publication on EU law; *Official Journal*
- >official Opposition
- >official receiver
- >*Official Report*—that's us, ie *Hansard*; the Official Reporters
- >Official Secrets Act—date problematic; don't bother to specify
- >Official Solicitor—guardian ad litem of last resort; Alastair Pitblado (2006- ); [1999-2006: Laurence Oates];
- >official Unionist party—ie the Ulster Unionist party
- >offload
- >offshore, offshoring
- >offside/onside
- >Ofgem—Office of Gas and Electricity Markets; ch: David Gray (2013- ); formerly Sir John Mogg and Callum McCarthy;
- >Oflot—became National Lottery Commission, 1998; was Office of the National Lottery
- >Ofsted—usually not necessary to expand to Office for Standards in Education, still less Office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools in England; head is chief inspector of schools: Sir Michael Wilshaw 2012-  

Stewart Sutherland	1992-1994	Chris Woodhead	1994-2000
Mike Tomlinson	2000-2002	David Bell	2002-2005
Maurice Smith	2005-2006	Christine Gilbert	2006-2012
- >Ofqual—Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation, but no need to expand
- >OFT—Office of Fair Trading; closed 2014;
- >Ofcom—Office of Telecommunications, but don't expand; duties transferred to Ofcom in 2003
- >Oftenant—Office for Tenants and Social Landlords, but don't expand; responsibilities passed to the Homes and Communities Agency in 2012
- >Ofwat—Office of Water Service, but don't expand; director general of water services
- >OGC—Office of Government Commerce; closed 2011
- >OHCHR—Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
- >ohm—SI unit of electrical resistance; symbol is  $\Omega$ , so we'll do it in full: 1 ohm; 2 ohms;
- >okay—not "OK": "That is okay, but..."
- >OIC—Organisation of the Islamic Conference; name changed to Organisation of Islamic Co-operation in 2011
- >OIEL—open individual export licence [arms]
- >OII—Oxford internet institute
- >oil-for-food programme, policy—[Iraq]; officially terminated in 2003
- >oilfield
- >oilseed rape
- >OISC—Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner
- >OLAF—don't expand to Office Européen de Lutte Anti-Fraude

- >Old Bailey, the—the central criminal court
- >old Labour
- >Old Testament
- >old-age pensioner
- >old-fashioned—“I may be old-fashioned...”
- >Olmert, Ehud, Sharon successor in Israel
- >Olympic Delivery Authority; closed 2014
- >Olympic games—Olympic movement; the Olympics; Olympic athlete; the Olympics are plural.
- >Omagh—bombed 1998; police inquiry investigated by Nuala O’Loan 2000; suspects: Colm Murphy; Michael McKeivitt; Seamus Daly; Oliver Traynor;
- >ombudsman—references to “the ombudsman” usually have the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration in mind, but “the ombudsman” will do. All the ombudsmen are lc: European ombudsman; health service ombudsman etc.  
Exception: the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland;
- >on demand/on-demand—people can watch television on demand; there has been a rise in on-demand viewing
- >online publications—italicised: *The Huffington Post*
- >on message—he is on message; an on-message speech
- >on numerous occasions—try often
- >on to—not “onto”
- >on-licence
- >on-the-runs—IRA men unable to return for fear of prison
- >ONdigital—failed terrestrial digital TV company; renamed ITV Digital but changed its name back just before bankruptcy in 2002
- >ONE—personal adviser jobs advice pilot, merging into Jobcentre Plus
- >one—for “one of the advantages”, try “one advantage”
- >one another—refers to more than two; use “each other” for two
- >One Belt, One Road—Chinese Government’s global infrastructure development policy
- >One Billion Rising—campaign to end violence against women and girls
- >one man, one vote—the one man, one vote principle; may also be “person”
- >one member, one vote—OMOV
- >one nation country; one nation Tory—no hyphen
- >One North East—RDA; RDAs abolished in 2012
- >one size fits all, a one-size-fits-all approach
- >one-eyed
- >one-in, one-out rule—refers to the regulation of business
- >one-parent benefit, one-parent families
- >one-sided
- >one-upmanship
- >ongoing
- >online
- >ONS—Office for National Statistics
- >onshore; onshoring
- >onto—always use on to

- >OPAS—Office of the Pensions Advisory Service
- >OPCS—Office of Population Censuses and Surveys; merged into ONS in 1996
- >OPEC—Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries but no need to expand
- >Open Government Partnership—representatives of 62 countries promoting transparency and accountability
- >open skies treaty—1992 NATO-Warsaw pact deal
- >Open University
- >open-and-shut
- >open-ended
- >open-cast [n, v, adj; mining]
- >open-handed
- >open-hearted
- >open-minded
- >Operation—uc before titles in police or military operations: Operation Bumblebee; Operation Desert Storm; Operation Yewtree
- >Operation Moonshot
- >Operation Moshtarak—means “together” in Dari
- >Operation Pallial—investigation into child abuse in north Wales care homes
- >Operation Newcombe—British support for the French in Mali
- >Operation Saif Sareea—in Oman, 2001; Saif Sareea 2;
- >Operation Telic—second Gulf war [supposedly “Tell everyone leave is cancelled”]
- >Opposed Private Bill Committee—one is set up for each Bill as necessary (but Committee on Unopposed Bills)
- >Opposition—the official parliamentary Opposition are uc, plural and can take “who”, “which” or “that” and have a singular attribute:  
“The Opposition, who are wrong, have changed their mind.”  
References to the concept of opposition are down:  
“When we were in opposition...the frustrations of opposition.”  
the official Opposition; Opposition Members; the Liberal Democrat  
Opposition; Leader of the Opposition; deputy Leader of the Opposition;  
loyal Opposition;
- >Opposition day
- >Opposition Whip
- >opprobrium
- >OPRA—Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority; replaced by the Pensions Regulator in 2005
- >Opraf—Office of Passenger Rail Franchising; abolished 2001; replaced by SRA in 2001; SRA abolished in 2006
- >OPSR—Office of Public Services Reform [est 2001; closed 2005]
- >opt out (v) opt-out (n and adj)—schools that opt out; opted-out schools; opting-out hospitals; Britain’s opt-out;
- >Options—“Options for Change” Defence White Paper in 1990
- >oral answer; questions for oral answer; oral question; oral questions
- >orange book Liberals—full title “The Orange Book: Reclaiming Liberalism”;  
orange bookers
- >Orange Order; Orangeman;
- >ORBAT—order of battle

- > Orcadian—inhabitant of/pertaining to the Orkneys
- > order—1. when the Chair interrupts debate, make him start by saying “Order.” Not necessary in a reply to a point of order, unless he is cutting the Member off.
  - 2. lc in references to order in the Chamber or Committee: point of order, call to order, maintain order [but Order Paper]
- > order—1. uc in full titles of delegated legislation: Anguilla (Double Taxation) (No. 2) Order 1976, but “the order”, “the 1976 order” etc
  - 2. subdivisions: article, paragraph, sub-paragraph
- > Order in Council—issued by Privy Council to deal with matters demanding immediate attention or in respect of certain administrative details under certain Acts; Order-in-Council procedure
- > Order Paper—paper with day’s House business; not the same as the amendment paper
- > Orders of the Day—an Order of the Day; second Order of the Day; no longer appears as a heading in the book
- > ordinal numbers—the first time, second time, 10th time, 15th time, 200th time
  - exception: eleventh hour
  - first, secondly, thirdly, ninthly, tenthly, fifteenthly
- > Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland; became part of Land & Property Services in 2008
- > organ grinder
- > organisation—with an s, not z, even in titles (unless in quotes)
- > Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development—OECD
- > Organisation for Joint Armament Co-operation
- > Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe
- > Organisation of African Unity—became African Union, 2002
- > Organisation of American States
- > Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC)
- > Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)
- > Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation
- > Organisation of the Islamic Conference—international body; name changed to Organisation of Islamic Cooperation in 2011
- > Organised Crime Task Force—in Northern Ireland; est 2000
- > ORHA—Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance [US Department in Iraq, 2003]
- > ORR—Office of Rail Regulation; replaced Office of the Rail Regulator, July 2004; name changed to Office of Rail and Road in 2015
- > Orthodox—uc for Christian Churches: Eastern Orthodox, Greek Orthodox etc
- > Osama bin Laden; bin Laden (killed 2011)
- > OSCE—Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe; superseded CSCE in 1994
- > Osmotherly rules—duties of civil servants in relation to Ministers
- > OSPAR—the OSPAR commission implements the convention for the protection of the marine environment of the north-east Atlantic; the OSPAR convention; signed 1992, took effect 1998
- > Osprey—vastly expensive US helicopter-cum-plane project; V-22

- >OST—Office of Science and Technology [not same as POST]; closed 2007
- >other place, the—the House of Lords
- >OTMS—over-30-months scheme [cattle]; abolished 2005
- >OTS—Office of Tax Simplification
- >Ottawa process—effort to ban land mines; Ottawa treaty
- >ounces—with figures: 6 oz; 2 lb 4 oz; 4½ oz; fluid ounces: 3 fl oz; 1 pint = 20 fl oz
- >OUP—official Unionist party [ie Ulster Unionist party]
- >out of area—hyphenated when adjectival: “If we must operate out of area...”  
but “Many out-of-area operations...”
- >out of date— hyphenated when adjectival
- >out-manoevre
- >out-patient, in-patient
- >out-turn
- >outdated
- >outer house—Court of Session, Sc.
- >outflank
- >outflow
- >outmoded
- >outperform
- >outreach
- >outsource; outsourcing
- >outstation
- >outvote
- >outwith—Scottish word meaning “outside, beyond”
- >over-20s, over-80s etc
- >over-30-months scheme, rule [cattle]; abolished 2005
- >over-ambitious
- >over-egg, over-egged, over-egging
- >over-exaggerate—but try exaggerate
- >over-index, over-indexed
- >over-invest, over-investment
- >over-occupy; over-occupation
- >over-optimistic
- >over-prescribe
- >over-produce, over-production
- >over-regulate, over-regulated
- >over-represented, over-representation
- >over-sensitive
- >over-simplify
- >over-strong
- >over-subscribe
- >over-supply
- >over-zealous
- >overactive
- >overarching
- >overburden
- >overcapacity

- >overcapitalise
- >overcrowded, overcrowding
- >overdeveloped
- >overdo, overdone
- >overestimate (n and v)
- >overfishing
- >overflight, overfly
- >overground—but “We are going over ground previously covered.”
- >Overground—rail line, full title London Overground
- >overheat
- >overinsure
- >overkill
- >overlong
- >overmanned, overmanning
- >overmuch
- >overpaid
- >overpay, overpayment
- >overprice, overpriced, overpricing
- >overrate
- >overreach
- >overreact
- >override
- >overrule
- >overrun
- >overseas civil service
- >Overseas Development Administration—DFID predecessor 1970-97, part of FO
- >Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
- >oversell
- >overshoot
- >oversight
- >oversight commissioner—in NI, oversaw implementation of the Patten report;  
Office of the Oversight Commissioner; Tom Constantine 2000-03;  
Al Hutchinson 2003-2007; office ceased operation 2007
- >oversize
- >oversold
- >overstay; overstayer
- >overstretch, overstretched
- >overuse, overused
- >overvaluation
- >overvalue, overvalued
- >overview
- >overweight
- >owner-occupation—owner-occupier; owner-occupied
- >Oxbridge—relating to Oxford and Cambridge
- >Oxfam—don’t expand to Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
- >Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine; the Oxford vaccine
- >Oxford, Cambridge and RSA Examinations—see OCR

>Oxford internet institute

>*Oxford Mail*

P—mind my p's and q's

>P&O

>P2W—progress2work; funding ceased 2011

>P5—permanent members of the Security Council; P5+1—permanent members of Security Council plus Germany (re Iran)

>PAAMS—principal anti-air missile system [for Type 45]; Sea Viper since 2009

>PAC—usually means Public Accounts Committee, but may mean Public Administration Committee or Public Accounts Commission (all qv)

>PACE—1. Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

2. Parents Autism Campaign for Education [part of TreeHouse from 2005]; TreeHouse Trust renamed Ambitious About Autism in 2010 (the TreeHouse school has kept the name); (*parent patrons: John and Sally Bercow*)

>pact—lc: Warsaw pact; Lib-Lab pact (esp. 1970s arrangement that kept the minority Labour Govt in power)

>PADA—Personal Accounts Delivery Authority; wound up in 2010

>page—page 1, page 3. With amendments, we say “in page 3”; in other documents, “on page 3”; page 3 girl

>pair—Two Members agree to absent themselves if one is going to miss a vote so that

the absence is neutralised; Commons pair; pairing

>pairing Whip—arranges deals between MPs allowing them to miss votes

>palace—the Palace of Westminster; the Palace; Buckingham Palace; the palace

>Palestine—organisations: al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades;

Palestine Liberation Organisation;

Fatah; Hamas; PFLP—Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine;

PNC—Palestinian National Council [supreme organ of PLO]

## PEOPLE

Abbas, Mahmoud – Arafat's successor, also known as Abu Mazen

Abu – many Arabs take a nom de guerre; follow Member's usage

Arafat, Yasser – President Arafat, Chairman Arafat [aka Abu Amar]; died 2004

Ashrawi, Hanan

Barghouti, Marwan

Erekat, Saeb

Fayyad, Salam

Hamad, Ghazi Ahmed – Hamas

Haniya, Ismail – Hamas

Meshaal, Khaled – Hamas

Nusseibeh, Sari

Qurei, Ahmad [also known as Abu Ala]

Rantisi, Abdel Aziz – Hamas leader assassinated in 2004

Shaath, Nabil

Yassin, [Sheikh] Ahmed – Hamas leader assassinated in 2004

Zahhar, Mahmoud – Hamas

- >Palestinian Authority—not “national”; plural
- >Palmerston, Lord
- >Pals battalion—units in the first world war: Accrington Pals, Barnsley Pals
- >PALS—patient advice and liaison service [was “patient advocacy and liaison service” at first] every NHS trust has one
- >PAN—planning advice note; PAN 58
- >Panel of Chairs
- >PANI—Police Authority for Northern Ireland; became Northern Ireland Policing Board in 2001
- >Panther—Army command and liaison vehicle
- >paper—White Paper; Green Paper; Command Paper; Order Paper; notice paper; amendment paper;
- >paper chase
- >paperwork
- >PAPS—phased armaments programming system [NATO]
- >Parachute Regiment—the Parachute Regiment; 3rd Battalion, the Parachute Regiment; 3 Para; the Paras
- >Parades Commission—rules on contentious parades in NI; chairman: 1997-2000 Alastair Graham; 2000-2005 Tony Holland; Roger Poole 2006-2009; Mrs Rena Shepherd 2009-2011; Peter Osborne 2011-2013; Anne Henderson 2014- some favourites: Garvaghy Road; Drumcree; Portadown; Ormeau Road
- >Paradigm—Skynet 5 contractor; rebranded Astrium Services in 2012
- >Paralympics
- >paramedic (n) paramedical (adj)
- >paramilitary (n and adj)
- >paramountcy—not “paramouncy”
- >PARBUL—Parliamentary Broadcasting Unit Ltd; dissolved 2012
- >Parcelforce
- >parent governor
- >parent teacher association—a PTA
- >parent’s charter; introduced 1991
- >Parexel—disastrously tested TeGenero’s TGN 1412 at Northwick Park hospital, 2006
- >parish councils—lc
- >park—Sutton Park; Hyde Park; also uc for football grounds, stations etc.
- >Parkinson’s Disease Society; Parkinson’s UK since 2010
- >Parkinson’s law—work expands to fill the time available for it
- >Parliament—uc: this Parliament, Scottish Parliament, Ruritanian Parliament, foreign Parliaments
- >Parliament Acts—under the Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949, Bills rejected by the Lords become law next Session if passed again unamended by the Commons
- >Parliament First—scrutiny-minded group of MPs [est 2001]
- >Parliament house—Edinburgh, where Court of Session sits

- >parliamentarian
- >parliamentary
- >Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman—formerly Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration; the ombudsman or parliamentary ombudsman; deals with complaints about public bodies referred by Members. Not to be confused with other ombudsmen such as the European ombudsman;  
incumbent: Dame Julie Mellor 2012-; formerly Ann Abraham [2002-2012]
- >parliamentary answer
- >Parliamentary Broadcasting Unit Ltd—PARBUL; dissolved 2012
- >Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration—now Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman
- >Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards—deals with Members’ conduct and Register of Members’ Interests; the commissioner  
1995-1999 Gordon Downey 1999-2002 Elizabeth Filkin  
2002-2007 Philip Mawer 2007-2013 John Lyon  
2012 - Kathryn Hudson  
Don’t confuse with Committee on Standards in Public Life (qv)
- >parliamentary counsel—pl. and sing.; writes Bills etc
- >parliamentary draftsman—writes Bills etc
- >Parliamentary Information Technology Committee—PITCOM; merged in 2011 with all-party group on the digital economy to become the Parliamentary Internet, Communications and Technology Forum (PICTFOR)
- >parliamentary Labour party—the PLP; principal forum for Labour Back Benchers
- >Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST)
- >parliamentary ombudsman—see Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman
- >Parliamentary Private Secretary—PPS. A Back Bencher appointed to assist a Minister. Often the first step to a ministerial career.
- >parliamentary privilege—rights of Parliament and its Members, eg to regulate its proceedings, free speech, freedom from civil arrest, right to punish contempt or breach of privilege, right of access as a body to the sovereign to present an address and the right of the Commons to regulate its membership
- >parliamentary question
- >Parliamentary Works Sponsor Body—the Sponsor Body and its delivery authority
- >Parole Board—Exec NDPB since 1996
- >part—subdivision of Bill; used to have Roman numerals: part II; now usually Arabic: part 3
- >part-time—he works part time; part-timer; part-time workers;
- >partake of—not partake in; means “have some” not “take part”
- >Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council—PPARC; merged in 2007 to form Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)
- >particular—often redundant: “In this particular case...” is often better as “In this case...”
- >partnership for peace—NATO security deal with ex-Warsaw pact
- >Partnerships for Health—NHS PPP vehicle; renamed Community Health Partnerships (CHP) in 2007; a company owned by Dept of Health
- >Partnerships UK—former Treasury taskforce; 51% sold off in 2001; principal PPP

- vehicle; ceased activity 2011
- >party—Labour party, Conservative party, Tory party, Scottish National party, party politics, party leader, party conference
- >party opposite—identify said party (the Govt, Oppn, Labour etc)
- >party political—no hyphen: It is party political; a party political matter
- >pascal—1. SI unit of pressure; with figures: 25 pascals;  
2. Pascal—computer programming language
- >Passchendaele
- >passenger transport authorities—set policies for PTEs in big cities;  
PTAs renamed integrated transport authorities (ITAs) in 2008
- >passenger transport executives—runs transport for ITAs in big cities
- >passerelle clause—in EU stuff, provision for decisions requiring unanimity to be transferred to QMV in some circumstances [Fr. = “footbridge”]
- >Passport Office—HM Passport Office; passport office for the local centres
- >Passport and Records Agency included the Criminal Records Bureau and the UK Passport Service (both qv) (a short-lived arrangement)
- >passporting—qualifying for one benefit means you should get another
- >past experience—try “experience”
- >past history—try “history”
- >pasteurise
- >PAT—Professional Association of Teachers; in 2008 became Voice: the union for education professionals
- >patent/obvious—one is usually enough
- >Patent Office—comptroller-general of patents, designs and trade marks (Intellectual Property Office became operating name of Patent Office in 2007)
- >patient—patients charter, in-patient, out-patient; patient’s charter replaced by NHS constitution in 2013
- >patient and public involvement forums—renamed patients forums; replaced by LINKs in 2008 and by Healthwatch in 2013
- >patient’s passport—Tory NHS reform [2004]; proposal abandoned 2006; not to be confused with patient passports for people with learning disabilities
- >patients forums—replaced CHCs in 2003; swiftly renamed patient and public involvement forums; replaced by LINKs in 2008 and by Healthwatch in 2013
- >Patronage Secretary—the Chief Whip
- >Patten, Chris—report, commission; see independent commission on policing for Northern Ireland; use short form if possible; variously chairman of BBC Trust; chairman of the Conservative party; Governor of Hong Kong; Secretary of State for the Environment; not to be confused with John Patten
- >Paveway—smart bomb; Paveway II; GBU-12
- >pawnbroker, pawnshop
- >payday loan; payday lending
- >payout
- >PAYP—positive activities for young people
- >PAYE—pay-as-you-earn
- >Payne, Sarah—murdered child; mother Sara Payne; Sarah’s law
- >payslip

- >PBDS—prototype biological detection system; replaced by integrated biological detection system (IBDS) in 2003
- >PBR—pre-Budget report
- >PCA—Police Complaints Authority; replaced by Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) in 2004
- >PCC—Prague capabilities commitment; police and crime commissioner; Press Complaints Commission [replaced by Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) in 2014]
- >PCCG—police community consultative group
- >PCG—primary care group; PCGs replaced the NHS internal market in England in 1999; should all be PCTs by 2004; PCTs abolished 2012 and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) set up
- >PCP—police and crime panel
- >PCS—Public and Commercial Services Union; 1998 merger of CPSA & PTC; gen secretary: Mark Serwotka (2000- )
- >PCSO—police community support officer
- >PCT—1. primary care trust; replaced PCGs; commission health services; accountable to StHAs; PCTs abolished 2012 and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) set up  
2. price-competitive tendering (for legal aid contracts)
- >PDS—personal dental services
- >Peabody Trust—housing charity
- >peacebuilding, peacekeeper, peacekeeping, peacemaking
- >peacetime
- >Peak district, Peak District national park, the Peaks (meaning those in Derbyshire); the Peak park
- >PEAP—poverty eradication action plan
- >PEAT—patient environment action team; replaced by PLACE (patient-led assessments of the care environment) in 2013
- >pedal—one pedals a bike; pedalled, pedalling
- >peddle—one peddles drugs; a drug pedlar
- >peer, peerage, peeress, life peer, hereditary peer
- >Peirce, Gareth—civil rights lawyer (female)
- >Peking—follow usage
- >penal—but penology, penological
- >pence—50p; £2.50
- >Pendolino—train
- >penholder
- >peninsula—lc: Gower peninsula
- >peninsular—adj from peninsula: the Peninsular war was Wellington’s Spanish campaign
- >Pennines, the Pennine way
- >pension credit—not pensions or pensioners credit
- >Pension, Disability and Carers Service—merger of Pension Service and disability and carers service; launch 1 April 2008; demerged 2011
- >pension schemes registry—part of OPRA; OPRA replaced by Pensions Regulator in 2005

- > Pension Protection Fund—2004, for employees of insolvent companies
- > Pension Service—not “pensions”, not “The Pension Service”; subsumed into the Pension, Disability and Carers Service from 1 April 2008; resurrected as a separate entity in 2011
- > Pension Wise—Government service providing pension advice
- > pensioners’ parliament—annual conference run by National Pensioners Convention
- > Pensions Advisory Service—see OPAS; Occupational Pensions Advisory Service became TPAS in 2004
- > pensions appeal tribunal—ie war pensions; abolished 2008 and functions transferred to first-tier tribunal
- > Pensions Commission—ch: Adair Turner; pensions commissioner(s); Turner reported 2006
- > Pensions Compensation Board; replaced by fraud compensation fund in 2005
- > pensions ombudsman; Pensions Ombudsman Service
- > Pensions Regulator—not a person; chair: Mark Boyle; formerly: Michael O’Higgins
- > Pensions Policy Institute
- > Pentagon [US military]
- > People 1st—tourism sector skills council
- > People’s Mujahedeen Organisation of Iran—PMOI
- > PEP—personal equity plan; abolished 1999
- > Pepper v. Hart—case that established that Committee proceedings could be used to interpret the Government’s intentions
- > per—“a” is sometimes better: “He earns £25 a week but it costs £3 a head.”
- > percentage—1. use % sign with no space
  2. Always use figures: 1%
  3. Use 0.5% not .5%
  4. Use decimals, not fractions: 0.75%, not  $\frac{3}{4}$ %.
  5. Between 10% and 20% [not between 10 and 20%]
  6. If it’s following a figure as word at the beginning of a sentence, use per cent. Ten per cent. of the population
- > percentage points—1% and one percentage point are not the same; mistakes should be corrected where possible: If the mortgage rate is raised from 7% to 10.5%, it has risen 3.5 percentage points but by 50%.
- > performance and innovation unit—in Cabinet Office; became Prime Minister’s strategy unit from 2002 to 2010
- > perinatal
- > period—a four-year period is often better as “four years”
- > period of time—“period” or “time” will often be better
- > periodicals—italicise titles
- > Permanent Joint Headquarters—Northwood; runs military ops
- > permanent members—of the UN Security Council
- > permanent secretary—top civil servant in a Department
- > permissible
- > Personal Accounts Delivery Authority—pensions (PADA); wound up 2010 and NEST set up
- > personal Bill—poa private Bill dealing with the affairs of an individual (marriage,

- naturalisation, settling estates); originate in Lords
- >Personal Investment Authority—in FSA since 2001; FSA abolished 2013
- >Personnel and Training Command—RAF; merged with Strike Command to form Air Command in 2007
- >perspective—EU financial perspective etc.
- >PES—public expenditure survey; PES round; public expenditure system
- >peshmerga—Kurdish fighters; peshmerga are plural
- >PET—1. potentially exempt transfer [inheritance tax]  
2. positron emission tomography, but PET scan will do
- >peta—SI prefix denoting a factor of a thousand million million ( $10^{15}$ )
- >PETA—People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (US organisation)
- >Petersberg tasks—[not –burg] WEU provided EU with access to capability for peacekeeping etc; drifting EU-wards; WEU declared defunct 2011
- >petrochemicals, petrochemical industry
- >petrocurrency, petrodollar
- >petition
- >pettifogging
- >PF2—private finance 2, new approach to public-private partnerships
- >PFI—private finance initiative [not “public”]
- >PFP—partnership for peace
- >PGCE—postgraduate certificate in education
- >Phalanx—anti-aircraft gun
- >Phantom—US fighter used by RAF & FAA; no longer in service
- >PHARE—don’t expand to Poland/Hungary aid for restructuring of economies; covers other CEE countries; EU aid prog. [“fair”]
- >pharming—animals farmed for products of medical use to humans; pharmaceutical companies also like to use –pharm as a suffix
- >phase 1, phase 2 etc
- >PhD—no need to expand to doctor of philosophy; a PhD etc
- >phenomenon—pl. phenomena
- >Philippines—an inhabitant is a Filipino [pl. Filipinos, fem. Filipina(s)]  
Politicians past: Ferdinand Marcos; Imelda Marcos; Benigno Aquino Corazon (Cory) Aquino; Fidel Ramos; Joseph Estrada;  
Politicians present: Benigno Aquino III (2010- ); Gloria Macapagal Arroyo;  
Places: Manila; Subic Bay [ex US naval base]; Luzon; Sulu; Mindanao;  
Insurgents: MNLF – Moro National Liberation Front  
MILF – Moro Islamic Liberation Front
- >Philips, Cyril—1981 report; decision to prosecute removed from police
- >philistine
- >Phillips, Lord—BSE report, 2000
- >Phillips, Sir Hayden—review of party funding 2006
- >Phillis report—Bob Phillis, 2004, on Government communications
- >phishing—fraud perpetrated by eliciting personal information via e-mail etc.
- >PHLS—Public Health Laboratory Service; taken over by Health Protection Agency 2003; HPA became part of Public Health England 2013
- >PHO—public health observatory; part of Public Health England since 2013
- >Phoenix—British Army reconnaissance UAV; retired 2006

- >phone—not forbidden, but telephone is preferable in more formal contexts;  
mobile
- phone; car phone; answerphone;
- >phone hacking; phone hacking scandal
- >phoney, phoney war, phoney Tony
- >photo call, photo opportunity; photo is ok colloquially
- >photovoltaic, photovoltaics
- >phone in (v) phone-in (n)
- >phurnacite—smokeless fuel
- >Phytophthora ramorum—causes sudden oak death
- >PIA—Personal Investment Authority [now FSA]; FSA abolished 2013
- >PIC—prior informed consent [dumping pesticides etc in third world]
- >PICT—Parliamentary Information and Communications Technology; became  
    Parliamentary Digital Service (PDS) in 2015
- >pick up (v) pick-up (n & adj)
- >Pickering, Alan—2002 pensions review
- >Picketts Lock—London athletics stadium planned then ditched (2001)
- >pico—SI prefix denoting one million millionth ( $10^{-12}$ )
- >picofarad—with figures: 22 picofarads
- >pigeonhole (n and v)
- >piggyback
- >pigmeat
- >pigmy—use “pygmy”
- >PII—public interest immunity
- >pillars—all three EU pillars are lc; pillar two;
- >pillar 1, 2, 3, 4—covid-19 testing routes
- >PILOT—joint programme involving the Government and the oil and gas industry
- >PIMCO—global investment company
- >pin money
- >pinch point; pinch point funding; local pinch point fund (designed to remove  
    bottlenecks on the highway network)
- >ping-pong
- >pinprick
- >pint—with figures: 2 pints; half a pint; a half-pint; pint-sized;
- >PIP—personal independence payment; started to replace disability living  
    allowance in 2013
- >Piper Alpha—oil rig fire; Cullen inquiry 1990
- >PISA—programme for international student assessment [three-yearly OECD study]
- >pit face
- >pit pony
- >pit-prop
- >PITCOM—Parliamentary Information Technology Committee; merged in 2011  
    with all-party group on the digital economy to become the Parliamentary  
    Internet, Communications and Technology Forum (PICTFOR)
- >pithead
- >PITO—Police Information Technology Organisation; abolished 2007 and  
    subsumed into National Policing Improvement Agency; NPIA abolished

- 2013 and functions transferred to College of Policing and National Crime Agency (NCA)
- >PIU—performance and innovation unit; became Prime Minister’s strategy unit from 2002 to 2010
- >pizzazz
- >PJC—NATO-Russian Permanent Joint Council (est 1997); replaced by NATO-Russia Council (NRC) in 2002
- >PJHQ—Permanent Joint Headquarters
- >PKK—will do for Partiya Karkeren Kurdistan or Kurdistan Workers Party [Turkey; jailed ex-leader Abdullah Ocalan]
- >place—“the other place” and “another place” both mean the House of Lords
- >placeman, placemen—in 17th & 18th centuries, Members of Commons who held offices of profit under the Crown and whose independence was thus doubtful
- >Plaid Cymru—aka the Welsh National party. It refers to itself as: Plaid Cymru—the party of Wales  
Leader: Leanne Wood (2012- ); other leaders/presidents/honorary presidents: Ieuan Wyn Jones; Dafydd Wigley; Gwynfor Evans; Dafydd Iwan
- >plain—lc: Salisbury plain
- >plan—plan A; no plan B; the Marshall plan; Plan Colombia
- >plane—no need to expand to “aeroplane”
- >Planet Science—extended science year to 2002-03 (educ.)
- >planets—uc: Earth, Mars, Saturn etc; the planet Earth; the planets
- >planning advice note—PAN 58
- >Planning Advisory Service—PAS; former head: Sarah Richards (2005-2009) (LGA programme funded by DCLG)
- >Planning Inspectorate (an Executive Agency)
- >planning policy guidance—planning policy guidance note 1; PPG7; replaced by national planning policy framework (NPPF) in 2012
- >planning policy statement—planning policy statement 6; PPS6; replaced by national planning policy framework (NPPF) in 2012
- >play titles—use quotes: “Richard III”
- >playbuilders scheme—Labour Government’s plans for community playgrounds; shelved 2010
- >playground, playgroup
- >plc, plcs—no need to expand to “public limited company”; UK plc
- >Plimsoll line—mark showing safe loading level on a ship
- >PLP—parliamentary Labour party; principal forum for Labour Back Benchers
- >PLO—Palestine Liberation Organisation
- >Plymouth Brethren—the Brethren
- >PM<sub>2.5</sub>—a category of particulate pollutant in the air that is 2.5 microns or smaller
- >PMI—purchasing managers index
- >PMS—personal medical services
- >PNQ—private notice question; replaced by urgent question in 2002
- >POA—Prison Officers Association; became the Professional Trades Union for Prison, Correctional and Secure Psychiatric Workers (POA) in 2006
- >POBA—Professional Oversight Board for Accountancy; oversight carried out by

Financial Reporting Council's conduct committee since 2012

- >POCA—Post Office card account
- >point of order—1. Points of order should begin with “On a point of order, Mr Speaker [or Deputy Speaker] in the House or “On a point of order, Mr Brown [or whoever] in Committee (including Committee of the whole House). Sometimes “Further to that point of order, Mr Speaker...” is appropriate.  
2. There is no need to make the Chair say “Order” when replying to a point of order unless he is interrupting the Member concerned.  
3. Points of order are timed only after Question Time and statements.
- >point scoring
- >Polaris—Britain's nuclear deterrent before Trident
- >police—1. the police are; a police force is  
2. Lancashire police, the Metropolitan police
- >Police Act—in NI, usually means Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000
- >Police Advisory Board—no need to add “of England and Wales”
- >police authorities—lc: West Midlands police authority; authorities abolished in England and Wales and replaced by PCCs in 2012; Metropolitan Police Authority's functions transferred to Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC); Police Authority for Northern Ireland (NIPB from 2001)
- >police community support officer
- >Police Complaints Authority—replaced by Independent Police Complaints Commission [2004]
- >Police Federation—don't add “of England and Wales”
- >Police Federation for Northern Ireland—the PFNI
- >Police Information Technology Organisation; abolished 2007 and subsumed into National Policing Improvement Agency; NPIA abolished 2013 and functions transferred to College of Policing and National Crime Agency
- >Police Investigations and Review Commissioner—name for Police Complaints Commissioner for Scotland since 2012
- >Police Negotiating Board; replaced by Police Remuneration Review Body (PRRB) in 2014
- >Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland—est 2000; may be called Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland; the police ombudsman: Dr Michael Maguire (2012- ); Al Hutchinson 2007-2012; Mrs Nuala O'Loan 2000-07
- >police service—not an Executive agency
- >Police Scotland—also known as Police Service of Scotland
- >Police Service of Northern Ireland—replaced RUC 4 Nov 2001;  
Chief Constable: Ronnie Flanagan 2001-02  
Sir Hugh Orde 2002-09  
Matt Baggott 2009-2014  
George Hamilton 2014-
- >Police Service of Scotland—also known as Police Scotland; replaced existing eight forces on 1 April 2013
- >Police Superintendents Association
- >policeman; policewoman; policemen and women
- >Policing Board—see Northern Ireland Policing Board
- >policyholder

- > policymaker; policymaking
- > Polisario—Western Sahara independence movement
- > Politeia—Tory think-tank
- > political declaration—sets out the framework for the future relationship between the EU and the UK
- > politicking
- > politics—singular: “Politics is a dirty business.”
- > poll tax—popular name for community charge; poll tax payer; replaced domestic rates; replaced by council tax in 1993
- > Pollok—in Glasgow, not “Pollock”
- > polluter—the “polluter pays” principle
- > polytechnic—all seem to have rebranded: Sheffield Polytechnic became Sheffield Hallam University; “I went to poly” is ok; all granted university status 1992
- > pool betting duty
- > poor—hyphenated as suffix: the fuel-poor
- > Poor Law—uc and no need for dates
- > POPPY project—provides support to trafficked women
- > PopUp Britain—supports independent retailers, but pop-up shops
- > Porritt, Jonathon—environmentalist
- > pork barrel, pork barrelling, pork barrel politics—using Government money or law to pursue local or populist interests rather than real or national ones
- > port—lc unless part of proper name: port of London but Port of London authority; Port Talbot
- > portakabin
- > Portcullis House
- > Porterbrook—rolling stock leasing company
- > Portlaoise prison—in Ireland
- > Porton Down—UK biological and chemical warfare centre
- > Portugal—Pres: Anibal Cavaco Silva (2006- ); PM: Pedro Passos Coelho [2011- ]; former PM: Jose Socrates [2005-2011]
- > Positive for Youth policy—cross-government policy for 13 to 19-year-olds
- > POST—Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology
- > post Brexit— hyphenated as an adjective
- > post mortem—see post-mortem; usually, but not always, hyphenated
- > Post Office—uc for the organisation and its companies; the name Consignia was dropped 4 Nov 2002; people: Allan Leighton; Marisa Cassoni; Adam Crozier; David Mills; Paula Vennells
- > post office—lc for the local shop; sub-post office; sub-postmaster; post office network; Crown post office;
- > Post Office card account—POCA
- > post-mortem—hyphenated as n & adj, but not when used to mean “after death”
  1. He attended the post-mortem.
  2. A post-mortem examination
  3. An examination was conducted post mortem.
- > post-natal
- > post-war
- > Postal Services Commission—normally, use Postcomm (qv); merged into Ofcom

2011

- >postbag
- >postcard
- >postcode
- >Postcomm—in full: Postal Services Commission but Postcomm is ok; regulated postal licences, pricing under Postal Services Act 2000; merged into Ofcom 2011
- >posted workers directive; posting of workers directive (go with usage)
- >postgraduate
- >postman
- >Postwatch—full title: Consumer Council for Postal Services; Postwatch will do; est by Postal Services Act 2000 to regulate standards, complaints; until 2001, Post Office Users National Council; defunct
- >Potteries, when referring to the area
- >Potters Bar—rail crash 10.5.02
- >Poulson, John—architect in 1970s corruption case
- >POUNC—Post Office Users National Council; now Postwatch; now defunct
- >pound—the pound, pound sterling; with figures: £25; £2.50; £2.05;
- >pound—with figures: 5 lb; 6 lb 4 oz; 2½ lb
- >POVA—protection of vulnerable adults; list of those who have abused same
- >pounds per square inch—with figures: 5 psi
- >PowderJect Pharmaceuticals—chief exec: Paul Drayson until company was sold in 2003
- >power—lc: the great powers; superpower; allied powers;
- >Power report—2006 report on political participation; there is no Mr Power
- >Powergen—former privatised electricity generator; owned by Eon; acquired by E.ON 2002; E.ON Energy and Powergen brands changed to E.ON in 2007
- >powerhouse
- >PPA—Pre-School Playgroups Association; since 1995, the Pre-School Learning Alliance
- >PPARC—Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council; merged in 2007 to form Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)
- >PPF—Pension Protection Fund
- >PPG—planning policy guidance; planning policy guidance note 3; PPG3 etc; replaced by national planning policy framework (NPPF) in 2012
- >PPI—1. payment protection insurance  
2. Pensions Policy Institute  
3. producer prices index
- >PPIFs—patient and public involvement forums; first called patients forums, replaced community health councils; replaced by LINKs in 2008 and by Healthwatch in 2013
- >PPP—public-private partnership
- >PPP Healthcare—private health company; AXA PPP healthcare since 2002
- >PPP Foundation—health charity; renamed Health Foundation 2003
- >PPS—1. Parliamentary Private Secretary [MP as junior aide to Minister]  
2. planning policy statement; planning policy statement 6; PPS6; replaced by national planning policy framework (NPPF) in 2012

### 3. Public Prosecution Service [NI, est 2005]

- >PR—1. public relations
- 2. proportional representation
- >PR12—planning round 12 [defence equipment programme]
- >practice (n) practise (v)—thus: in general practice, best practice, good practice, but practised, practising
- >praetorian guard
- >Prague capabilities commitment—European NATO countries promise to upgrade
- >Pratt and Whitney—US aero-engine maker
- >prayer—a motion tabled by the Oppn praying that delegated legislation be revoked or annulled. Doesn't have to be debated unless the Govt agree. See also affirmative and negative resolution procedure.
- >Prayers—held before start of each day's House sitting
- >*Pravda*
- >PRC—1. People's Republic of China
- 2. Prudential Regulation Committee
- >preannounced—no hyphen
- >prearrange, prearranged
- >prelegislative
- >Pre-School Learning Alliance—was PPA (qv)
- >pre-war
- >precepting authority—bodies such as the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and county councils set a precept for local councils to fund them
- >precondition
- >predate—both to be earlier than and to feed upon
- >Predator—US UAV
- >predetermined
- >predilection—not “predeliction”
- >prefab
- >prefixes—general guidance offered on: ex-; non-; self-;
- >prejudge
- >premier league for the league table; Premier League for the shareholder-owned body
  - chaired by Anthony Fry (2013-2014) who took over from Sir David Richards;
  - Peter McCormick interim chair until Richard Scudamore took over in June 2015
- >premiership—lc whether it means a PM or football
- >premise—not “premiss”; pl. premises
- >premiums—pl. premiums, not premia
- >prepayment
- >prerequisite
- >prerogative—royal prerogative, the prerogative of mercy, prerogative powers
- >Presbyterian, Presbyterianism—but presbyter, presbytery
- >prescribe/proscribe—proscribe = ban; prescribe = advise
- >Prescription Pricing Authority; abolished 2006 and functions transferred to NHS Business Services Authority
- >presently—means soon, not currently

- >presidency—of EU etc; lc and singular: “The Italian presidency is...”
- >president—uc for President of a country, the European Commission or the European Parliament: President of the United States, the President, President Clinton, President of Ghana, Ghanaian President, the President
  - uc in ministerial titles: Lord President of the Council; the Lord President;
  - lc for presidents of companies, associations etc
- >President of the Board of Trade—arcane title revived by Michael Heseltine when at the DTI
- >President of the Court of Session
- >President of the European Commission—President; Jean-Claude Juncker
- >Presiding Officer—in the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Parliament [in Welsh: Llywydd]
- >press—plural or singular depending on context:
  - “The press are hounding the Prime Minister.”
  - “The press is a bulwark of democracy.”
  - The former involves a bunch of hacks, the latter an institution
- >Press Bar
- >Press Complaints Commission; replaced by Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) in 2014
- >Press Dining Room
- >Press Gallery
- >PressBoF—Press Standards Board of Finance [no need to expand]; industry-funding body financing the Press Complaints Commission; replaced by Regulatory Funding Company 2014 press recognition panel (re press regulators, eg IPSO, IMPRESS); set up 2014
- >pretensions—not pretentions
- >prevent—you stop someone doing something but prevent someone from doing it.
  - If I stop you doing it, you’ve already started it; if I prevent you from doing it, you don’t even start.
- >Prevent strategy
- >preventative—use preventive
- >prevention of terrorism Acts—see also EPA
  - The Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act was first enacted in 1974, with further versions in 1976, 1984 and 1989.
  - Each repealed its predecessor and was subject to annual review and renewal.
  - There were also the Prevention of Terrorism (Additional Powers) Act 1996 and the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989.
  - The PTA, EPA and all derivatives were repealed by the Terrorism Act 2000.
  - May be cited as: the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989; the prevention of terrorism Act; the PTA; general references include the EPA

An all-new Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005 has since appeared.
- >preventive—not “preventative”
- >price-cutting
- >PricewaterhouseCoopers—trades as PwC (since 2010)

- >Pride Month—a month (June) dedicated to celebrating LGBTQ+ communities around the world
- >primary care groups—PCGs were rapidly replaced by PCTs; replaced NHS internal market 1999; titles: Battersea primary care group; PCTs abolished 2012 and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) set up
- >primary care trusts—PCTs commission health services; answer to StHAs; in titles: Barnet primary care trust; PCTs abolished 2012 and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) set up
- >primary legislation—legislation subject to full parliamentary process, ie Bills and Acts; may authorise secondary (or delegated) legislation
- >principality—uc when it means Wales: the Principality. A term not likely to be used by nationalists, so follow Members’ usage.
- >Prime Minister—the French Prime Minister, a meeting of Prime Ministers; Prime Minister’s questions; Prime Minister’s Question Time;
- >prime ministerial
- >prince—uc with name: Prince Charles; the Prince of Denmark; a prince; prince of the blood; princes of the blood royal;
- >Prince’s Trust
- >Princess Mary’s Royal Air Force Nursing Service
- >principal—first and most important; head of a college
- >Principality, the—Wales; nationalists tend not to like the term
- >principle—a fundamental truth or rule of action; principled  
Thus: my principal argument is my main one, my argument of principle is based on what I believe is right or true; if you hear “principled argument”, the speaker is likely to mean the latter.
- >print out (v) printout (n)
- >prior to—try “before”
- >Priority School Building programme
- >prison—u.c. Wandsworth Prison; Whitaker’s lists prisons, but here are some faves: in England and Wales: Belmarsh; Leyhill; Long Lartin; North Sea Camp; Parc; Risley; Styal; Wealstun; Weare (closed 2006); Werrington; in NI: Hydebank Wood (a young offenders centre) Maghaberry; Magilligan; in Scotland: Barlinnie
- >Prison Officers Association; became the Professional Trades Union for Prison, Correctional and Secure Psychiatric Workers (POA) in 2006
- >prison rules—Ic unless a specific set of rules is being cited: Prison Rules 1999
- >Prison Service—an Executive agency; directors general: Derek Lewis 1993-95 (famously sacked by Michael Howard) Richard Tilt 1995-99 Martin Narey 1999-2003 Philip Wheatley 2003-2010; NOMS CEO Michael Spurr 2010-2019
- >private—as military rank, uc with names: Private Pike
- >private Bill—legislation promoted by an outside interest such as a council or company. The Member who pilots it is its sponsor. Not the same as a private Member’s Bill.
- >private business—see private Bill
- >*Private Eye*
- >private finance initiative—to bring private capital to public services

- >private Member's Bill—has one promoter and several sponsors;  
pl: private Members' Bills
- >private notice question—former name for urgent question (until 2002)
- >private sector organisation—no hyphen
- >private sector treatment centres—sometimes called Darzi centres
- >privately owned—no hyphen
- >privilege—parliamentary privilege, breach of privilege
- >Privy Council; Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; Privy Council Office;
- >Privy Council of Northern Ireland—no appointments since 1973
- >Privy Counsellor—its members who are Members are right hon.
- >pro—1. pros and cons; he is pro and I am anti;  
the pro- and anti-nuclear lobbies  
2. "He is a true pro."
- >PRO—Public Record Office; merged into The National Archives (TNA) 2003
- >proactive—not "pro-active"
- >probation service
- >Procedure Committee—Select Committee that considers House practice in the  
conduct of public business
- >procurator fiscal—pl. procurators fiscal; Sc. state prosecutors
- >Procurator Fiscal Service—Sc. prosecution office, run by Crown Agent
- >producer prices index—PPI
- >Prof.—use Professor
- >Professional Association of Teachers—PAT; won't strike; in 2008 became Voice:  
the union for education professionals
- >Professional Oversight Board for Accountancy; oversight carried out by Financial  
Reporting Council's conduct committee since 2012
- >professor—with name, uc: Professor Watson, the professor
- >programme—except for "computer program" programme motion;  
TV programme;
- >programme for government (Northern Ireland)
- >Programming Sub-Committee—sets Public Bill Committee timetable
- >progress2work—P2W; (drug users); funding ceased 2011
- >Progressive Unionist party—the PUP; leaders: David Ervine; Billy Hutchinson  
2011-
- >Project CATARA— no need to expand to centralised air transport and air-to-air  
refuelling assets
- >Project Fear—with quotes in the context of the EU referendum: "Project Fear"
- >Project for the New American Century; ceased to function 2006
- >Project Transmit—Ofgem review of gas and electricity charging arrangements;  
launched 2010
- >promoter—1. The Member who has introduced a private Member's Bill, which also  
will have several sponsors  
2. The organisation seeking a private Bill (qv); the Member who pilots it  
is the sponsor
- >PRONI—Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
- >proof—45° proof
- >prophet—uc when referring to Mohammed: the Prophet, the Prophet Mohammed

- >proportion—10:1
- >proportional representation—see also d’Hondt; STV; AV
- >Prorogation—suspension of Parliament prior to new Session
- >prorogue—Parliament is prorogued as the end of a Session and dissolved before a general election
- >proscribe = ban; prescribe = advise
- >Proscribed Organisations Appeal Commission (POAC)—Terrorism Act 2000 allows Home Secretary to proscribe; this does the appeals
- >Prospect—merger of EMA and IPMS, 2001
- >protege—use protégé(e)
- >Protestant, Protestantism
- >protester—not protestor
- >proviso—pl. provisos
- >Province—uc when it means Northern Ireland: the Province. Follow Member’s usage. Unlikely to be used by nationalists.
- >Provisional IRA—don’t expand; often referred to as PIRA [“pye-ra”]; the provisionals; the provos;
- >PRSP—poverty reduction strategy paper [DFID]
- >PRT—1. petroleum revenue tax  
2. provincial reconstruction team [Afghan]
- >PRU—pupil referral unit
- >Prudential Regulation Authority—responsible for supervision of banks since 2013
- >PSA—public service agreement; Treasury-set target
- >PSBR—public sector borrowing requirement; renamed public sector net cash requirement (PSNCR) in 1998
- >PSDR—public sector debt repayment
- >PSHE—personal, social, health and economic education
- >PSNB—public sector net borrowing
- >PSNI—Police Service of Northern Ireland
- >PSS—personal social services
- >PSVI—preventing sexual violence initiative
- >psychobabble
- >PTA—1. see prevention of terrorism Act  
2. parent teacher association  
3. passenger transport authority; PTAs renamed integrated transport authorities (ITAs) in 2008
- >Ptarmigan—battlefield communications system
- >PTE—passenger transport executive; runs transport for ITAs in big cities
- >pub names—The Duke of Devonshire, Red Lion (no inverted commas)
- >public—plural: the public are
- >Public Accounts Commission—not same as Public Accounts Committee; it has statutory oversight functions over the NAO;
- >Public Accounts Committee—Select Committee charged with monitoring public expenditure; inquiries based on reports of the NAO
- >Public Accounts Committee concordat – also known as the 1932 concordat; established the principle that, where possible, the authority for Government

expenditure should flow from a specific Act of Parliament, rather than from the general authority of the Appropriation Acts or use of the Contingencies Fund

- >Public Administration Committee—Select Committee that deals with ombudsmen’s reports, quality of civil service administration etc
- >Public and Commercial Services Union—the PCS; Mark Serwotka
- >public defender service—LSC pilot scheme; est. 2001; expanded to include PDS advocacy unit in 2014
- >public expenditure survey—PES; PES round; public expenditure system
- >Public Gallery—same as Strangers Gallery
- >Public Guardianship Office—Office of the Public Guardian since 2007
- >Public Health England—started work April 2013
- >Public Health Laboratory Service; taken over by Health Protection Agency 2003; HPA became part of Public Health England 2013
- >public health observatory—eight regional stats & research entities; titles: north-west
  - public health observatory; part of Public Health England since 2013
- >Public Prosecution Service [NI, est 2005]
- >public reading—a new “public reading stage” for Bills to give the public an opportunity to comment on proposed legislation online; piloted on the Small Charitable Donations Bill etc
- >Public Record Office; merged into The National Archives (TNA) 2003
- >Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
- >public schools—in Scotland means state schools, not independent ones
- >public sector body—no hyphen
- >public service agreement—Treasury performance targets for Depts
- >public-private partnership
- >publicly owned—no hyphen
- >Pubs Code Adjudicator—Paul Newby
- >puisne judges—pronounced “puny”
- >PUK—1. Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [leader: Jalal Talabani, **1975-** ]
  - 2. Partnerships UK; ceased activity 2011
- >Puma HC1—RAF transport helicopter
- >pump-priming
- >PUP—Progressive Unionist party
- >pupil governor
- >pupil referral unit—for kids who can’t be taught in mainstream schools
- >pupil’s passport—Tory education policy [2004]
- >pupil-teacher ratio—a pupil-teacher ratio of 21:1
- >purchasing managers index—PMI
- >purpose-built
- >push-button
- >pushchair
- >pushmi-pullyu—from “Dr Dolittle” (Hugh Lofting)
- >pushover
- >pussyfooting
- >put forward—overused so try these:
  - introduce (a Bill, amendment, new clause)

express (concern, misgivings)  
give (reasons, views)  
make (suggestions, arguments, cases)  
move (amendment, motion)  
table (amendment)  
advance (case, argument)  
use (arguments). etc

- >Puttnam commission—Hansard Society commission on Parliament in the public eye; reported 2005
- >PV—as in solar PV; no need to expand to solar photovoltaic
- >PVG scheme—protecting vulnerable groups scheme (Scotland); run by Disclosure Scotland
- >PWR—pressurised water reactor
- >pygmy—not “pigmy”; pygmies, pygmaean
- >pyrrhic victory
- >pzaazz—use pizzazz

Q—mind my p’s and q’s

- >QAA—Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education
- >qat—use “khat”
- >QC—Queen’s counsel. Plural: “Look, two Queen’s counsel!” “He is a QC.” “They are QCs.”  
“Jane Smith QC said that...”—no need to expand; Sometimes called silks.  
When we are ruled by a King, they are KCs.  
Members who are QCs are referred to as “hon. and learned”.
- >QCA—Qualifications and Curriculum Authority; became the Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency, which closed in 2011
- >QCDA—Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency; closed 2011
- >QinetiQ—est 2001 when DERA was privatised and split into QinetiQ and DSTL; acquired by Carlyle Group; sites include: West Freugh; Winfrith; Boscombe Down; Sundridge; Rosneath;
- >QIPP—quality, innovation, productivity and prevention; programme to transform the NHS
- >QMV—qualified majority voting; EU procedure on non-veto issues
- >QOF—quality and outcomes framework
- >QOWCS (pronounced “kwocks”)—qualified one way costs shifting
- >QQR—quinquennial review
- >QTS—qualified teacher status
- >Quad countries—at WTO: US, EU, Japan, Canada; since 2005 the new Quad has included Australia, India and Brazil
- >Quakers
- >Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales—abolished 2005 and functions transferred to Welsh Parliament—usu. known as ACCAC [“ack-ack”], under which see;
- >Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education—the QAA; est 1997

- >Quartet—in middle east: US, EU, UN, Russia
- >quango—pl. quangos. No need to expand to quasi-autonomous non-governmental organisation
- >Queen—the Queen, the Queen of Spain, Queen Anne, Her Majesty the Queen, Queen’s Speech, Queen’s counsel
- >Queen’s bench—division of High Court
- >Queen’s/Queens’ College—Oxford: Queen’s College  
Cambridge: Queens’ College
- >Queen’s counsel—see QC
- >Queen’s Speech—aka Gracious Speech; sets out Government’s main Bills of the Session
- >Queen Alexandra’s Royal Army Nursing Corps
- >Queen Alexandra’s Royal Naval Nursing Service
- >queuing—not “queueing”
- >question but—“There is no question that it will happen,” means “It will not happen.”  
“There is no question but that it will happen,” means “It will happen.”
- >question—1. Question 17, not “No. 17”  
2. parliamentary questions; oral questions; written questions; Prime Minister’s questions; Defence questions; private notice question; questions for oral answer; urgent question; but Question Time is uc  
3. business questions, not business question time  
4. to put the Question (ie what they’re debating)
- >Question Time—Prime Minister’s Question Time; Defence Question Time
- >quicker—“quicker” is the adjective, “more quickly” the adverb:  
“A quicker response,” but “It rose more quickly,”
- >quinquennial review—5-yearly review of quangos etc
- >quotations and reported speech—[see guidance on M drive](#)
  
- >R—the three R’s
- >R number, R rate, R—reproduction number; a way to rate a disease’s spread
- >R2P, RtoP—Responsibility to Protect; ICRtoP—International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect
- >R&D—research and development
- >RA—1. Royal Artillery  
2. Radiocommunications Agency
- >RAB—resource accounting and budgeting
- >RAC—1. Royal Armoured Corps  
2. Royal Automobile Club  
3. regional advisory council [EU fisheries]
- >racecourse
- >Race Disparity Unit
- >“Race to a Trillion”—DIT strategy to achieve £1 trillion worth of UK exports
- >racetrack
- >racehorse
- >Rachmanism—what unscrupulous landlords do
- >*Racing Post*
- >rack—wrack is seaweed; for everything else use “rack”: rack and ruin, rack my

brains, on the rack, nerve-racking

- >rack-rent
- >rad—unit of radiation dosage; with figures: 200 rads
- >radian—unit of angle; with figures: 25 radians
- >radio—Radio 4; Radio Cymru; Capital Radio; Radio Kent etc.
- >Radio Authority—est 1991, abolished 2003, duties taken over by Ofcom
- >*Radio Times*
- >radio programme titles—“The Archers”, the “Today” programme
- >radiocarbon
- >Radiocommunications Agency
- >radioisotopes
- >RAF—Royal Air Force; doesn’t need expanding; the Air Force; singular;  
foreign air forces are lc: US air force
- >RAF aircraft—use HC3 not HC Mark 3 etc
- >RAF units—Groups and Squadrons uc in titles: 617 Squadron
- >RAF Regiment—defends RAF bases
- >RAFVR—Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve; merged into RAuxAF 1997
- >Rafale—French answer to Eurofighter but already in service; built by Dassault;  
Rafale C, D, M; carrier-capable
- >rag-bag
- >RAIB—Rail Accident Investigation Branch—part of Department for Transport
- >rail operators (passenger), as of March 2015:
  - Abellio Greater Anglia (replaced National Express East Anglia)
  - Arriva Trains Wales (replaced Wales & Borders)
  - c2c (replaced Network SouthEast)
  - Chiltern Railways (replaced Network SouthEast)
  - CrossCountry (replaced Central Trains/Virgin Trains)
  - Directly Operated Railways—holding company set up by DfT in 2009 to run  
franchises in the public sector if necessary; formerly ran the east coast  
franchise
  - East Midlands Trains (replaced Central Trains/Midland Mainline)
  - Eurostar
  - First Great Western (replaced First Great Western Link/Wessex Trains)
  
  - First Hull Trains
  - First ScotRail (replaced ScotRail)
  - First TransPennine Express (replaced Arriva Trains Northern/First North  
Western)
  - Grand Central
  - Heathrow Connect
  - Heathrow Express
  - London Midland (replaced Central Trains/Silverlink)
  - London Overground—London Overground Rail Operations Ltd,  
LOROL (replaced Silverlink)
  - Merseyrail (replaced Arriva Trains Merseyside)
  - Northern Rail (replaced Arriva Trains Northern/First North Western)
  - North Yorkshire Moors Railway

Southeastern (replaced South Eastern Trains)  
Southern (replaced Connex South Central)  
South West Trains (replaced South West Trains/Island Line)  
Stansted Express  
Thameslink and Great Northern (replaced First Capital Connect)  
Translink NI Railways  
Virgin Trains East Coast (replaced InterCity east coast)  
Virgin Trains West Coast (replaced InterCity west coast)  
West Coast Railway Company

Most are owned by Arriva UK Trains, FirstGroup, Govia, Keolis, National Express, Serco-Abellio, Stagecoach, Virgin Group

rail operators (freight): Colas Rail, Devon & Cornwall Railways, Direct Rail Services, DB Schenker (formerly English Welsh & Scottish Railways, EWS), Freightliner, GB Railfreight, Mendip Rail

defunct rail operators: Anglia Railways, Arriva Trains Merseyside, Arriva Trains Northern, Connex South Central, Connex South Eastern, East Coast, First Capital Connect, First Great Eastern, First Great Western Link, FirstGroup, First North Western, Gatwick Express, Great North Eastern Railway, Great Western, Island Line, Merseyrail Electrics, Midland Mainline, National Express East Anglia, National Express East Coast Northern Spirit, North Western Trains, ScotRail, Silverlink, South Eastern Trains, Thames Trains, Thameslink, Valley Lines, Virgin CrossCountry, Wales & Borders, Wales & West, Wessex Trains, West Anglia Great Northern, Wrexham & Shropshire

- >rail passengers committees—replaced consultative committees
- >Rail Passengers Council—replaced CRUCC
- >rail regulator
- >Rail Safety and Standards Board, RSSB—est 2003; was Railway Safety;
- >rail users consultative committees—replaced by rail passengers committees
- >Railtrack—part of Network Rail since 3.10.02
- >Railway Industry Association
- >railway inspectorate
- >railway lines—East London line, west coast main line, Northern line, Jubilee line
- >railwayman, railwaywoman
- >rainforest
- >raison d'être—use raison d'être
- >ram raiding
- >Ramadan—Muslim month of fasting
- >Ramallah
- >Ramaphosa, Cyril—ANC leader; NI arms inspector;
- >RAMC—Royal Army Medical Corps
- >Ramsar convention—1971 convention on wetlands
- >range—Ic: Pennine range
- >Range Rover
- >Raphael—EU cultural heritage programme

- >rapid reaction forces—see ARRC; JRRF;
- >Rapier—anti-aircraft missile
- >Rarden—L 21 30 mm cannon
- >rat runs—back streets used by motorists to avoid congestion
- >ratable—use rateable
- >rate capping (n) rate-capped, rate-capping (v and adj). Thus:
  - The council faces rate capping. There is a rate cap.
  - Rate capping is a dead letter.
  - The council was rate-capped. We will rate-cap the council.
  - It is a rate-capped council. We are rate-capping the council.
- >rate support grant—became revenue support grant 1990
- >rateable—not ratable
- >ratepayer—1 word, but rate and rent payer, rent and rate payer, tax and rate payer, business rate payer
- >ratios—10:1
- >RAuxAF—Royal Auxiliary Air Force
- >Ravenscraig—defunct steelworks
- >Rayner, Derek—efficiency scrutinies in 1980s
- >Raytheon—US arms company
- >RBCT—randomised badger culling trial
- >RCC—rural community council
- >RCEP—regional comprehensive economic partnership
- >RCM—Royal College of Midwives
- >RCN—Royal College of Nursing
- >RCS—Royal College of Surgeons
- >RDA—regional development agency
- >re-ablement—although some authorities offer re-enablement packages; go with usage
- >re-enact
- >re-let
- >Re-Solv—was Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse
- >REACH—EU regulation concerning the registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals
- >reaffirm, reaffirmation
- >reafforest, reafforestation—not “reforestation”
- >real, really—phrases such as “real danger” or “really important”, are often better as “danger” or “important”, especially if speaker uses them every other word.
- >real and genuine—use one or the other
- >“Real help now”—Labour Government initiative outlining the help available to combat the recession
- >Real IRA—don’t expand; hard-line anti-peace process faction; often called RIRA [“rye-ra”]
- >real terms—in real terms; a real-terms increase
- >real time—in real time; but real-time information
- >realm—lc: the realm, defence of the realm
- >rear-admiral—uc (both parts) with names: Rear-Admiral Praver
- >reason—Lords reasons

- >reasoned amendment—tabled to give reasons for opposing Second or Third reading
- >Reasons Committee—a Committee to draw up reasons is appointed to consider reasons for disagreeing to Lords amendments
- >reasons of state
- >reassess
- >reassurance
- >reassure
- >rebanding
- >rebrand, rebranded, rebranding
- >RECs—regional electricity companies
- >recess—lc: summer recess, Christmas recess, Easter recess. The House goes into recess; it does not “recess”.
- >Rechar—old EU aid programme for former coalfield areas
- >recommission
- >recommittal—when a Bill is returned (recommitted) to a Committee
- >recorder—lc for the type of judge; recorder of the City of London
- >Recovery trial—covid-19 drug trial run by UK
- >recreation—distinguished from re-creation meaning “create again”
- >recyclate—recycled material, esp. when used to make new products
- >red—pejorative term for left-wing folk; the reds; reds under the bed; with names: Red Ken; Red Ted; Red Robbo etc
- >red army
- >Red Arrows
- >Red Book—1. the “Financial Statement and Budget Report”, ie the detailed figures for the Budget  
2. lc: the red book: statement of doctors’ fees and allowances
- >Red Crescent—Islamic version of Red Cross, under which see
- >Red Cross—see ICRC; Int. Fed. of Red Cross and Red Crescent Socs.; British Red Cross; Int. Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- >red ensign—British merchant navy flag
- >Red Hand Commando—loyalist terrorists
- >Red Hand Defenders—loyalist terrorists
- >Red Ken—Ken Livingstone
- >Red Robbo—Derek Robinson, former British Leyland convenor beloved of the Tory tabloids
- >Red Ted—Ted Knight, former leader of Lambeth council
- >Redcliffe-Maud report—on local government, 1973
- >Redfern, Michael—report on Alder Hey child organs scandal, 2001
- >REEEP—renewable energy and energy efficiency partnership
- >referable—one r
- >referendum—pl. referendums or referenda; go with usage
- >refinance, refinancing
- >Reformation, the—meaning the arrival of Protestantism; counter-Reformation
- >refoulement—see non-refoulement
- >Refugee Council
- >regard—for “regarding”, “with regard to”, “in regard to”, try “on” or “about”
- >regiment—the Parachute Regiment; Royal Regiment of Artillery; The Rifles;

- the 1st Royal Anglian Regiment; the regiment
- >region—lc: the regions; the midlands region; south-eastern region
- >regional advisory council—EU fisheries bodies
  - North Sea regional advisory council
- >Regional Affairs Committee—ie, the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs
- >regional assembly—body of appointed local councillors talking about their local RDA. Now abolished, but they were:
  - East Midlands Regional Assembly
  - East of England Regional Assembly
  - North East Assembly [no “regional”]
  - North West Regional Assembly
  - South East England Regional Assembly
  - South West Regional Assembly
  - West Midlands Regional Assembly
  - Yorkshire and Humber Assembly
- >regional chamber
- >Regional Committees; Regional Select Committees—No longer exist, but there were eight with the following official titles:
  - East of England Regional Committee
  - East Midlands Regional Committee
  - North East Regional Committee
  - North West Regional Committee
  - South East Regional Committee
  - South West Regional Committee
  - West Midlands Regional Committee
  - Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Committee
- >regional council—Scotland had nine regional councils and three islands councils until 1996 when they were replaced by unitary authorities.
  - Borders regional council (or Borders region or Borders council);
  - the others: Central; Dumfries and Galloway; Fife; Grampian; Highland;
  - Lothian; Strathclyde; Tayside.
  - The islands councils were: Orkney; Shetland; Western Isles
- >regional development agency, RDA—abolished April 2012, but they were:
  - Advantage West Midlands
  - East Midlands Development Agency
  - East of England Development Agency
  - Northwest Regional Development Agency
  - One North East
  - South East England Development Agency
  - South West of England Regional Development Agency
  - Yorkshire Forward
- >regional government
- >regional health authorities—RHAs, abolished 1996; qv NHS regional offices; in Wales
- >Regional Minister; deputy Regional Minister
- >regional planning guidance—regional planning guidance note 1; RPG1

- >regional selective assistance—Govt grants to companies
- >Regis—EU dosh for far-flung islands: Azores, Martinique etc
- >Register of Members’ Financial Interests—the register; what was the Register of Members’ Interests until February 2009
- >Registered Nursing Home Association
- >registered social landlords—non-profit-making bodies run by voluntary organisations to manage social housing
- >registrable
- >registrar—lc, whether judge, legal official, doctor or record keeper
- >Registrar General—conducts census; Registrar General for Scotland runs General Register Office for Scotland; qv National Statistics
- >Regular Army—regulars
- >Regular Forces Employment Association, now RFEA—the Forces Employment Charity
- >regulations—lc unless title is cited in full with date  
subdivisions: regulation, paragraph, sub-paragraph
- >regulator—lc in titles: the rail regulator etc
- >regulatory impact assessment
- >regulatory impact unit—in Cabinet Office
- >Regulatory Reform Committee—Commons Select Committee, formerly the Deregulation and Regulatory Reform Committee
- >reinforce
- >reinstate
- >reinsurance, reinsure
- >reintroduce
- >reinvent
- >reinvest, reinvestment
- >REIT—real estate investment trust
- >Reith, Lord (John)—founded BBC
- >Reithian—ethic of public service/education & strict morals
- >Relate—was [National] Marriage Guidance Council to 1988
- >related—as suffix, hyphenated: drug-related. “Such crimes tend to be drug-related.”
- >relevant documents—when documents are specified as relevant on the Order Paper we note them in square brackets, in italics, unbrev’d and flush to the margin. If there is only one document, amend to “relevant document”.
- >Religious Society of Friends—the Quakers; hq, Friends House, Euston
- >rem—unit of radiation dosage; with figures: 200 rems
- >REME—Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
- >Remembrance Day
- >Remploy—NDPB employing disabled people
- >renaissance
- >rendition—see extraordinary rendition
- >renewables obligation
- >RenewableUK
- >rent-a-crowd, rent-a-mob, rent-a-quote
- >rent to homebuy scheme
- >reoffend, reoffender

- >reopen, reopening
- >repellent—not “repellant”
- >report—lc: Wanless report; Select Committee report; exact titles are quoted thus:  
“Securing Our Future Health: Taking a Long-Term View” is a major...
- >Report—the stage at which a Bill returns to the House after consideration in  
Committee. Amendments are taken and quarters are timed.  
Prefer “on/before/after Report” to “during/at etc the Report stage”  
“We can consider that on Report,” is better than “We can consider that when  
we come on to the Report stage.”
- >Republic—uc countries or when it means the Republic of Ireland;  
the German Democratic Republic.  
lc in general references: “Britain should be a republic.”
- >Republic of Ireland, the Republic
- >Republic of the Congo—cap. Brazzaville; sometimes called Congo-Brazzaville;  
not same as the Democratic Republic of the Congo (qv)  
politicians: Pascal Lissouba; Denis Sassou-Nguesso; Bernard Kolelas;  
adj/people: Congolese
- >Republika Srpska
- >republican—1. In NI: lc as noun and adjective: the republicans, the republican  
movement  
3. uc for US party: the Republicans; a Republican Senator
- >rerating
- >rerun
- >RES—rural enterprise scheme
- >Research Councils UK—RCUK; runs the seven research councils;
- >reserves—lc in military use, except in titles: Royal Naval Reserve
- >reserve forces and cadets associations
- >reshore; reshoring—bringing jobs back to the UK
- >Reshore UK—service to help companies bring back jobs to the UK
- >resident magistrate—paid magistrate in NI
- >Resider—old EU aid programme for ex-steel areas
- >reskilling
- >resolution—1.money resolution; Ways and Means resolution  
2. UN resolutions: resolution 435 Security Council resolution 21
- >resolve—the solvent abuse charity is Re-Solv
- >Respect at Work review—BBC review following the Jimmy Savile case
- >restart scheme—support for long-term universal credit claimants to find work; there  
was also a 1980s unemployment scheme called restart
- >restaurateur—no n in the middle
- >restoring your railway fund—also restoring your railway ideas fund
- >restrictive practices court
- >restoration and renewal (parliament); R and R
- >resupply
- >Retail Motor Industry Federation
- >retail price index— “prices” not “price”; the RPI; RPI minus X
- >retained firefighter—part-timer, analogous to special constable
- >Retained Firefighters Union

- >Retained Organs Commission—est 2001 after Redfern report on Alder Hey (qv) scandal; closed 2004
- >retender
- >Retex—old EU aid programme for former textile areas
- >rethink
- >Rethink Mental Illness, also known as National Schizophrenia Fellowship
- >retread—tyres or MPs
- >retrofit, retrofitted
- >Rett UK, formerly known as Rett Syndrome Association UK
- >reunification, reunify
- >reunite
- >reuse
- >Revenue—uc if it means HM Revenue and Customs; the Revenue
- >revenue support grant—central dosh for local govt
- >revenue-neutral
- >reverend—Rev. John Jones or Mr Jones [not Rev. Jones]
- >review bodies—public service pay review bodies are uc and most use abbreviations that don't reflect their full present titles, eg...
- >Review Body on Senior Salaries—everyone, including itself, calls it the Senior Salaries Review Body, so don't change such references
- >review of the balance of competences—audit of the EU's roles
- >RFA—Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service
- >RFC—Royal Flying Corps; replaced by RAF in 1918
- >RFCA—reserve forces and cadets association; there are several regional branches
- >RFEA—The Forces Employment Charity, formerly Regular Forces Employment Association
- >RHA—1. Road Haulage Association  
2. Royal Horse Artillery
- >RHAs—regional health authorities; abolished 1996
- >RIA—regulatory impact assessment
- >RIBA—Royal Institute of British Architects
- >Rice, Condoleezza—Dubya's Secretary of State
- >Richard, Lord—commission on Welsh Assembly's powers, 2002-03
- >Richey, Kenny—Scot on death row in US
- >ricin—toxin, fashionable c. 2003
- >RICS—Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
- >RIDDOR—Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013
- >Ridgback—military vehicle (no e)
- >riding—lc, but East Riding of Yorkshire is a council
- >RIFE—regional investment fund for England [films]
- >right—always lc: the right, left and right;
- >right to buy—the right to buy, but right-to-buy provisions etc
- >Right to Provide initiative—provides help for public sectors workers wishing to establish social enterprises
- >Right to Work campaign

- >right wing—the right wing; right-wing politics; he is right-wing
- >right winger
- >ringfence—ringfence (n); ringfence(v) ringfencing; ringfenced
  - “They are applying a ringfence to the benefit.”
  - “It is wrong to ringfence such benefits.”
  - “The benefits are ringfenced.”
- >Rio—(de Janeiro); 1992 UN conference on environment and development; Rio+5; Rio+10 (Johannesburg summit); Rio+20
- >RIPA—Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000
- >RIRA—Real IRA
- >Ritalin—drug given to hyperactive kids [methylphenidate]
- >RIU—regulatory impact unit
- >river—uc only if immediately before the name: River Thames but the Hudson river
- >Rivers Agency—in NI
- >RJB Mining—renamed UK Coal
- >RLC—Royal Logistic Corps
- >RMP—Royal Military Police
- >RMT—National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers;
  - general secretary: Mick Cash; was Bob Crow;
- >RNA—don’t expand to ribonucleic acid
- >RNIB—Royal National Institute of Blind People
- >RNID—Royal National Institute for Deaf People; trading name Action on Hearing Loss
- >RNR—Royal Naval Reserve
- >ro-ro—roll-on roll-off [ships]
- >road—uc: King’s Road; Vauxhall Road; the A1, the M6
- >roadblock
- >Road Haulage Association
- >road investment strategy—RIS1, RIS2
- >road map
- >roadworks
- >roadworthiness, roadworthy
- >Robbins committee—led to 1960s new universities and HE expansion
- >Robens, Lord [Alfred]—chair of National Coal Board in 1960s etc.
- >Rock of Gibraltar, the Rock
- >ROCs—renewables obligation certificates
- >Rohypnol—trade name of flunitrazepam; aka roofies; date rape drug
- >role—not “rôle”
- >roll out (v) roll-out (n & adj)
- >roll over (v) roll-over (n & adj)
- >roll-call
- >roll-on roll-off ferries—ro-ro ferries
- >rollercoaster
- >rolling stock
- >Rolls-Royce
- >Roma—term for Gypsies; follow usage
- >Roman Catholic, Catholic, the Roman Catholic Church

- >Roman empire
- >Romania—not “Rumania”
- >röntgen—unit of X-ray or gamma ray exposure; with figures: 14 röntgens
- >Rooker-Wise amendment—index-linked tax allowances to inflation 1977, Jeff Rooker, Audrey Wise
- >room—1. two-roomed flat
  - 2. House rooms: Committee Room, Tea Room (but “the room”)
- >ROPAs—realising our potential awards
- >ROSCOs—rolling stock leasing companies
- >Rosebery, Earl of—Derby winning Liberal PM, 1894-95
- >RoSPA—Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents
- >Rosyth—naval base
- >ROTL—release on temporary licence
- >roughshod
- >round—round 1; Uruguay round; Kennedy round;
- >roundtable; as in “a roundtable discussion” or even “We had a useful roundtable”
- >routeing and routing—routeing roads, routing the enemy
- >Rowntree—see Joseph Rowntree Foundation;
- >royal—usually down except in organisations (eg the Royal Navy) or titles: Her Royal Highness; Royal Assent
- >Royal Air Force—RAF is ok and doesn’t need expanding; the Air Force; singular; foreign air forces are lc: US air force
- >Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve—merged into RAuxAF 1997
- >Royal Armoured Corps
- >Royal Army Medical Corps
- >Royal Army Ordnance Corps—RAOC; RLC since 1993
- >Royal Artillery
- >Royal Assent—final stage of legislation
- >Royal Automobile Club—RAC will do
- >Royal Auxiliary Air Force—RAuxAF
- >Royal British Legion
- >royal charter
- >Royal children’s hospital, Liverpool—aka Alder Hey
- >Royal College of Anaesthetists
- >Royal College of General Practitioners
- >Royal College of Midwives
- >Royal College of Nursing— not “of Nurses”; general secretary Peter Carter 2007-
- >Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
- >Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health
- >Royal College of Pathologists
- >Royal College of Physicians—“of London”
- >Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh [ also one “of Ireland”]
- >Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow
- >Royal College of Psychiatrists
- >Royal College of Radiologists
- >Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists

- >Royal College of Surgeons—“of England” if needed
- >Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh [also one “of Ireland”]
- >Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons
- >royal commission—always lc, even in full titles of inquiries, except in the following standing bodies: Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution [a permanent body] and Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England—became part of English Heritage in 1999
- >Royal Corps of Signals
- >Royal Corps of Transport—RLC since 1993
- >royal courts of justice—building on Strand where top courts sit
- >Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
- >Royal Engineers
- >royal family
- >Royal Fine Art Commission—the CAFE since 1999
- >Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service
- >Royal Gibraltar Regiment
- >Royal Horse Artillery
- >Royal Institute of British Architects
- >Royal Institute of International Affairs—aka Chatham House
- >Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, now Royal Society for Public Health
- >Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
- >Royal Irish Regiment—1992 merger of Ulster Defence Regiment & Royal Irish Rangers
- >royal jubilee
- >Royal Life Saving Society UK—drop the UK unless needed
- >Royal Logistic Corps
- >Royal Mail, Royal Mail Group Ltd; Consignia 2001-02; CEO Moya Greene was renamed Royal Mail Group on 4.11.02. Other names: Donald Brydon. Allan Leighton 2002-2009, chief finance officer: Marisa Cassoni
- >Royal Marine Reserve
- >Royal Marines—part of RN; units: 45 Commando etc
- >Royal Military Police
- >Royal Mint
- >Royal National Institute for Deaf People—not “the Deaf”; trading name Action on Hearing Loss
- >Royal National Institute for Blind People
- >Royal Naval Reserve
- >Royal Navy—the Navy; royal naval; foreign navies are lc—[see style sheet](#)
- >Royal Parks Agency
- >Royal Parks constabulary
- >Royal Pharmaceutical Society
- >Royal Pioneer Corps—RLC since 1993
- >royal prerogative
- >Royal Regiment of Artillery—ie the Royal Artillery
- >Royal Scottish Geographical Society—est 1884
- >Royal Scottish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children—since 1995, called Children 1st

- >Royal Society—est 1660; premier science organisation
- >Royal Society for Nature Conservation—now Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
- >Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, RoSPA
- >Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- >Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
- >Royal Society for Public Health, formerly Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene
- >Royal Society of Chemistry
- >Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, formerly Royal Society for Nature Conservation
- >Royal Society of Edinburgh—est 1783, covers arts and sciences
- >Royal Society of Medicine
- >Royal Town Planning Institute
- >Royal Ulster Constabulary—replaced by PSNI in 2001
 

Chief Constables:	John Hermon	1980-1989
	Hugh Annesley	1989-1996
	Ronnie Flanagan	1996- <del>2001</del> 2002
	Sir Hugh Orde	2002-2009
	Sir Matt Baggott	2009-2014
	George Hamilton	2014-
- >Royal Ulster Constabulary George Cross Foundation—set up under Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 to “mark sacrifices and honour achievements” of RUC; the RUC GC Foundation; chairman: Brian Rea
- >Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies—“for Defence Studies” not usually needed; [“roo-see”]
- >Royal Yachting Association
- >RPA—1. Rural Payments Agency
  2. review of public administration [NI]
- >RPB—regional planning body
- >RPC—1. Rail Passengers Council
  2. rail passengers committee (no longer exist)
- >RPF—rural policing fund
- >RPG—regional planning guidance; regional planning guidance note 1; RPG1
- >RPI—retail price index; the RPI; RPI minus X;
- >RRO—regulatory reform order
- >RSA—regional selective assistance
- >RSG—revenue support grant [now FGA]
- >RSL—1. registered social landlord
  2. restricted service licence [TV]
- >RSPB—Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
- >RSPCA—Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- >RSG—1. revenue support grant [local govt]
  2. rate support grant [replaced by the above 1990]
- >RSS—regional spatial strategy
- >RSSB—Rail Safety and Standards Board
- >RTE company—right-to-enfranchise company
- >RTI—real-time information; will help DWP in the collection of tax data

- >RTM company—right-to-manage company
- >rubber stamp (n) rubber-stamp (v and adj); rubber-stamped; rubber-stamping
- >Rubicon—crossing the Rubicon
- >RUC—Royal Ulster Constabulary; since 2001 the PSNI
- >RUC GC Foundation—see under Royal Ulster Constabulary
- >RUK—residual United Kingdom; rest of the UK (used in the context of possible Scottish independence and about students who study in Scotland)
- >rule—rules of the House; rules of order; judges rules; rules of court
- >rule—uc in delegated legislation titles cited in full with date; subdivisions: rule, paragraph, sub-paragraph
- >rulebook; not rule book
- >ruling—pronouncement from the Chair; Mr Speaker’s ruling
- >Rumania—use “Romania”
- >Rumsfeld, Donald—US Defence Secretary 2001-2006
- >run down (v) rundown (n and adj)
- >run up (v) run-up (n)
- >runway
- >RUPPs—roads used as public paths
- >Rural Advocate—formerly Dr Stuart Burgess; post abolished 2011
- >rural community council—county-based bodies keen on village halls etc, with names such as: Dorset Community Action
- >Rural Development Commission—Countryside Agency since 1998
- >Rural Development Council—in NI, est 1991
- >rural enterprise scheme—dosh for farmers & rural businesses
- >Rural Fair Share campaign
- >Rural Payments Agency—doles out CAP payments
- >rural policing fund—intr. c. 2000
- >Rural Services Network
- >rural-proofing
- >RUSI—Royal United Services Institute [for Defence Studies]
- >Russell Group—top research universities
- >Rutherford Appleton laboratory—run by CCLRC; has pulsed neutron & muon source (ISIS) and other big physics stuff; Oxfordshire
- >Rwanda—Rwandan, Rwandans; cap: Kigali; peoples: Tutsi(s); Hutu(s); Interahamwe (Hutu militia carried out genocide); qv Arusha; President: Paul Kagame 2000- PM: Anastase Murekezi 2014- ex-Belgian colony of Ruanda-Urundi gacaca—communal justice system; inyangamugayo—judge of same
- >RWR—radar warning receiver
- >RYA—Royal Yachting Association;
  
- >S2P—state second pension
- >S4C—Welsh language public service television channel; don’t expand to Sianel Pedwar Cymru; S4C2;

- >SA80—5.56 mm assault rifle, replaced by SA80 A2
- >SAA—stabilisation and association agreement; EU deals with CEE
- >SAARC—South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation
- >Sabbath
- >Sabhal Mór Ostaig—FE college on Skye teaches through medium of Gaelic
- >Sabre—armoured vehicle
- >SaBRE—Supporting Britain’s Reservists and Employers
- >SACEUR—Supreme Allied Commander Europe [NATO]; currently General Philip M. Breedlove. He replaced Admiral James Stavridis, who held the post from May 2009 to May 2013; he replaced Bantz J. Craddock, who replaced General James L. Jones in 2007
- >SACHR—see Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
- >SACLANT—Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic [NATO]
- >SACN—Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition
- >sacrilegious—not sacreligious
- >SADC—Southern African Development Community
- >Safe and Sustainable—review into paediatric services
- >Saif Sareea 2—Army exercise in Oman, 2001; means “swift sword”
- >Sainsbury—J Sainsbury plc; Sainsbury’s is ok
- >saint—for saints and place names the abbreviation St (with full no stop) is used:  
St Helens; St David
- >sale room
- >Salisbury convention—whereby the Lords does not on Second Reading reject Government legislation that carries out a manifesto commitment and that has been passed by the Commons
- >Salmon commission—1974 on corruption (eg Poulson affair)
- >Salt Cell
- >salutary—not “salutory”
- >Salvation Army
- >SAM—surface-to-air missile; SAM-7
- >Samaritans—founder: Chad Varah
- >Sandler, Ron—2002 savings industry review
- >SANE—don’t expand to Schizophrenia: A National Emergency
- >Sangatte—refugee camp near Calais
- >SAPARD—don’t expand to special accession programme for agriculture and rural development; EU aid with eastern European enlargement adjustment costs
- >SAR—1. search and rescue  
2. special administrative region [China]
- >Sarbanes-Oxley Act—2002, regulates auditing in US, response to Enron scandal
- >sarin—nerve gas
- >SARS—severe acute respiratory syndrome [do expand]
- >SARS-CoV-2—severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2; the virus that causes covid-19 or coronavirus disease
- >SAS—Special Air Service
- >sat-nav
- >SATs—first called standard attainment tests, then standard assessment tests [educ.]
- >Saville inquiry—Lord Saville’s inquiry into the events of Bloody Sunday began

1998 and reported 15 June 2010; Mr Justice William Hoyt; Mr Justice John Toohey; Sir Christopher Clarke;

- >Saving Gateway—Labour Government scheme to help the poor to save; scrapped by Conservatives in 2010
- >SAWB—Scottish Agricultural Wages Board
- >SAWS—seasonal agricultural workers scheme
- >Saxon—armoured truck
- >SBA—sovereign base area [UK bases at Akrotiri and Dhekelia in Cyprus]
- >SBO—specified bovine offal
- >SBS—Small Business Service
- >SCAA—defunct School Curriculum and Assessment Authority [“scar”]
- >scale-up visa
- >scaremonger—to scaremonger; scaremongering, scaremongers
- >SCCRC—Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission
- >SCE—Scottish certificate of education
- >schedule— schedules have paragraphs and sub-paragraphs; paragraph 1 of schedule 1; [not schedule 1(1)]; sub-paragraph (1); paragraph 1(1) of schedule 1; schedules are “to” not “of” the Act
- >Scheffer— see de Hoop Scheffer
- >scheme—lc: community development scheme etc
- >Schengen agreement—some EU members drop border controls
- >Schleswig-Holstein question—proverbially tricky issue, beloved of Lord Palmerston
- >Schiphol—not Schipol
- >SchlumbergerSema
- >Schmallenberg virus—affects cattle, sheep and goats
- >schools—u.c. See websites; Springdale Junior School; St Austin’s Catholic Primary School
- >School Curriculum and Assessment Authority—defunct 1997; see QCA
- >School Examinations and Assessment Council—became SCAA;
- >school leaver; school-leaving age
- >School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- >School Teachers Review Body
- >schoolboy
- >schoolchild, schoolchildren
- >schoolgirl
- >schoolmaster, schoolmistress
- >schools formula spending share—SFSS
- >schools adjudicators—deal with admission arrangement complaints
- >schoolteacher
- >Schröder, Gerhard—German Chancellor 1998-2005 [not “Schroeder”]
- >Schuman, Robert—EU pioneer
- >SCIAF—Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund
- >SCIE—Social Care Institute for Excellence
- >Scientific names of plants and animals—the genus is uc, the species lc: Staphylococcus aureus; Homo sapiens;
- >SCIMAC—Supply Chain Initiative on Modified Agricultural Crops

- >Scimitar—1. armoured vehicle made by Alvis  
2. a battlefield secure radio communications system
- >Science and Technology Committee—a Select Committee
- >Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition—known as COMA (qv) 1963-2000; advises CMO, FSA
- >SCIRI—Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq
- >SCOP—Standing Conference of Principals ran from 1967 to 2006, now GuildHE
- >Scope—was Spastics Society 1952-94
- >scores—in football: “Villa beat Arsenal 4-1.”
- >scot-free
- >Scotland—see style sheets on [devolution](#) and the [referendum](#)
- >Scotland Act 1978—failed devolution attempt
- >Scotland Act 1998—established devolution
- >*Scotland on Sunday*
- >Scotland Yard
- >“Scotland’s Future”—blueprint for an independent Scotland; full title: “Scotland’s Future: Your Guide to an Independent Scotland”
- >Scotch—now used only in certain specific phrases: Scotch whisky, Scotch mist, Scotch egg etc. Use “Scots” or “Scottish”.
- >Scots—language developed from Old English; not the same as Scottish English, the dialect of English spoken in Scotland
- >Scots and Scots Gaelic terms—[see style sheet](#)
- >Scots law, Scots pine,
- >*Scotsman, The*
- >Scott, Richard—arms to Iraq inquiry 1996
- >Scottish Agricultural Wages Board
- >Scottish and Southern Energy Group – now SSE
- >Scottish Arts Council—est 1994
- >Scottish Association of Health Councils
- >Scottish Borders council; use Scottish Borders also in general references to that area of Scotland
- >Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund
- >Scottish Constitutional Convention—prepared way for Scottish Parliament 1990-95 the constitutional convention, the convention
- >Scottish Council for Research in Education now defunct
- >Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations
- >Scottish Court Service—Exec agency, est 1995
- >Scottish Crofters Union now Scottish Crofting Federation
- >Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission—est 1999
- >*Scottish Daily Express*
- >*Scottish Daily Mail*
- >Scottish Development Agency—Scottish Enterprise since 1991
- >Scottish Drug Enforcement Agency became Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency in 2006, now incorporated into Police Scotland since 2013
- >Scottish Enterprise—replaced Scottish Development Agency 1991; has 12 local enterprise companies, whose names take the form:

Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire (or SE Ayrshire)

The others areas are: Borders; Dumfries and Galloway; Dunbartonshire; Edinburgh and Lothian; Fife; Forth Valley; Glasgow; Grampian; Lanarkshire; Renfrewshire; Tayside;

- >Scottish Environment Protection Agency—[“seeper”]
- >Scottish Episcopal Church—“autonomous but in full communion with the Church of England”. Scotland’s established Church is the Church of Scotland (which is Presbyterian)
- >Scottish Executive—the Government of Scotland, but from 3 July 2012 the legal and public name is the Scottish Government (go with usage).
- >*Scottish Farmer, The*
- >Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency—now Marine Scotland
- >Scottish Fishermen’s Federation
- >Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council, usually calls itself the Scottish Funding Council
- >Scottish Further Education Funding Council—replaced by SFC [2005]
- >Scottish Government; previously the Scottish Executive
- >Scottish Higher Education Funding Council—replaced by SFC [2005]
- >Scottish Homes—Scottish equivalent of the Housing Corporation
- >Scottish Land Court
- >Scottish Law Commission
- >Scottish Natural Heritage
- >SNP, Scottish National party; no need to expand on first mention; the nationalists; the SNP  
leader: Nicola Sturgeon 2014- Alex Salmond 2004-2014, John Swinney 2000- 2004; Alex Salmond 1990-2000
- >Scottish Parliament—the Parliament; MSP – don’t expand;  
First Minister: Donald Dewar 1999-2000; Henry McLeish 2000-01; Jack McConnell 2001-2007; Alex Salmond 2007 -2014; Nicola Sturgeon 2014-  
Its speaker is the Presiding Officer: Tricia Marwick. Predecessors: Alex Fergusson, George Reid; David Steel  
Its Committees have Conveners; see also Scottish Executive  
see also ascriptions
- >Scottish Pelagic Fishermen’s Association
- >Scottish Police Authority—replaces Scottish Police Services Authority
- >ScottishPower
- >Scottish Prison Service—Exec agency
- >Scottish Qualifications Authority—cf QCA; est 1997; replaced Scottish Examination Board & Scottish Vocational Education Council
- >Scottish Refugee Council—the SRC;
- >Scottish Screen—est 1997 from rag-bag of other public film bodies
- >Scottish Secondary Teachers Association
- >Scottish Socialist party—former leader: Tommy Sheridan
- >Scottish Society for the Mentally Handicapped—working title: Enable
- >Scottish Tourist Board—the STB now VisitScotland
- >Scottish Trades Union Congress

- >Scottish Water—replaced West of Scotland Water, East of Scotland Water and North of Scotland Water, 2002
- >SCOTVEC—Scottish Vocational Education Council; now SQA
- >scrapheap, scrapyard
- >scrapie—sheep version of BSE
- >scratchcard
- >screenshot
- >SCRE—Scottish Council for Research in Education
- >Scripture—meaning Bible-type stuff
- >scrutiny Committee—lower case unless it is a title; usually refers to draft Bill Committees, Joint Committees etc. qv European Scrutiny Committee
- >scurrilous—2 r's, 1 l
- >SCVO—Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations
- >Scylla and Charybdis—two equal dangers, from the sea monster and whirlpool between which Odysseus had to sail
- >SDA—1. severe disablement allowance  
2. service delivery agreement  
3. Scottish Development Agency [called Scottish Enterprise since 1991]  
4. severely disadvantaged areas [agricultural subsidies]
- >SDEA—Scottish Drug Enforcement Agency
- >SDI—strategic defence initiative; aka star wars; US 80s missile defence
- >SDLP—Social Democratic and Labour party
- >SDP—see Social Democratic party
- >SDR—strategic defence review
- >SDSR—strategic defence and security review
- >sea—lc: North sea, Irish sea, Red sea; but Sea of Azov, Sea of Galilee
- >seabed
- >sea change
- >Sea Containers—transport company
- >Sea Dart—anti-aircraft missile
- >Sea Fish Industry Authority—sometimes calls itself Seafish
- >sea fisheries committees—12 of them; lc, but geographical identifier is up:  
North Western and North Wales sea fisheries committee  
The others are: Cornwall Cumbria; Devon; Eastern; Isles of Scilly; Kent and Essex; North Eastern; Northumberland; South Wales; Southern; Sussex;
- >Sea Harrier FRS2, F/A2
- >Sea King HAS1, 2, 5 & 6; HAR3 & 5; AEW2 & 7
- >sea mile—see nautical mile
- >seashore
- >Sea Wolf—anti-aircraft missile
- >SEAC—1. Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee  
2. School Examinations and Assessment Council; became SCAA
- >seafarer, seafaring
- >seagoing
- >seaman, seamen
- >seance—use séance
- >seaport

- >Searchwater—radar
- >seasons—always lc: spring, autumn statement, summer recess
- >seatbelt
- >SEC—Securities and Exchange Commission [US regulator]
- >second Chamber—up if referring to potential or actual House of Lords
- >second division—football etc
- >second-guess—hyphenate as verb – second-guessing, second-guessed
- >second hand—I heard it at second hand; second-hand goods
- >Second Reading—debate, usually on the Floor, one the principles of a Bill.  
     Use “on Second Reading” rather than “in” or “at” or “in the Second Reading  
     debate” etc  
     A Bill is read the First and the Third time but a Second time.
- >second state pension—wrong: use state second pension
- >second world war, world war two, 1939 to 1945 [not 1939-45]
- >Secondary Heads Association—Association of School and College Leaders [2006]
- >secondary legislation—delegated legislation, statutory instruments, orders, rules,  
     regulations etc. Authorised by previous primary legislation
- >Secret Intelligence Service—MI6
- >Secretary of State—uc: Secretary of State for Defence; the Secretary of State
- >Secretary of State’s Representative—SOSREP, intervenes in marine pollution cases
- >secretary-general—pl. secretaries-general; lc except NATO, UN
- >Secretary-General of NATO—uc;
- >Secretary-General of the United Nations—the Secretary-General  
     2007-    Ban Ki-moon  
     1997-2006 Kofi Annan  
     1992-1996 Boutros Boutros-Ghali  
     1982-1991 Javier Perez de Cuellar  
     1972-1981 Kurt Waldheim  
     1961-1971 U Thant  
     1953-1961 Dag Hammarskjöld  
     1946-1953 Trygve Lie
- >sector skills councils—uc for nifty brand names such as Cogent and Lantra but lc for  
     more prosaic titles: the sector skills council for paper clip services
- >Sector Skills Development Agency—ran sector skills councils – defunct since  
     2008, replaced by Federation for Industry Sector Skills & Standards and  
     UK Commission for Employment and Skills
- >Securities and Exchange Commission—US regulator
- >Securities and Futures Authority—FSA since 2001
- >Securities and Investment Board—FSA since 1997
- >Security Council—the UN Security Council has five permanent members (UK, US,  
     Russia, China, France) who can veto its resolutions and a changing cast of  
     others who can’t.
- >Security Council resolution; Security Council resolution 1234
- >Security Service—MI5; general references to security services are lc
- >sedentary—comment from seated Member who does not have the floor. Reported  
     only if it prompts a Member with the floor to comment on it or alters the  
     course or sense of his speech.

- >Seaboard Energy—part of EDF Energy
- >SEED—Scottish Executive Education Department now defunct
- >SEEDA—South East England Development Agency defunct as of 2012
- >SEELD—Scottish Executive Enterprise and Lifelong Learning Department defunct
- >seedcorn
- >SEERAD—Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department defunct
- >Select Committee—1. always uc: the Select Committee; the Committee;  
Joint Committee; Lords Select Committee; Sub-Committee;  
2. Two formulations of full titles are acceptable. Select Committee on  
Defence; Defence Committee—go with usage.  
Defence Select Committee is not ok.  
3. Not all Select Committees are permanent: they can be appointed for a  
particular inquiry or Parliament
- >Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons—use Modernisation  
Committee if possible
- >Select Committee on Statutory Instruments—the Commons members of the Joint  
Committee on Statutory Instruments meeting to consider Commons-only DLs
- >Selection Committee—see Committee of Selection
- >selection list—amendments selected for debate and grouped by Chair
- >self—as prefix, always hyphenated: self-government; self-interest; self-defence etc
- >sell off (v) sell-off (n & adj)
- >sell out (v) sell-out (n & adj)
- >sell-by date
- >Sellafield
- >sellers packs
- >Selsdon man—Heath’s right turn in 1970
- >semi-detached
- >semiconductor
- >SEMTA—stands for: Science, Engineering, Manufacturing Technologies Alliance
- >Semtex—plastic explosive
- >SEN—special educational needs
- >Senate—uc for US and other upper houses;
- >Senator—Senator Mitchell; a Senator;
- >SENCO—special educational needs co-ordinator
- >SENDA—Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2000
- >SENDIST—special educational needs and disability tribunal
- >Senedd Commission—corporate body of the Welsh Parliament; formerly the  
Assembly Commission
- >Seni’s law—pronounced Shenny’s law
- >Senior Courts of England and Wales—what was the Supreme Court of Judicature
- >Senior Salaries Review Body—despite its official title being the Review Body on  
Senior Salaries, everyone, including itself, refers to it as this, which is ok
- >SENT—special educational needs tribunal; SENDIST since 2002
- >Sentencing Council—replaces the Sentencing Advisory Panel and Sentencing  
Guidelines Council
- >Sentry AEW1—RAF version of Boeing E-3 Sentry
- >SEPA—1. Scottish Environment Protection Agency [“seeper”]

- 2. proposed single euro payments area
- >SERC—Science and Engineering Research Council; defunct 1993
- >sergeant, sergeant-major—with names: Sergeant Wilson, although a Serjeant in the Rifles regiment
- >Serious Fraud Office
- >Serious Organised Crime Agency replaced by National Crime Agency in 2013
- >Serjeant at Arms—Commons Officer responsible for security, buildings etc. Serjeant at Arms Department; a serjeant in the Rifles regiment
- >SERPS—state earnings-related pension scheme
- >service—uc for Executive agencies: Prison Service, Court Service otherwise lc: civil service, fire service
- >Service Complaints Commissioner for the Armed Forces—Nicola Williams 2015- was Dr Susan Atkins
- >Service Complaints Ombudsman
- >serviceman, servicemen, servicewoman, servicemen and women
- >services—lc meaning our armed services
- >Session—Parliament has Sessions which run between Queen’s Speeches The House and its Committees have sittings every day
- >Sessional Orders
- >SET—science, engineering and technology
- >set aside (v) set-aside (n and adj)—set-aside scheme
- >set up (v) set-up (n)
- >sett—what badgers live in (ie with 2 t’s)
- >SEU—social exclusion unit defunct after 2006 merger
- >severe disablement allowance
- >Severn Trent Water
- >sewage—what goes into sewerage; sewage works
- >Sewel motion—in Scottish Parliament, allows Westminster to legislate for Scotland on a devolved matter
- >sewerage—the system that gets rid of sewage, but sewage works
- >sex offenders register
- >SFA—Securities and Futures Authority; FSA from 2001
- >SFC—Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council, usually calls itself the Scottish Funding Council
- >SFEFC—Scottish Further Education Funding Council; replaced by SFC [2005]
- >SFO—Serious Fraud Office
- >SFOR—stabilisation force; replaced IFOR in Bosnia; 1996-2004
- >SFPA—Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency
- >SFSS—schools formula spending share
- >SGA—Scottish group award; replaces GSVQ
- >SGC—Sentencing Guidelines Council; now Sentencing Council (from 2010)
- >SHA—1. strategic health authority; the official abbreviation was initially StHAs but everyone uses SHA; avoid confusing with:
  - 2. special health authority; SHAs are bodies such as NICE
  - 3. Secondary Heads Association [ASCL from Jan 2006]
- >shadow—shadow Cabinet, shadow Chancellor, shadow spokesman
- >Shankill road—not “Shankhill”

- >SHAPE—Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe [NATO]
- >shareowner, shareowning
- >shareholder, shareholding
- >sharia—Islamic law
- >Sharm el-Sheikh
- >Shatt al-Arab—waterway disputed between Iran and Iraq
- >Shawcross, Hartley—Nuremberg war crimes trial prosecutor
- >Shawcross exercise—Attorney-General consults ministers with an interest in matter
- >Shayler, David—renegade intelligence officer
- >sheepmeat
- >SHEFC—Scottish Higher Education Funding Council; replaced by SFC [2005]
- >Sheffield—1. destroyer sunk in Falklands war  
2. a Type 22 frigate
- >sheikh—uc with name or title: Sheikh Rashid; it's a title of respect for Arab clan chiefs or leaders
- >shellshock, shellshocked
- >shellfish
- >Shellfish Association of Great Britain
- >Shelter—homelessness charity
- >sheriff—in Scotland, a judge: sheriffdom; sheriff(s) principal; sheriff court districts, sheriff courts, resident sheriff(s);  
England: (high) sheriffs have only ceremonial role
- >sheriff clerk—pl. sheriff clerks; sheriff clerk depute [Sc.]
- >sheriff court of chancery—in Scotland
- >Shi'a, Shi'ite—Islamic sect
- >shibboleth
- >Shifting the Balance of Power—in quotes: "Shifting the Balance of Power"; a family of NHS patient-led reform papers (2001-2)
- >shilly-shally, shilly-shallying
- >Shinners—colloquial term for supporters of Sinn Féin
- >ship names—no quotes or italics, not all caps and no need to add HMS or SS, or to expand them if they're used. HMS Victory; the Marchioness; Ark Royal;
- >shipbuilder, shipbuilding
- >shipmaster
- >shipowner, shipowning
- >shipyard—but warship yard
- >SHIRBRIG—United Nations stand-by forces high readiness brigade defunct from 2009
- >shoot-out
- >shop owner
- >shop worker
- >shopkeeper
- >short circuit (n) short-circuit (v and adj)
- >short selling
- >short-change (v) short-changed, short-changing
- >short-sighted
- >short-term measures, but in the short term

- >Short money—state cash for the Opposition, named after Ted Short, later Lord Glenamara
- >shortfall
- >shorthold
- >shortlist
- >Shorts—sold to Bombardier 1989; Shorts Missile Systems is now part of Thales; Short Brothers was title of old
- >shut down (v) shutdown (n & adj)
- >SIAC—Special Immigration Appeals Commission
- >SIB—Securities and Investment Board; FSA since 1997
- >side effect
- >sidecar
- >sidetrack
- >Sidewinder—AIM-9; air-to-air missile
- >SIDS—sudden infant death syndrome
- >SIEL—standard individual export licence [arms]
- >Sierra Leone—adj and people: Sierra Leonean; cap. Freetown; pres Ahmad Tejan Kabbah (2006); UNMASIL (qv)
- >sievert—SI unit of radiation dosage equal to 1 joule per kg; symbol Sv; with figures: 200 Sv
- >SIGOMA—special interest group of municipal authorities; group within LGA
- >Sikh, Sikhism—gurdwara = Sikh temple; founder Guru Nanak; Khalsa = Sikh religious order; kaccha, kara, kirpan, kesh, kangha – items Sikhs must have
- >silk road
- >silver jubilee
- >SIM card—don't expand to subscriber identity module
- >SIMAP—don't expand to système d'information pour les marchés publics, unless necessary [EU public procurement scheme]
- >single—often unnecessary in phrases such as: “every single voter”.
- >single/double summertime
- >single-tier pension
- >Single European Act—the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1986; Single European Act is ok without date
- >single farm payment, the
- >Single Financial Guidance Body
- >single parent—single-parent family; single-parent benefit
- >single regeneration budget—for details, see SRB
- >Sinn Féin—political wing of the IRA; Erse for “ourselves alone”; names: Mitchel McLaughlin; Bairbre de Brún  
paper: An Phoblacht [aka Republican News]  
party conference: ard fheis [pl: ard fheiseanna]
- >Sinn Féin-IRA—plural; follow Member if he says “IRA-Sinn Féin”
- >SIP—1. statement of investment principles [pension funds]  
2. share incentive plan  
3. see SIPP
- >siphon—not “syphon”; siphoning off
- >SIPP—self-invested personal pension

- >sir—yes, Sir [Member addressing Chair]
- >SIS—Secret Intelligence Service [ie MI6]
- >sittings—the House and its Committees have sittings daily; Parliament has Sessions of, usually, about a year
- >Six Counties—of Northern Ireland; Ulster traditionally had nine. Follow Members' usage.
- >sixth-form college; sixth-former; in the sixth form; school sixth forms;
- >sizeable
- >Skagerrak
- >skean-dhu—Gaelic dagger
- >Skill—Skill: National Bureau for Students with Disabilities
- >Skillfast-UK—SSC for textiles etc.
- >Skills for Health—an SSC
- >Skills for Justice—an SSC
- >Skills for Logistics—an SSC
- >Skills Funding Agency—single funding provider from April 2010
- >SkillsActive—an SSC covering leisure industry
- >skillset
- >Skillset—an SSC covering broadcasting etc. now Creative Skillset
- >Skillsmart—an SSC covering retail industry
- >skulduggery—just the one I
- >Sky—Sky 1, Sky Digital, Sky Plus etc
- >Skyflash—air-to-air missile
- >Skynet—UK military satellite; Skynet 4, 4B, 5
- >slaughterhouse, slaughterman
- >SLC—Student Loans Company
- >SLD—1. severe learning difficulties  
2. Social and Liberal Democrats; (=Lib Dems in 1988-89)
- >slow down (v) slowdown (n)
- >SMAC—Standing Medical Advisory Committee abolished in 2005
- >small businessman
- >Small Business Forum
- >small business Saturday
- >Small Business Commissioner – Philip King (2020-)
- >Small Business Service—Exec agency, est 2000 then abolished by Labour
- >smallholder, smallholding
- >smart Alec
- >smart acquisition—until 2000, smart procurement initiative
- >smart bomb, smart missile, smart weapons—guided missiles
- >smart submunitions—multiple guided weapons from one device
- >smartcard
- >smartphone
- >SMCP—Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission
- >SMEs—small and medium-sized enterprises
- >smidgen—not smidgeon or smidgin
- >Smith Commission—made recommendations on further devolution of powers to the Scottish Parliament following the 2014 independence referendum

- >Smith report—Dame Janet Smith on Harold Shipman, 2003
- >Smith—WH Smith
- >smokescreen
- >SMS—short message service; a text message, dummy
- >SNH—Scottish Natural Heritage
- >snoopers charter
- >SNP—Scottish National party
- >so-and-so
- >so-so
- >SO<sub>2</sub>—sulphur dioxide; in acid rain and sulphuric acid manufacture
- >SOCA—Serious Organised Crime Agency; now National Crime Agency
- >Social and Liberal Democrats—the result of the 1988 merger of the SDP and the Liberals; renamed Liberal Democrats 1989
- >Social Care Institute for Excellence—est 2001
- >social chapter—much-loved part of Maastricht treaty;
- >social charter—charter on the fundamental social rights of workers [EU]
- >social class—social class I, II, III, IIIM, IIIN, IV, V; social classes I to V; social class A, B, etc; C1, C2; the C2s
- >Social Democratic and Labour party—the SDLP; constitutional nationalist party in Northern Ireland; leaders: John Hume 1979-2001 Mark Durkan 2001-2010; Margaret Ritchie 2010- 2011; Dr Alasdair McDonnell 2011-2015; Colum Eastwood 2015-
- >Social Democratic party—the SDP; founded 1981 by gang of four: Bill Rodgers, David Owen, Shirley Williams & Roy Jenkins; formed the Alliance with the Liberals 1981. Merged as Social and Liberal Democrats 1988; Liberal Democrats 1989;
- >social exclusion unit—in Cabinet Office
- >social fund—discretionary payments to the poor
- >social fund commissioner—see Independent Review Service
- >social media—singular
- >Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission
- >Social Security Advisory Committee
- >social security commissioners
- >social services inspectorate—from 2003, part of CSCI
- >socialism, socialist—but the Socialist party, Socialist Labour party are UK micro-parties; the French Socialists, the French Socialist party;
- >Socialist International—links the world's Labour parties
- >Socialist Teachers Alliance
- >society—1. lc meaning folk in general: society is to blame  
2. uc in organisation titles: Fabian Society, the society.  
3. always singular; check titles
- >Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists
- >Society of Education Officers—see ConfEd
- >society of friends; Religious Society of Friends is the formal name of the Quakers
- >socioeconomic
- >Socrates—overarching EU education and training programme
- >Soering case—ECHR refused to extradite Jens Soering to US in 1989 because of

conditions on death row

- >softwood, softwoods
- >soke—Saxon territorial division perpetuated in the soke of Peterborough
- >Solana, Javier—secretary-general of the Council of the European Union **1999-2009**  
& former high representative for the common foreign and security policy; ex  
NATO Secretary-General; [pedants only: Javier Solana Madariaga]
- >solicitor-advocate—Scottish solicitor acting as barrister
- “>Solicitor General—a Law Officer
- >Solicitor General for Scotland— Elish Angiolini 2001-2006, John Beckett 2006-07,  
Frank Mulholland 2007-2011, Lesley Thomson 2011-
- >Solidarity trial—covid-19 drug trial run by World Health Organisation
- >Somalia—cap. Mogadishu; pres. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud previously Abdullahi  
Yusuf Ahmed, PM Omar Abdirashid Ali previously Ali Mohamed Ghedi  
[2006]; former dictator Siad Barre; “warlord” General (Mohamed Farah)  
Aideed; Samale and Sab people
- >Somaliland—self-proclaimed republic, seceded from Somalia in 1991, consisting  
of the former British Somaliland
- >soman—nerve gas
- >something like—try some, about, almost, nearly
- >“something for nothing” culture—no hyphens
- >somewhat—often redundant, especially when it modifies a strong word
- >song titles—in quotes: “My Way”
- >Soothsayer—electronic warfare system [detects radio/radar signals, due 2005]
- >Soros, George—international financier
- >sort of—see “kind of”
- >SOSREP—Secretary of State’s Representative [intervenes in marine pollution cases]
- >soundbite
- >soup kitchen
- >south—lc even when it has a political meaning: the south of England; north-south  
divide; the deep south; south of the border;  
the south of Ireland: when “the south” refers to “Ireland” follow Member’s  
usage  
uc for councils: South Buckinghamshire
- >southern Africa—not the same as South Africa
- >South America, North America (continents), but central America (region)
- >South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation
- >south bank
- >South Circular Road
- >South East England Development Agency—[“see-dah”] abolished 2012
- >South East England regional assembly abolished 2009
- >South Ossetia—cap. Tskhinvali; see Georgia
- >South Sudan—became independent in 2011
- >south Wales—but South Wales police
- >*South Wales Echo*
- >*South Wales Evening Post*
- >South West of England Development Agency abolished 2012
- >South West regional assembly abolished 2009

- >South West Tourism—a regional tourist board now Visit South West
- >South West Water
- >south-east/west—lc and hyphenated; the south-east
- >southern Africa—but South Africa when that country is meant
- >Southern African Development Community—proto-EU
- >Southern Common Market—see Mercosur
- >southern Europe
- >southern Ireland
- >Southern Water Services
- >sovereign, the sovereign, sovereignty
- >Soviet bloc
- >Space Command—a Joint Command staffed from the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force and civil service. It officially formed on 1 April 2021
- >Spads—special advisers
- >SPADs—signals passed at danger (on railways)
- >Spain—King: was Juan Carlos until 2014, now Felipe VI; PM: Mariano Rajoy
- >sparsity factor—more dosh for rural councils
- >Spartan—armoured personnel carrier
- >Spastics Society—Scope since 1994
- >speak—as Orwellian suffix, hyphenated: new Labour-speak
- >Speaker—uc when it means the chief occupant of the Chair of this Parliament or its devolved and foreign counterparts. Mr or Madam Speaker is mandatory when the current occupant is meant. It is ok to refer to “the Speaker” in constitutional contexts.  
lc for Members who speak in debates
- >Speaker’s Committee for the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority
- >Speaker’s Committee on the Electoral Commission—the committee
- >Speaker’s Conference—rarely convoked cross-party forum to discuss grave constitutional matters
- >special adviser—hybrid party political adviser-cum-civil servant; Spads
- >Special Air Service—[the 22nd Special Air Service Regiment]
- >special branch—lc, every police force has one
- >special educational needs—SEN
- >special educational needs and disability tribunal—SENDIST; replaced special educational needs tribunal 2002
- >Special European Union Programmes Body—NSMC implementation body [NI]
- >special health authority—SHAs are agencies such as NICE, not to be confused with strategic health authorities, which cover areas
- >Special Immigration Appeals Commission—est 1998 for cases where Home Secy personally directs exclusion or deportation from UK
- >special representatives—lc unless immediately before a name
- >specials—occasional coppers
- >Special Standing Committee—before the advent of Public Bill Committees could take evidence on a Bill before the Standing Committee stage
- >specialty—in medicine; elsewhere “speciality” is ok
- >specific—hyphenated as prefix: gender-specific etc
- >*Spectator, The*

- >speech—Ic except Gracious Speech, Queen’s Speech; speech from the throne; Budget speech;
- >speed—25 mph; 35 kph;
- >Speenhamland system—19th century poor relief
- >spelling—don’t use US spellings except in quotes
- >SPI—smart procurement initiative; renamed smart acquisition in 2000
- >Spice, the drug
- >spiv
- >spokesman, spokeswoman, spokesperson—follow usage; Government spokesman, Opposition spokesman
- >Spoliation Advisory Panel—resolves claims from people, or their heirs, who lost property during the Nazi era
- >sponsor—a private Member’s Bill will have one promoter and several sponsors
- >Sport and Recreation Alliance—was the Central Council of Physical Recreation
- >Sport England—est 1972; was English Sports Council until 1999
- >Sports Council—see Sport England
- >Sports Council for Northern Ireland; now Sport Northern Ireland or Sport NI for short
- >Sports Council for Wales—Welsh title: Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru; now Sport Wales or Chwaraeon Cymru
- >Sportsmatch—business sponsorship incentive scheme for grassroots sport
- >SportScotland—no space; the Scottish Sports Council to 1999
- >sportsman, sportswoman, sportsmen and women
- >spot check
- >spot-the-ball
- >spring—lower case
- >springboard
- >SPS—single payment scheme; replaced by basic payment scheme in 2015
- >SQA—Scottish Qualifications Authority
- >square—Trafalgar Square; Albert Square
- >square measures—with figures: 25 sq mm; 25 sq cm; 60 square metres; 5,000 sq km;  
40 hectares; 15 square inches; 45 square feet; 10 square yards; 4 acres; 15 square miles
- >square one—back to square one
- >SRA—Strategic Rail Authority 2001-2006
- >SRAM—short-range attack missile
- >SRB—single regeneration budget; runs to 2007 but was subsumed in 2002 into RDA single programme; SRB round 3 etc;
- >SRE—sex and relationships education
- >SRM—specified risk material [dodgiest bits of cows]
- >SRSG—special representative of the Secretary-General [UN]
- >SSA—standard spending assessment [FSS from 2003]
- >SSAC—Social Security Advisory Committee
- >SSC—sector skills council
- >SSDA—Sector Skills Development Agency [an NDPB] in existence to 2008
- >SSFA—School Standards and Framework Act 1998

- >SSI—1. social services inspectorate
  - 2. Sahaviriya Steel Industries—no need to expand
- >SSN—nuclear-powered attack submarine
- >SSP—1. state second pension (not “second state pension”)
  - 2. statutory sick pay
  - 3. school sport partnership
- >SSRB—Senior Salaries Review Body (qv)
- >SSSIs—sites of special scientific interest [“triple SIs”]
- >SSTA—Scottish Secondary Teachers Association
- >St—always used for “saint”, not “street”: St Augustine; St Ives; St Patrick’s day. No full stop.
- >St Andrews—no apostrophe for university or place; St Andrew’s House in Edinburgh
- >St Helena—people are St Helenians or Saints; cap. Jamestown
- >St James’s Park
- >St John Ambulance—not “St John’s”
- >STA—specialist teacher assistant (ie a classroom assistant)
- >stability pact—EU rules on state budget deficits
- >stability pact for south-eastern Europe—OSCE aid for former Yug.
- >stadium—pl stadiums, not stadia
- >staff—“The staff are” but “The company’s staff is large.”
- >staffroom
- >stage—1. stage 1, stage 2, stages 2 and 3, back to stage 1
  - 2. at a later stage, at an earlier stage: try “later” or “earlier”
  - 3. shorten “at the Committee stage” to “in Committee”
- >stage-manage (v) stage-managed; a stage manager [theatre]
- >stakeholder, stakeholding
- >Stakeknife—IRA informer codename, allegedly Freddie (or Alfredo) Scappaticci
- >stand alone (v) stand-alone (adj)
- >stand by (v) stand-by (n and adj)—“They were put on stand-by.”
- >stand in (v) stand-in (n and adj)
- >stand off (v) stand-off (n)
- >stand still (v) standstill (n)—no hyphens
- >Standard & Poor’s—rating agency
- >standards fund—extra money for school initiatives such as beacon schools under SSFA
- >Standards and Privileges Committee—Since 2013 split into Committee on Standards and Committee of Privileges. They oversee the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, the Register of Members’ Interests etc; considers matters of Members’ conduct etc
- >Standards Board for England—also known as Standards for England; abolished March 2012
- >Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights—SACHR [“sacker”] the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission since 1999
- >standing advisory committees on religious education—SACREs; lots of local ones; all lc;
- >Standing Committee—historic term for Public Bill Committees; always uc; Standing

- Committee A; Special Standing Committee; EXCEPT standing committee on preparations for euro (a Treasury committee);
- >standing committee on preparations for euro—standing committee on euro preparations is ok
  - >Standing Committee on Regional Affairs—may be referred to as Regional Affairs Committee; now defunct
  - >Standing Committee on the Intergovernmental Conference
  - >Standing Conference of Principals—now GuildHE college equiv. of UUK
  - >Standing Medical Advisory Committee abolished 2005
  - >Standing Orders—House procedural rules: under Standing Orders; Standing Order No. 115; the Standing Order
  - >standpoint
  - >Stansted airport—not -stead
  - >Starstreak—anti-aircraft missile
  - >START—strategic arms reduction treaty; START 1, 2 etc
  - >StartHere—charity designed to help people social welfare services
  - >StartUp Britain—Government scheme to encourage new entrepreneurs; StartUp loans
  - >start up (v) start-up (n and adj)—business start-ups; start-up costs;
  - >Stasi—East German secret police
  - >state—1. nations and Governments: the state, reasons of state, member state, state visit, welfare state, the French state
    2. territories: the state of Vermont, Ohio state university
    3. Head of State, Heads of State, Heads of State summit
    4. Department of State
    5. State Department [US Foreign Office]
  - >state earnings-related pension scheme—SERPS
  - >state of the art—adj, with hyphens: state-of-the-art system
  - >state opening
  - >state second pension—not “second state pension”
  - >State Veterinary Service—executive agency of DEFRA until 2007
  - >station—all the bits before “station” are up: Sloane Square station
  - >stationary means static; stationery is used in the office
  - >Statistics Commission—until 2008, responsibilities taken over by UK Statistics Authority advises National Statistics on priorities, quality etc. Replaced Statistics Advisory Committee 2000
  - >statute, statute book
  - >statutory instrument—secondary legislation, now usually called delegated legislation; authorised by primary legislation but drafted and considered later
  - >Statutory Instrument Committee—1. the General Committees that deal with delegated legislation are now called First Delegated Legislation Committee etc
    2. see Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments
  - >Steakknife—NI agent’s codename is Stakeknife
  - >stealth—technology to reduce visibility to detection, esp by radar; stealth fighter = F-117; stealth bomber = B-2
  - >steamroller

- >Steel, David—ex Liberal leader; later Lord Steel of Aikwood
- >Steele, John—NI prisons review 2003
- >steelworker, steelworks
- >STEM subjects—science, technology, engineering and maths
- >STEMNET—science, technology, engineering and mathematics network
- >step change
- >step-parent
- >stepbrother, stepchild, stepfather, stepmother, stepsister
- >stepping-stone
- >STEPS—strategic transfer of the estate to the private sector [Treasury]
- >steradian—SI unit of solid angle; with figures: 2 steradians
- >stere—a timber measure of 1 cu m; 10 steres
- >sterling—lc: the pound sterling, sterling area, sterling silver
- >Stern review—report on the economics of climate change led by Sir Nicholas Stern
- >Stevens inquiry—Sir John Stevens has led three inquiries relating to NI, inc. one on collusion in murder of Patrick Finucane
- >Stewart, Sir William—report on telephone masts, 2000
- >StHAs—strategic health authorities (qv) but everyone uses SHA now
- >Stiglitz, Joseph—economist [not “Stieglitz”]
- >stillbirth, stillborn
- >stimie—use stymie
- >stock exchange—lc;
- >stocktake, stocktaking
- >STOL—short take-off and landing
- >stones—with figures: 2 stone; 2½ stone; 3 stone 10 lbs;
- >stop—see prevent
- >stopgap
- >stop-go—their policy is stop-go; a stop-go policy
- >stop and search—“The police have the power to stop and search.” “The power of stop and search is being abused.” “The police should have stop-and-search powers.”
- >storey—pl. storeys; a two-storey building [not two-storeyed]
- >Storm Shadow—CASOM (conventionally armed stand-off missile)
- >Stormer—armoured vehicle
- >Stormont—shorthand for the Northern Ireland Parliament that existed until 1972 and  
the Northern Ireland Assembly from 1998
- >STOVL—short take-off and vertical landing
- >straight and narrow—not “strait”
- >straightaway
- >straightforward
- >strait—means “narrow”: dire straits, strait is the gate, strait of Gibraltar, Bering strait; straitened circumstances
- >strait-laced
- >straitjacket
- >strand 1—strand 1, 2 etc in Northern Ireland talks, etc.
- >Strangers Gallery, but stranger, I spy strangers etc.
- >Strasbourg

- >strategic defence initiative—aka star wars; US '80s missile defence
- >strategic defence review—new Labour defence policy, 1998
- >strategic health authorities— abolished in 2013; 28 introduced in 2002; first abbreviated to StHA, but everyone uses SHA; not same as special health authorities (qv)  
lc: South West Peninsula strategic health authority
- >Strategic Rail Authority—est 2001 and abolished 2006; chair: Richard Bowker to 2004; David Quarmby, 2004-2006
- >stratum—pl. strata
- >STRB—School Teachers Review Body
- >stream—A stream; B stream; A-stream pupils; A and B-stream pupils
- >street—Downing Street, Fleet Street, Bond Street
- >Strike Command—RAF
- >Striker—armoured vehicle with Swingfire anti-tank missiles;
- >Stroke Association
- >structural funds—EU: see EAGGF; cohesion fund; ERDF; ESF
- >STUC—Scottish Trades Union Congress
- >Student Awards Agency for Scotland
- >Student Loans Company—doesn't normally require the "Ltd"; an Executive NDPB wholly owned by the Govt
- >STV—single transferable vote (a PR system)
- >stymie
- >Su—see Sukhoi
- >sub judge—under judicial consideration and thus prohibited from public discussion elsewhere; the sub judge rule
- >sub-clause—in contracts etc; this is not a term used in Bills
- >sub-committee—hyphenated; lc except Sub-Committees of the Cabinet or Select Committees
- >sub-editor
- >sub-let
- >sub-machine-gun
- >sub-paragraph
- >sub-post office
- >sub-postmaster, sub-postmistress
- >sub-region/al
- >sub-Saharan Africa
- >subatomic
- >subcontinent
- >subcontract, subcontracted, subcontracting, subcontractor
- >subculture
- >subdivision
- >subhuman
- >submunition
- >subordinate legislation—same as delegated legislation
- >subsea
- >subsection
- >subsidiarity—principle that decisions in the EU should be taken at the lowest

practical level

- >subsoil
- >subspecies
- >substandard
- >substratum, substrata
- >subtext
- >subtitle (n and v)
- >such as—"Towns such as Manchester" = "a group of towns including Manchester."  
"Towns like Manchester" = "towns similar to but not including Manchester"
- >Sudan—There were two separate conflicts. The Darfur conflict in western Sudan flared up in 2003 between Arab "militias" and black local inhabitants. South Sudan (the Republic of South Sudan) became independent on 9 July 2011.

Abu Shouk—refugee camp

Abuja—Nigerian capital, scene of 2004 talks

al-Bashir, Omar Hassan Ahmad—President since 1989; just "Bashir" is ok

Baggara—ethnic group in Darfur

Bahr al-Ghazal—province

Buergenstock—Swiss talks venue 2002

Darfur—province

el-Fasher—capital of Northern Darfur province

Fur—ethnic group in Darfur

Garang, Colonel John—leader of SPLA

IGAD—Intergovernmental Authority on Development [was IGADD to 1996]

IGADD—Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development

Ismail, Mustafa Osman—Saudi Foreign Minister

Janjaweed militia

JEM—Justice and Equality Movement [Darfur]

Juba—southern town

Khartoum

Machakos—Kenyan 2002 talks venue

Naivasha accords, protocol—Kenyan venue for 2003-04 peace deal

Natsios, Andrew—US Government aid co-ordinator

Nimeri, Gaafar Muhammad—President 1969-85

Nuba mountains, Nuba people

Nubia—name in classical and ancient Egyptian times for the area

Omdurman

Port Sudan—Red sea port

Pronk, Jan—UN special envoy

Raga—southern town

SLA—Sudan Liberation Army [in Darfur]

SLM—Sudan Liberation Movement [in Darfur]

South Sudan—President: Salva Kiir Mayardit

SPLA – Sudan People’s Liberation Army [SPLM armed forces] [in southern Sudan]

SPLM – Sudan People’s Liberation Movement

Sudan – is now officially "Sudan" but was "the Sudan" to 1975

Taha, Ali Osman—Vice President (2006)

Talisman—Canadian oil company

- >sudden oak death—caused by *Phytophthora ramorum* (aka *P. ramorum*)
- >*Süddeutsche Zeitung*
- >SUDS—sustainable drainage systems
- >suffixes—guidance is offered on the following: based; driven; efficient; friendly; gate; hearted; led; limited; neutral; poor; related; specific;
- >sugar beet
- >Sukhoi—Russian plane maker: Su-17, Su-24, Su-25, Su-27, Su-33
- >Sullom Voe—Shetland oil terminal
- >sultan—uc with proper names: Sultan of Oman, the Sultan, Sultan Mehmet II
- >sulphur dioxide—SO<sub>2</sub> is ok after it's been expanded once
- >summary offences—minor crimes, no jury
- >summer—lc; summer recess
- >summit—Camp David summit, Laeken summit etc
- >SummitSkills—an SSC covering electricians, plumbers etc.
- >*Sun, The*
- >*Sunday Business* published 1996-2006
- >*Sunday Express*
- >*Sunday Herald*—[Glasgow]
- >*Sunday Life*—[Belfast]
- >*Sunday Mail*—[Glasgow]
- >*Sunday People*
- >*Sunday Telegraph, The*
- >*Sunday Times, The*
- >*Sunderland Echo*
- >Sunni—Islamic sect
- >sunset clause—expires after given time; ghastly verb: sunsetting etc
- >Super Etendard—French aircraft whose Exocet sunk HMS Sheffield
- >super league—two words, lower case
- >super-casino
- >super deduction
- >super-highway—information super-highway; (internet)
- >super-injunction
- >super-levy
- >super-pit
- >super-quota
- >supercomputer
- >superconductive—zero electrical resistance at v. low temperatures; superconductor, Superconductivity
- >superfast—as in broadband
- >supergun
- >superpower
- >super-spreader
- >superstate
- >Supporting People programme

- >supply, supply day
  - >supranational
  - >Supreme Court—replaced the House of Lords as final court of appeal in October 2009; the Court; President—Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury was Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers to 2012
  - >Supreme Court of Judicature is now known as the Senior Courts of England and Wales (Made up of the High Court of Justice, the Court of Appeal and Crown court)
    2. NI's version of the same institution is the Court of Judicature of Northern Ireland
    3. Scotland's supreme court is Court of Session
    4. In US, uc: the Supreme Court
  - >Supreme Head—of the Church of England, ie the monarch
  - >Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe—SHAPE [NATO]
  - >Sure Start, Sure Start unit—early years childcare etc
  - >surgery—Members' advice sessions for constituents
  - >sus laws—allow stop and search or arrest on suspicion of crime
  - >Sustainable Development Commission—ran until 2011 chair was Jonathon Porritt
  - >Sutherland, Sir Stewart—long-term care of elderly report
  - >Sutton Trust—aims to improve educational opportunities for young people from non-privileged backgrounds
  - >SVQ—Scottish vocational qualification
  - >Swan Hunter
  - >SWAp—sector-wide approach
  - >swath—use swathe
  - >Swaziland, now known as Eswatini
  - >Swingfire—wire-guided anti-tank missile
  - >Swiss francs—in full: 2 Swiss francs; 20 million Swiss francs
  - >switch off (v) switch-off (n & adj)
  - >switch over (v) switchover (n & adj) esp. re analogue to digital TV change
  - >syphon—use siphon
  - >Synod—uc if it means the General Synod of the Church of England; synodical
  - >Syria—[see style sheet on M:drive](#)
  - >Systems of Choice—GPSoc; funds the provision of clinical IT systems
- 
- >t's—crossing the t's
  - >T-45 Goshawk—US version of BAES Hawk
  - >T-shirt
  - >TA—Territorial Army
  - >table—Table of the House; to lie upon the Table (petitions); Table Office; table a question, amendment etc.
  - >tabun—nerve gas
  - >TAC—total allowable catch [fishing quota]; plural: TACs
  - >TACADE—the Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drugs
  - >TACIS—don't expand to technical assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent

- States; EU aid to FSU and Mongolia
- >tackling knives action programme—TKAP
- >Tai Cymru—aka Housing for Wales; subsumed into Welsh Assembly in 1998;
  - Welsh equivalent of the Housing Corporation
- >Tajikistan—has two i’s; not “Tajikstan”
- >Takeover Panel
- >take away (v) takeaway (n and adj)
- >take over (v) takeover (n and adj): takeover bid
- >take up (v) take-up (n and adj)
- >take-home pay
- >take-note motion
- >Taking Part survey—DCMS survey on participation in culture and sport
- >Taliban—the Taliban are...
- >Tameside—a metropolitan council in Greater Manchester
- >Talented Leaders programme—seeks to recruit heads to challenging schools
- >talk—“Talk to Frank” national drugs helpline/website/campaign
- >Tánaiste—Irish Deputy Prime Minister
- >Taoiseach—Irish PM, pronounced “Tee-shuck”; pl. Taoisigh, pronounced “Tee-she”
  - >tap water
- >Taranis—unmanned combat aircraft system
- >target—targeted, targeting
- >tarmac; tarmacadam; tarmacked; tarmacking;
- >tarmigan—no, it’s Ptarmigan
- >TARP—troubled assets relief programme
- >Tartars—use Tatars
- >TAS—total assumed spending [TSS until 2003]
- >Taser—initial cap for the noun; to taser is the verb
- >taskforce—1 word, except in full titles of permanent organisations
- >TASS—Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Staffs; became MSF, then
  - Amicus and is now part of Unite
- >Tata—steel company; took over Corus
- >Tatars—not “Tartars”
- >Tate—Tate Gallery; Tate Modern; Tate Britain
- >tax take
- >tax-free
- >taxman
- >tax-paying (n and adj)
- >taxpayer—top rate taxpayer; lower rate taxpayer; higher rate taxpayer; but council
  - tax payer; poll tax payer;
  - taxpayer’s money – one person or the typical taxpayer
  - taxpayers’ money – all our hard-earned dosh;
  - You decide which is appropriate
- >TaxPayers Alliance
- >TB—tuberculosis; bovine TB; MDR-TB (multi-drug resistant TB)
- >TD—1. Teachda Dala [=Irish MP]
  - 2. territorial decoration
- >Tea Room—the one in the House is uc

- >Teacher Training Agency is now the Training and Development Agency for Schools; closed 2012
- >Teaching Agency—est April 2012
- >Teach First—educational charity
- >teams—England are playing well, Aston Villa are a good side
- >Team Badger—coalition of individuals and animal welfare organisations opposing the badger cull
- >teamwork
- >Tearfund—don't expand to The Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund
- >TECs—training and enterprise councils; see Learning and Skills Council
- >technicolour—derived from Technicolor, the film colour process
- >"tech bac"—technical baccalaureate
- >technical debt
- >Technology Strategy Board is now Innovate UK
- >tee-shirt—use T-shirt
- >Teesside—two s's;
- >TeGenero—makers of disastrously trialled drug TGN 1412; see also Parexel
- >Tehran—not "Teheran"
- >Tel Aviv—no hyphen
- >telecare; telehealth; telemedicine
- >telephone—phone is ok in most cases
- >Telephone Preference Service
- >Telic—Operation Telic = second Gulf war
- >television—TV is legalised; "telly" ok for occasional colloquial use
- >television channels—BBC 1, BBC 2, ITV, Channel 4, S4C, Sky 1, Sky Sports 1, BBC News 24, CNN,
- >television programmes—use quotes: "Father Ted", "Panorama"
- >Telewest—communications company swallowed by ntl
- >Tellers—for Divisions; "He acted as a Teller for the Ayes."
- >telly—acceptable only in occasional colloquial contexts
- >temperature—use superscript symbol with figures : 45°, 45° C, 45 °F, minus 45°. See also kelvin.  
General references don't require clarification of which scale is meant: "It feels like 45° below."
- >Tempus—EU prog. for CEE students; Tempus I, II etc; don't expand to trans-European mobility scheme for university students; est 1990
- >ten—in figures: "He spoke for 10 hours" but the ten commandments, ten-minute rule  
Bill
- >TEN—trans-European networks
- >ten-minute rule Bill—Members have 10 minutes to ask for leave to introduce a private Member's Bill; little chance of progress – used to advance a case
- >ten-minute rule—under which ten-minute rule Bills are introduced; not the same as the 10-minutes rule by which the length of speeches is limited
- >ten commandments, the
- >Tenant Farmers Association
- >Tenet, George—former CIA director; peace envoy in middle east

- >tera—SI prefix denoting a factor of a million million ( $10^{12}$ ); abbr: T
- >terawatt—with figures: 2 TW
- >terawatt-hours—with figures: 300 TWh
- >term time—term-time holidays
- >Terrence Higgins Trust—AIDS charity
- >terminal—terminal 1, terminal 5 (at Heathrow etc)
- >terminus—pl. termini
- >Territorial Army—the Territorials
- >territorial Departments—the Wales Office, Scotland Office and Northern Ireland Office
- >Terrorism Act 2000—repealed PTA and EPA (qqv)
- >Tervuren—in Belgium, proposed EU military HQ
- >tesla—unit of magnetic flux density; with figures: 1 tesla; 25 teslas
- >TESSA—tax-exempt special savings account [abolished]
- >Tetra—terrestrial trunked radio; set of standards developed by the European Telecommunications Standardisation Institute (ETSI) for common mobile radio communications infrastructure throughout Europe, primarily aimed at mobile radio needs of public safety groups, eg police, fire, utilities
- >text message
- >textbook
- >TFA—Tenant Farmers Association
- >TFEU—treaty on the functioning of the European Union (the Lisbon treaty)
- >TfL—Transport for London
- >TGAT—task group on assessment and testing; led to national curriculum and testing; [“tee-gat”]
- >TGN 1412—see TeGenero
- >TGWU—Transport and General Workers Union; merged with Amicus to form Unite
- >Thales—French defence/aviation company; bought Shorts Missile Systems; [“tallis”]; was Thomson-CSF
- >thalidomide
- >Thames Gateway—
- >Thames Water Utilities
- >Thameside—one word, one s for Kent Thameside, a bit of the Thames Gateway; cf Tameside
- >thank you—2 words: “We say thank you to the Government.”
- >that and which—that defines, which describes
  - The apples that come from France are green = French apples are green
  - The apples, which come from France, are green = They are green and happen to come from France
- >The Hague—thus The Hague convention
- >“The Plan for Growth”—BIS and Treasury document
- >theatre—lc: Royal Court theatre; exception: National Theatre
- >therm—unit of heat, esp. the statutory unit of gas supplied in the UK equal to 100,000 BTUs; with figures: 1 therm; 25 therms;
- >they—acceptable as a singular where hard to avoid; see also under “gender”
- >think-tank—but the Think Tank if it means the Central Policy Review Staff that

existed from 1971 to 1983

- >third division—football etc.
- >Third Reading—final stage of a Bill before Royal Assent
- >Third Reich
- >third sector organisations—no hyphen
- >third way—Blairite philosophy; the third way; third-way ideology etc
- >third world, third-world countries
- >Thomson-CSF—renamed Thales Group c. 2000
- >THORP—thermal oxide reprocessing plant
- >three R's, the
- >three-line Whip—the strongest instruction to Members to vote
- >threshold—1 h
- >through-life—covering a project's development before & after entry into service
- >throughput
- >throw away (v) throwaway (n and adj) throwaway line, throwaway society
- >TIALD—target identification airborne laser designation
- >tick box, a tick-box culture
- >tier 1, 2, 3—new system of covid restrictions
- >tier—a two-tier system; tier 1, tier 2
- >TIF—tax increment financing schemes
- >Tiger—Franco-German attack helicopter
- >tightrope
- >TIIN—tax information and impact note; published to explain tax policy changes
- >Tikrit—Iraqi town, birthplace of Saddam Hussein
- >Tilbury—not “Tillbury”
- >Timbuktu—city in Mali
- >time—hours in figures: 4 o'clock; half-past 2; 3 pm; 2.45 pm [not 2.45];  
14 minutes to 5; quarter to 6; it is now 10 minutes to 3; [but try 2.50], two  
minutes past 3; “Front-Bench speeches will begin at 5.07 pm”  
In procedure:  
7.5 pm, not 7.05 pm. No stops for pm or am. NB: on the rare occasions we  
need to insert a time at midday, use 12 noon.  
One space between the figure and the pm: 1 pm not 1pm.  
Timings in the House – don't use the 24-hour clock: 1.5 pm not 13.05
- >timeframe; timeline; timescale
- >Time to Change programme—helps people with mental health problems
- >time to pay arrangements
- >time-consuming—it is time-consuming; a time-consuming process
- >*Times, The*
- >*Times Educational Supplement, The*
- >*Times Higher Educational Supplement, The* is now called *Times Higher Education*
- >*Times of India, The*
- >timetable (n, v and adj)
- >timetable motion—same as guillotine; time limits within such a motion are  
sometimes called knives
- >Titan prisons; Titan prison programme
- >title—1. titles of articles etc are quoted but not indented, thus:

The article is headed, "Exit poll puts Lula on brink of victory".

2. Bills have a long title, short title and title clause; all lc

- >tittle-tattle
- >TLAM—Tomahawk land attack missile
- >TME—totally managed expenditure
- >to-ing and fro-ing
- >Tobin tax—James Tobin proposed tax on cross-border currency deals
- >TOCs—train operating companies
- >tolay—unit in Afghan army
- >Tolley's—law book
- >Tomahawk—cruise missile
- >tonnes—with figures: 4 tonnes, 25,000 tonnes, 2.75 tonnes
- >tons—only used in general references: "A ton of bricks" see also kilotons
- >toolkit
- >top rate taxpayers
- >top up (v) top-up (n & adj)
- >top-slice, top-slicing
- >tornado—pl. tornadoes (storm or aircraft)
- >Tornado GR1, GR1A, GR4, F3—to be replaced by Eurofighter
- >torpedo—pl. torpedoes; torpedoed
- >Tory—the Tory party is; the Tories are; Tory Members;
- >Total Place pilots; Total Place initiative—attempts to avoid the duplication of public services
- >Tote, the—horse racing betting organisation
- >Tourism Ireland Ltd.—publicly owned company set up under NSMC by Northern Ireland Tourist Board and the Irish Tourist Board
- >tourist boards—nine of the 10 English regional tourist boards are lc: East of England tourist board;  
the rest were: Cumbria; Heart of England; London; North West; Northumbria;  
South East England; Southern; Yorkshire;  
the other is called South West Tourism  
qv the national bodies;
- >TOW—don't expand to tube-launched optically-tracked wire-guided; anti-tank missile; TOW 2B;
- >TPAS—the tenants empowerment organisation [no need to expand]; the Pensions Advisory Service
- >TPI—targeted programme of improvements
- >TPIMs—terrorism prevention and investigation measures
- >TPP—trans-Pacific partnership
- >TPS—Telephone Preference Service
- >TPWS—train protection and warning system; preferred to ATP
- >Trade and Business Development Board—NSMC implementation body
- >Trade Justice Movement
- >trademark
- >trade names—lc when assimilated into the language: biro, hoover, sellotape, cellophane; otherwise uc: Guinness, Marmite, Ceefax,
- >Trade Partners UK

- >trade union—pl. trade unions [not “trades unions] but Trades Union Congress; the unions
- >trade union movement
- >tradeable—not tradable
- >trader support service
- >Trades Union Congress—the TUC; no need to expand; general secretary: Frances O’Grady. Previous: Brendan Barber 2003-2012, John Monks; Norman Willis; Len (Lionel) Murray; Vic Feather; George Woodcock; Vincent Tewson; Walter Citrine;
- >traffic commissioners—license heavy goods and public service vehicles
- >Training and Development Agency for Schools—TDA; was the Teacher Training Agency; now defunct; role taken over by the Teaching Agency
- >Training and Employment Agency—in NI; now defunct
- >training and enterprise councils—TECs; see Learning and Skills Council
- >training for work—Sc. version of work-based learning for adults
- >Train to Gain
- >tranquil—doubles the l: tranquilliser, tranquillity, tranquilly
- >trans-border, trans-frontier; trans-Pennine
- >Trans-Dniester/Transnistria—see Moldova
- >trans fats—chemically altered vegetable oils
- >trans people; trans equality, but transgender and transsexual
- >trans-European networks—EU scheme to develop energy, transport and telecommunications infrastructure
- >transatlantic
- >transatlantic trade and investment partnership—TTIP
- >transcontinental
- >transforming rehabilitation programme
- >transgender; transsexual but trans people and trans equality
- >tranship, transshipment—one “s”
- >Translink—NI integrated transport: Northern Ireland Railways, Citybus [renamed Metro in Feb 2005], Ulsterbus
- >Transmit—review of gas and electricity charging
- >Transnistria—Russian-speaking breakaway region of Moldova
- >Transparency International—Berlin-based anti-corruption group
- >trans-Pennine
- >Transplant UK—was UKTSSA to 2000, and now NHS Blood and Transplant
- >Transport and General Workers Union—the TGWU; the T and G; now part of Unite gen sec: Len McCluskey. Previous: Tony Woodley; Bill Morris; Jack Jones; Ron Todd
- >Transport for London—TfL
- >Transport for the North—TfN
- >Transport Research Foundation—runs TRL and Viridis
- >Transport Research Laboratory—privatised 1996; TRL
- >Transport Salaried Staffs Association
- >transsexuals—some prefer to say “transsexual people”, so follow usage; in headings use “Transsexual People”
- >travelcard

- >Traveller—uc for those deemed an ethnic group under the Race Relations Act
- >Treasury—the Government Department is always uc; Treasury Bench;
- >Treasury minute
- >”Treasury North”—move of significant part of the Treasury to Darlington
- >Treasury taskforce—evolved into Partnerships UK in 2001; dissolved in 2011 and responsibilities taken up by Infrastructure UK
- >treaty—always lc: treaty of Utrecht, Maastricht treaty
- >treaty of Amsterdam—1997 EU treaty
- >treaty of Maastricht—1991, expanded EU powers, set up EMU
- >treaty of Nice—2001, enlargement etc
- >treaty of Rome—est EEC, 1957
- >TreeHouse Trust
- >tri-service—covering RAF, RN & Army
- >triable—not “tryable”
- >trial—the ghastly verb doubles the l: trialled
- >tribunals—most are convened separately for each case and lc: employment tribunals;
  - but some are standing bodies and uc: Competition Appeal Tribunal; Lands Tribunal
- >Tribune—the Tribune group of Labour MPs was traditionally left-wing but became more mainstream; *Tribune* is the associated publication
- >tricameral—legislature with three chambers
- >trickle down (v) trickle-down (n & adj)—the ethics of trickle-down; trickle-down economics
- >Trident—nuclear missile: Trident II; Trident D5
- >TRIGAT—don’t expand to third generation anti-tank; European missile programme, UK withdrew 2001
- >triple A rating—not AAA rating
- >triple whammy; double whammy [no hyphens]
- >TRIPS—trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights; esp. the WTO agreement thereon
- >TriStar—K1, KC1: RAF in-flight refuelling versions of the airliner
- >TRL—Transport Research Laboratory
- >TRNC—Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus [not recognised by UK]
- >trooper—private soldier; swears like a trooper
- >troubled families programme
- >troubles; the troubles—period of conflict in Northern Ireland
- >trouper—experienced person; member of a theatrical troupe
- >trusts—1. see NHS trusts; PCTs
  - 2. uc in title of independent organisations: Peabody Trust
- >Tsar—not “Czar”; Tsar of Russia; Tsar Nicholas; the Tsar; the Tsarina; the Tsarevich; tsarism; tsarist; tsardom; drugs tsar
- >TSE—transmissible spongiform encephalopathy
- >TSO—The Stationery Office
- >TSR2—advanced British fighter cancelled by Denis Healey in ‘60s
- >TSS—total standard spending [TAS from 2003]
- >TSSA—Transport Salaried Staffs Association

- >TTA—Teacher Training Agency; disbanded
- >TTIP—transatlantic trade and investment partnership
- >Tu—see Tupolev
- >tube—the tube (meaning the underground)
- >Tube Lines—PFI consortium of Amey, Bechtel & Jarvis; leases Jubilee, Northern & Piccadilly lines;
- >TUC—Trades Union Congress (qv for general secretaries); no need to expand
- >Tucano T1—RAF trainer; built by Shorts under licence from Embraer
- >tunnel—channel tunnel, the chunnel, the Mersey tunnels
- >TUPE—no need to expand but it means the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 1981 and 2006; employees can be TUPE-ed
- >Tupolev—Russian plane maker: Tu-134, Tu-95, Tu-22, Tu-160,
- >tuppence, tupenny-ha’penny
- >turbocharge
- >Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus [not recognised by UK]
- >Turkoman—member of Turkic tribes of Turkmenistan, Iran, Afghanistan etc  
pl: Turkomans
- >turn out (v) turnout (n)
- >turn over (v) turnover (n)
- >turnaround
- >turncoat
- >Turner and Newall—bankrupt asbestos company [not “Newell”]
- >Turning Point—social care charity (drink, drugs, mental illness)
- >turnstile
- >Tutsi—central African people found in Rwanda, Burundi and Zaire (where known as Banyamulenge)
- >TV—can be used without expansion
- >Twenty20 cricket—new form of the game
- >Twitter—the service; the verbs are to tweet and to twitter; the messages are tweets
- >twopence—may also be tuppence
- >two-state solution
- >TXU—US energy company; sold British arm to Powergen 2002; TXU Energi;  
TXU Europe;
- >Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research
- >Type 22, Type 23—frigates
- >Type 42, Type 45—destroyers
- >type of—see “kind of”
- >type 1; type 2 diabetes
- >Typhoon—service name for Eurofighter
  
- >U—U-boat; U-turn; non-U
- >U-2—famous US spyplane (Gary Powers, shot down by Soviet Union in 1960)
- >UABs—unitary awarding bodies; set & mark exams
- >UASCs—unaccompanied asylum-seeking children
- >UAV—unmanned aerial vehicle;
- >UCAS—no need to expand; Universities and Colleges Admissions Service; not to be confused with UKAS—United Kingdom Accreditation Service

- >UCATT—Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians; has merged with Unite
- >UCCA—Universities Central Council on Admissions; merged with PCAS and SCUE in 1993 to form UCAS
- >UCI—International Cycling Union ; president: Brian Cookson; formerly Pat McQuaid
- >UCL—University College London
- >UCU—University and College Union
- >UDA—Ulster Defence Association
- >UDM—Union of Democratic Mineworkers
- >UDP—unitary development plan (local authorities)
- >UDR—Ulster Defence Regiment; see Royal Irish Regiment
- >UEFA—runs European football; don't expand
- >UFF—Ulster Freedom Fighters
- >Uganda—cap. Kampala; Pres. Yoweri Museveni 1986- , earlier Presidents Idi Amin; Milton Obote; other names: Kizza Besigye, Joseph Kony; Lord's Resistance Army; Acholi people
- >UIP—uncovered interest parity
- >UK—no need to expand; the UK; UK plc
- >UK Border Agency—defunct
- >UK Border Force—Border Force separated from UK Border Agency in March 2012
- >UK Breast Cancer Coalition—merged in 2003 with Breakthrough Breast Cancer; the new charity kept the latter's name; Breakthrough Breast Cancer merged in 2015 with Breast Cancer Campaign to form Breast Cancer Campaign and Breakthrough Breast Cancer
- >UK Coal—was RJB Mining
- >UK Export Finance—operating name of Export Credits Guarantee Department
- >UK Independence party—leader Nigel Farage; other names: Lord Pearson of Rannoch, Roger Knapman, Robert Kilroy-Silk, Paul Nuttall, Suzanne Evans
- >UK NARIC—don't expand; provides advice and information on international professional and vocational qualifications
- >UK Resilience—Cabinet Office emergency planning system
- >UK Unionist party—Robert McCartney's (North Down 1995-2001) minor Unionist grouping; the UKUP; don't expand UK
- >UK visas—see UKvisas
- >UKAEA—United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority
- >UKAEA constabulary—a separate force; replaced in 2005 by Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC)
- >UKASTA—United Kingdom Agricultural Supply Trade Association; in 2003, amalgamated into Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC)
- >UKCC—United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting; replaced in 2002 by Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
- >UKCS—United Kingdom continental shelf
- >UKEF—UK Export Finance is the operating name of the Export Credits Guarantee Department
- >UKFI—United Kingdom Financial Investments Ltd—manages the Government's

financial stake in the banks; James Leigh-Pemberton, in new role of executive chairman, replaced chief executive Jim O'Neil and chairman Robin Budenberg

- >UK GIB—UK Green Investment Bank; green investment bank for general references
- >UKIP—UK Independence party
- >UK Infrastructure Bank
- >UKPS—United Kingdom Passport Service; now HM Passport Office
- >Ukraine—“the” does not form part of its official name—[see style sheet](#)
- >UKRep—no need to expand but means United Kingdom Permanent Representation to the European Union; our permanent office in Brussels— negotiates and lobbies in Europe on behalf of the UK and acts as a link between Whitehall and Brussels
- >UK Roads Liaison Group
- >UK Statistics Authority
- >UKTI—UK Trade & Investment
- >UKTI DSO—UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation
- >UK Trade & Investment—UKTI
- >UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation—UKTI DSO
- >UKTSSA—United Kingdom Transplant Support Service Authority; in 2000, became UK Transplan; in 2005, UK Transplant merged with the National Blood Service and Bio Products Laboratory to form NHS Blood and Transplant; in 2008, UK Transplant was renamed the organ donation and transplantation directorate
- >UKUSA—United Kingdom–United States of America agreement in signals intelligence; no need to expand
- >UKvisas—was joint FCO/Home Office visa handling unit and then part of UK Border Agency
- >UK Visas and Immigration
- >ULEZ—ultra low emission zone
- >Ulster—follow Member’s usage; Ulster once comprised nine counties rather than the six it’s had since 1921; the Six Counties; the Nine Counties; the Province (
- >Ulster Defence Association—loyalist terrorists
- >Ulster Defence Regiment—in 1992, amalgamated with Royal Irish Rangers to form Royal Irish Regiment
- >Ulster Freedom Fighters—loyalist terrorists
- >Ulster Volunteer Force—loyalist terrorists
- >Ulster-Scots Agency—under North/South Language body; chief executive: Ian Crozier; previous chairmen: Jim Devenney, Ld Laird  
in Ulster-Scots: Tha Boord o Ulster-Scotch  
in Irish: Foras Albainis Uladh
- >Ulster Supported Employment Ltd—helps to employ the disabled
- >Ulster Unionist—usually refers to members of the Ulster Unionist party but can be wider
- >Ulster Unionist Council—from which emanates the UUP
- >Ulster Unionist party—leaders: Mike Nesbitt 2012- , Tom Elliott 2010-12, Reg Empey 2005-2010, David Trimble 1995-2005,ames Molyneaux 1979–1995

selected others: James Craig (Lord Craigavon); Basil Brooke (Lord Brookeborough); Brian Faulkner; Edward Carson

- >Ulsterbus
- >ultra low sulphur diesel
- >ultra-long-haul duty
- >ultra vires—beyond one’s legal authority
- >um-ing and ah-ing
- >Umm Qasr—Iraqi port
- >un—as prefix: un-Christian  
un-invent (v) but uninventive
- >UN—the United Nations; you can use UN without expansion: the UN,  
UN resolutions; the UN is singular; Secretary-General: Ban Ki-moon
- >UN-Habitat—short name for UN Human Settlements Programme
- >UNAIDS—Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS
- >UNAMA—United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
- >UNAMID—United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur
- >UNAMSIL—United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone
- >UN conventions—see conventions
- >UNCED—see Rio
- >UNCHS—United Nations Centre for Human Settlements; renamed UN-Habitat
- >Uncle Tom Cobleigh
- >UNCLOS—United Nations convention on the law of the sea
- >UNCTAD—United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- >UNDCP—United Nations International Drug Control Programme
- >Undeb yr Annibynwyr Cymraeg—Union of Welsh Independents
- >under-10 metre fleet
- >under age—he was under age; under-age drinking
- >under way—two words
- >under-10s, under-50s, under-fives etc
- >under-ambitious
- >under-fives
- >under-index, under-indexed
- >under-invest, under-investment
- >under-prescribe,
- >under-produce, under-production
- >under-recognised, under-recognition
- >under-regulate, under-regulation
- >under-represent, under-represented, under-representation
- >Under-Secretary—1. a junior Minister; keep references as short as possible:  
“the Minister” will usually do, but “the Under-Secretary” may help in  
distinguishing speakers. You never need “Parliamentary” in references.  
2. lc: an under-secretary is a breed of civil servant
- >Under-Secretary of State—as with a Secretary of State, we have the Under-Secretary  
of State for...(not of, at etc)
- >under-occupy; under-occupation
- >under-subscribe
- >under-supply

- >underachieve
- >underactive
- >undercapacity
- >undercapitalise
- >underclass
- >underdeveloped
- >underdone
- >underestimate (n and v)—“We cannot underestimate the importance...” means  
“It is not important...” Use “We should not underestimate...”
- >underfund, underfunded, underfunding
- >undergraduate
- >underground—lc for general references: the London underground  
uc for references to the company/organisation: “London Underground  
announced...” the underground; the tube; the Central line
- >underhand
- >underinsure, underinsured
- >underman, undermanned, undermanning
- >underpaid
- >underpay, underpaying, underpayment
- >underperform, underperformance
- >underpin
- >underprice, underpriced, underpricing
- >underprivileged
- >underrate, underrated
- >undersea
- >undersell
- >undershoot
- >undersize
- >undersold
- >understaffed
- >underuse, underused
- >undervalue, undervalued, undervaluation
- >underwater
- >underweight
- >UNDP—United Nations Development Programme
- >UNDOF—United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (in Golan heights)
- >UNEP—United Nations Environment Programme (boss: Achim Steiner, formerly  
Klaus Töpfer)
- >UNESCO—don’t expand; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural  
Organisation
- >UNFCCC—United Nations framework convention on climate change
- >UNFICYP—United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
- >UNFPA—United Nations Population Fund (retained initials from its past as UN  
Fund for Population Activities)
- >UNHCHR—see United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- >UNHCR—see United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- >unicameral—legislature with one chamber

- >UNICEF—United Nations Children’s Fund originally United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund; no need to expand; boss: Anthony Lake; formerly Ann M. Veneman
- >UNIDO—UN Industrial Development Organisation
- >UNIFIL—United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
- >UNIKOM—United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission
- >uninventive, but un-invent
- >union—the trade unions, unionism, trade unionists; uc in titles; singular
- >Union—1. the Union of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or of England and Scotland; Unionist and Unionism in either context: “In defence of the Union...”  
2. the Union, meaning European Union
- >Union Jack (strictly naval only, but don’t lose sleep), Union flag (general)
- >Unionlearn; union learning fund
- >Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians—UCATT
- >Union of Country Sports Workers (being dissolved)
- >Union of Democratic Mineworkers—Roy Lynk; Neil Greatrex
- >Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers—USDAW; gen secy: John Hannett
- >Union of Welsh Independents—Undeb yr Annibynwyr Cymraeg; Welsh Congregationalists
- >Unionism—support for Union of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, or that of England and Scotland
- >Unionist—supporter of the Union of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, or that of England and Scotland
- >Unison—gen sec: Dave Prentis; was Rodney Bickerstaffe; 1993 merger of NALGO, NUPE & COHSE
- >unit-holder—owner of property within a commonhold development
- >unitary authority—combines county and borough council functions
- >unitary development plan—local councils have UDPs
- >unitary health authorities—introduced 1996, abolished 2002
- >Unite—Unite the union
- >United Kingdom—the United Kingdom; the kingdom; you can use “UK” without expansion: the UK, UK figures, UK plc
- >United Kingdom Agricultural Supply Trade Association—UKASTA
- >United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority—UKAEA; decommissioning & fusion research; part was spun off as AEA Technology; sites: Culham, Dounreay, Windscale, Harwell, Risle, Winfrith  
UKAEA constabulary was its separate police force; replaced in 2005 by Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC)
- >United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting—UKCC; replaced by the NMC, 1.4.02
- >United Kingdom Financial Investments Ltd—UKFI
- >United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association—oil industry
- >United Kingdom Passport Service—now HM Passport Office
- >United Kingdom Transplant Support Service Authority—
- >United Nations—1. singular: “The United Nations is pressing for...”  
2. You can use “the UN” without expansion

3. It has a Secretary-General (qv); General Assembly; resolutions (qv); Security Council (qv); charter (qv); secretariat
- >United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan—UNAMA
  - >United Nations charter—chapter VII; article 35; article 35.1; article 73(a) etc >United Nations Children’s Fund—UNICEF, which suffices
  - >United Nations Commission on Human Rights—UNCHR; a committee of ECOSOC, not directly related to OHCHR (qv); replaced in 2006 by UN Human Rights Council
  - >United Nations conference on environment and development—see Rio
  - >United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation—use UNESCO
  - >United Nations Development Programme—UNDP; a body, not a scheme
  - >United Nations Environment Programme—UNEP; a body, not a scheme boss: Achim Steiner, formerly Klaus Töpfer
    - >United Nations framework convention on climate change—UNFCCC;
  - >United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights—(Prince) Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein 2014- ; Navanethem Pillay 2008-14; Louise Arbour, 2004-2008; Bertrand Ramcharan (acting High Commissioner) 2003-04; Sergio Vieira de Mello, 2002-03; Mary Robinson, 1997-2002; José Ayala-Lasso, 1994-97; see OHCHR
  - >United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees—UNHCR; a body and a person; Antonio Guterres from 2005, formerly Ruud Lubbers
  - >UNHRC—United Nations Human Rights Council
  - >United Nations Human Rights Council—UNHRC
  - >United Nations Human Settlements Programme—aka UN-Habitat
  - >United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo—UNMIK
  - >United Nations Industrial Development Organisation—use UNIDO
  - >United Nations International Drug Control Programme—under ODCCP (ODCCP has been superseded by UNODC)
  - >United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan—UNMOGIP
  - >United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
  - >United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina—UNMIBH
  - >United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea—UNMEE
  - >United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone—UNMASIL
  - >United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor—UNMISSET; replaced UNTAET, 2002
  - >United Nations Population Fund—a body; the UNFPA
  - >United Nations Relief and Works Agency—see UNRWA
  - >United Nations resolutions—resolution 242; UN resolution 242 etc (no “No.”)
  - >United Nations Special Commission—UNSCOM; 1991-99; weapons inspections in Iraq; last ch: Richard Butler; replaced by UNMOVIC
  - >United Nations stand-by forces high readiness brigade—SHIRBRIG
  - >United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor—UNTAET; handed over to UNMISSET in 2002
  - >United States—all the following are acceptable and no expansions are required: the United States of America, the United States, the USA, the US, US Government sources, US figures. “the States” is ok in colloquial contexts: “I was in the States last summer”; America is ok provided context is clear.

- >United States Agency for International Development
- >United Utilities—water company for north-west
- >universal bank—post office-based financial service
- >universal credit (No “the”)
- >universal declaration on the human genome and human rights
- >Universal Jobmatch—online Government service
- >Universal Postal Union—UN specialised agency
- >Universities and Colleges Admissions Service—UCAS
- >Universities Central Council on Admissions—[“ucka”] merged with PCAS in 1993 to form UCAS
- >Universities England and Northern Ireland
- >Universities Funding Council—the UFC; part of HEFCE since 1993
- >Universities Scotland—was COSHEP (qv) until 2000
- >Universities UK—was the CVCP (qv) until 2000
- >University—uc: Oxford University, Open University, University of Hull; University of Wales; De Montfort University
- >University and College Union—UCU; formed by a merger of the Association of University Teachers (AUT) and the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education (NATFHE)
- >University College—a college at Oxford University
- >University College London—UCL
- >UNMASIL—United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone
- >UNMEE—United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea
- >UNMIBH—United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- >UNMIK—United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo; can normally be left as UNMIK
- >UNMISSET—United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor; replaced UNTAET, 2002
- >UNMOGIP—United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan
- >UNMOVIC—United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission; replaced UNSCOM in 1999 and mandate ended in 2007; first head: Hans Blix
- >UNPROFOR—no expansion; 1992-95; UN protection force in Bosnia; see UNIMBH
- >UNRWA—United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; first six words will usually do
- >unringfence; unringfenced
- >UNSCOM—United Nations Special Commission; 1991-99; weapons inspections in Iraq; last ch: Richard Butler; replaced by UNMOVIC
- >UNTAET—United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor; handed over to UNMISSET in 2002
- >UNTSO—United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (Israel)
- >up front—pay up front; up-front fees
- >up to date—hyphenated adjectivally: up-to-date information
- >UPE—universal primary education (DFID)
- >upper class (n) upper-class (adj)—the upper classes; an upper-class twit; he is upper-class

- >upper House—the House of Lords
- >upstairs—lc when it means in Committee
- >update, updating
- >uprate, uprating
- >upside—as in “on the upside” etc
- >upskilling
- >upstream
- >upswing
- >upturn
- >UPU—Universal Postal Union
- >Urban—ERDF (ie EU) money for economic and social renewal
- >urgent question—new name for private notice question
- >US—“the US” and “US figures” etc are ok and need not be expanded
- >US military aircraft—F-15, B-1, F/A-18, B-52, C-130 etc; with hyphen
- >*USA Today*
- >usable, not “useable”
- >USAID—United States Agency for International Development
- >USDAW—Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers
- >USEL—Ulster Supported Employment Ltd.
- >user-friendly—always hyphenated: it is user-friendly; a user-friendly approach
- >USS—don’t expand to United States ship;
- >USS Cole—attacked off Yemen, 2000
- >USSR—don’t expand to Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
- >utilise, utilisation—try use
- >UTC—university technical college
- >utopia
- >Utting report—on children in residential care 1998
- >UUK—Universities UK
- >UUP—Ulster Unionist party
- >UVF—Ulster Volunteer Force
- >Uyghur—Turkic ethnic minority group, the largest group in the Xinjiang region of China
- >Uzbekistan—an “i” in the middle
- >V1, V2—German missiles in WW2
- >V-22—Osprey; US plane-cum-helicopter project
- >Valium—trade name of diazepam
- >valley—1. In south Wales: the valleys; the south Wales valleys; heads of the valleys; valleys councils; valleys people;
  2. elsewhere: Thames valley; Nene valley; but may be uc in titles: Tennessee Valley Authority
  3. RAF Valley (in north Wales)
  4. Test Valley, Wear Valley, Mole Valley are councils; Tees Valley Combined Authority
- >VALPENA project—French project evaluating fishing practices; a likely mention in fisheries debates
- >valuation tribunal—rates/council tax appeals
- >Valuation Office Agency—IR Exec agency; the valuation office

- >Valuation Tribunal Service
- >Van Rompuy, Herman—President of the European Council (Note the big “V”)
- >Vanunu, Mordecai—jailed for revealing Israel’s nuclear programme
- >VAT—value added tax; no hyphen, no need to expand
- >VC10—RAF use in-flight refuelling version of airliner
- >vCJD—variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
- >VDSL—very high data rate digital subscriber line (no need to expand)
- >VE Day
- >VED—vehicle excise duty
- >Vehicle and Operator Services Agency—2003 merger of Vehicle Inspectorate and traffic area network
- >Venice Commission—European Commission for Democracy through Law; Council of Europe body, helps eastern Europe constitution-wise
- >versus—in legal cases, abbreviated and italicised: *Pepper v. Hart*
- >Veterans Agency—was War Pensions Agency, then Service Personnel and Veterans Agency; now Veterans UK
- >Veterans Day
- >Veterans Forum—group of Depts and NGOs set up 2001 but no longer exists
- >Veterans UK—was Veterans Agency
- >Veterans Welfare Service
- >Veterinary Laboratories Agency—now Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency
- >Veterinary Medicines Directorate
- >Veterinary Products Committee
- >veto—pl. vetoes
- >vice-admiral—uc with names
- >vice-chief of the defence staff
- >vice-president—lc except with names
- >Vickers—merged to form Alvis Vickers Sept. 2002
- >Vickers commission—Independent Commission on Banking
- >Victim Support—charity
- >victims code
- >Victims’ Commissioner—Dame Vera Baird QC; previous commissioners were Baroness Newlove, Louise Casey
- >victims strategy
- >Victoria & Albert Museum; the V&A
- >Victoria Cross
- >Vieira de Mello, Sergio—assassinated UN Iraq chief [2003] Mr Vieira de Mello
- >VIPER—vehicle industry policy and European regulation group
- >Viridian—Viridian Group owns Power NI
- >Viridis—waste research company; part of Transport Research Foundation
- >vis-a-vis—use vis-à-vis; with accents and hyphenated
- >Visegrad Group—made up of Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia
- >vishing—scams using phone calls; voice phishing
- >Visitor Centre—of the House
- >VisitBritain

- >VisitEngland
- >VisitScotland
- >ViSOR—the violent and sex offender register
- >vitally important—use “vital”
- >vitamin A, vitamin B2 etc
- >VLA—Veterinary Laboratories Agency
- >VOA—Valuation Office Agency
- >Vodafone—not “Vodaphone”
- >VOICES survey—stands for views of informal carers for the evaluation of services  
but no need to expand; survey into bereavement services
- >volcano—pl. volcanoes
- >Volcano—anti-tank mine system
- >Volcker, Paul—chairman of the Federal Reserve , Iraq oil-for-food scandal report  
[not “Volker”]
- >volt—SI unit of electromotive force; with figures: 100 V; 1 V;
- >volte-face
- >Volunteering England
- >VOSA—Vehicle and Operator Services Agency
- >Vosper Thornycroft—arms company; merged into VT Group, which is now  
owned by Babcock International
- >votable
- >vote—1. an allocation of money: the defence vote; class III, vote 4  
2. a vote in the House, tonight’s vote
- >*Votes and Proceedings*—daily record of the day’s decisions in the House, later  
published as an entry in the *Journal*
- >VJ Day
- >VPC—Veterinary Products Committee
- >VTOL—vertical take-off and landing [“vee-toll”]
- >VTS—Valuation Tribunal Service
- >VWF—vibration white finger
- >VX—VX nerve agent, nerve gas
- >wagon—not “waggon”; bandwagon
- >Wal-Mart
- >Wales’s—not Wales’
- >Wales Act 1978—failed devolution attempt
- >Wales centre for health— est 2003; Canolfan Iechyd Cymru
- >*Wales on Sunday*
- >Wales Tourist Board—now VisitWales
- >Walians—north Walians, south Walians
- >walk-in centre—NHS, no appointment needed
- >walkway
- >*Wall Street Journal, The*
- >WAMAP—waste management advisory programme [of IAEA]
- >Wanless, Derek—NHS finance review 2001-02
- >Want2Work
- >WAP—wireless application protocol
- >war—lc: first world war, second world war, world war one, world war two, the great

war, seven years war, hundred years war, Gulf war, Vietnam war, Franco-Prussian war, Sino-Japanese war, Peninsular war, Napoleonic wars; Iran-Iraq war

- >War Cabinet
- >war graves—see Commonwealth War Graves Commission
- >War on Want
- >warhead
- >warlord
- >Warm Front—Warm Front scheme
- >warm home scheme; warm home discount (not “warm homes”)
- >warrant sales—sales of debtor’s goods, abol. 2000 [Sc.]
- >Warrior—armoured infantry fighting vehicle (AIFV)
- >warship—warship yards, warship building yards
- >Warship Support Agency—HQ: Abbey Wood
- >wartime
- >Warsaw pact—defunct Soviet NATO equiv.; the Warsaw pact countries
- >Wash, the
- >WASPI—Women Against State Pension Inequality Campaign
- >Wassenaar arrangement on export controls for conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies
- >Washington DC; no need for full stops
- >*Washington Post*
- >Waste and Resources Action Programme—WRAP; Government-funded company limited by guarantee
- >waste collection authority—usually the local council
- >waste disposal authority—not always same as waste collection authority
- >waste electrical and electronic equipment directive—the WEEE directive
- >waste regulation authorities—subsumed in Environment Agency, 1996
- >Watchkeeper—unmanned aerial vehicle
- >watchword
- >water cannon
- >water meter
- >water pistol
- >water rates
- >water table—the level below which the ground is saturated with water
- >“Waterfall”—strategy used in software development; alternative to “Agile”.
- >Water Voice—2002 renaming of Ofwat national consumer council; now Consumer Council for Water
- >water vole
- >watercourse
- >Waterhouse, Ronald—chaired north Wales child abuse inquiry 2000
- >Waterloo cup—hare coursing
- >waterproof
- >WaterSure—scheme to help water customers with their bills and provide assistance to consumers with a water meter
- >Waterways Ireland—NSMC implementation body
- >watt—SI unit of power; with figures: 1 W; 2.7 W; 25 W; wattage;

- >watt-hour—energy used when 1 W is applied for one hour; 25 Wh; 1 Wh; 1.5 Wh;
- >Wavell—battlefield computer system
- >way in which—is preferred, but omit “in which” where it sounds silly; or try “how”
- >ways and means—Committee of Ways and Means; Chairman of Ways and Means; Ways and Means resolution; First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means Ways and Means motion; both posts retain the title Chairman (not Chair)
- >WCA—work capability assessment
- >WCC—World Council of Churches
- >WDA—Welsh Development Agency
- >WE177—nuclear bomb; WE177B
- >weald—Sussex weald, weald of Kent, the weald
- >weaponise, weaponisation
- >weapons system—not “weapon”
- >weapons-grade—it is weapons-grade; weapons-grade uranium;
- >website
- >WECAN—Working for Environmental Community Action Now
- >Wednesbury principles—reasonableness test re decision making
- >WEEE—waste electrical and electronic equipment directive
- >weeks—generally uc: National No-smoking Week; International Week of the Deaf
- >WEFO—Welsh European Funding Office
- >welfare state
- >well off—those who are well off; the well-off; well-off people
- >well paid—those who are well paid; the well-paid; well-paid people
- >wellbeing, health and wellbeing boards
- >Wellcome Trust
- >wellhead—oilfields
- >Welsh—reporting of, if the Member does not repeat in English what they said:  
**Member:** I entreat all present: “Frodyr a chwiorydd, byddwch lawen a chedwch eich ffydd a’ch cred.—[*Translation: Brothers and sisters, be joyful and keep your faith and belief.*]”—It looks like I got away with it!
- >Welsh Assembly Government—equivalent of Scottish Executive, but now the Welsh Government following the Paul Silk reforms; go with usage
- >Welsh blood service
- >Welsh Development Agency
- >Welsh European Funding Office—est 2000 as Executive agency of Welsh Assembly to handle European funding
- >Welsh Government
- >Welsh Joint Education Committee—the WJEC; company limited by guarantee owned by Welsh local authorities; runs exams
- >*Welsh Mirror*
- >Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting—replaced by Health Professions Wales- which also no longer exists
- >Welsh National party—see Plaid Cymru; the nationalists
- >Welsh Parliament, Senedd Cymru; formerly the National Assembly for Wales; Welsh Government (equivalent of Scottish Executive), formerly Welsh Assembly Government—go with usage; MS = Member of the Senedd, no need to expand; Committees, Departments, Ministers listed in Vacher’s

First Minister: Mark Drakeford [predecessors: Carwyn Jones; Rhodri Morgan, Alun Michael; title was changed from First Secretary in 2000]  
its speaker is Presiding Officer or Llywydd: Elin Jones [predecessors: Dame Rosemary Butler, Lord Elis-Thomas]  
[Dafydd Elis Thomas acquired a hyphen with his peerage]  
We do not provide ascriptions for quotes from the Welsh Parliament

A Matter defines the scope of the Senedd's power to enact Measures. Once a Matter has been inserted into a field (devolved policy areas where the Assembly can seek competence) the Senedd can enact a Measure, which can repeal or amend existing Acts and/or make entirely new provision

- >Welsh Water—aka Dŵr Cymru
- >Wessex HC2—RAF transport helicopter
- >Wessex Water Services—Wessex Water will do
- >west—1. lc even when there is a political meaning: the west; the Christian west; east-west relations; the far west; wild west  
2. uc in names: West Midlands police (but lc west midlands for the area); West Sussex (the county)
- >west bank—ie of the Jordan; the west bank;
- >West Berlin
- >west coast main line
- >west country
- >west end
- >West Freugh—defence research site
- >West Germany
- >West Indian Standing Conference
- >West Jerusalem
- >West Lothian question—Tam Dalyell's devolution conundrum
- >west midlands—but uc in titles: West Midlands police
- >West Midlands regional assembly
- >west Oxfordshire, but when the constituency of Witney is being referred to, West Oxfordshire
- >West Sussex—a county
- >western Europe, western civilisation, western allies etc
- >Western European Union—non-EU, non-NATO defence organisation; the WEU; has Assembly; secretariat-general; secretary-general; committees
- >Western Isles
- >*Western Mail*—has lost its “the”.
- >*Western Morning News*—[Plymouth]
- >Western Sahara—Moroccan-controlled; Polisario, Algerian-backed independence movement, leader: Mohamed Abdelaziz [2006]; MINURSO (qv); Sahrawi people
- >Westland—merged to form AgustaWestland in 2001; Westland will usually do; made Lynx, Gazelle, Puma, Apache, Merlin
- >Westminster Foundation for Democracy
- >Weston Park—venue for 2001 NI peace talks

- >WEU—the WEU; Western European Union
- >WFP—1. World Food Programme  
2. winter fuel payment
- >WFTC—working families tax credit; replaced by working tax credit
- >whack-a-mole
- >wharfs—not wharves
- >What Works network—aims to improve the use of evidence in Government decision Making
- >what-aboutery
- >wheelchair
- >wheel clamp (n) wheel-clamp (v) wheel-clamped, wheel-clamping
- >Which?—rebranded Consumers Association; it publishes...
- >*Which?*
- >while—not “whilst”
- >Whip—noun is uc: Whips Office; Chief Whip; Government Whip; Opposition Whip; three-line Whip; Deputy Chief Whip; a Whip; verb is lc: to whip the Bill through; the Opposition are to be whipped tonight; pairing Whip
- >Whips Office
- >whisky, whiskies [Scotch]; whiskey, whiskeys [Irish] use the former for anything more general
- >whistleblower, whistleblower’s charter; whistleblowing  
whistleblower’s Act is the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998;
- >white list—list of countries said to pose no threat to asylum seekers, permitting their immediate return
- >White Paper—statement of Government policy, usually with intent to legislate and sometimes developed from a Green Paper. Full title in quotes: “Options for Change”;  
general refs. to defence White Paper or White Paper on gambling are ok
- >Whitsun recess
- >whizz, whizz kid, Billy Whizz (of *The Beano*)
- >Whizz-Kidz—charity for disabled children
- >whizz-bang
- >WHO—World Health Organisation
- >who—1. People are who; animals, organisations etc that or which  
2. management, staff, and workforce take who  
3. who is subject, whom is object; prepositions such as to, from, about and between are likely to require “whom”  
4. The President, who, I know, is a cricket fan  
= I know that the President likes cricket  
The President, whom I know, is a cricket fan  
= I personally know the President and he likes cricket
- >wholehearted, wholeheartedly
- >wholetime—used to describe firefighters, as opposed to on-call or retained
- >Wicks committee—see Committee on Standards in Public Life
- >wide—as suffix, hyphenate except worldwide, nationwide; EU-wide; Europe-wide; UK-wide
- >wide-ranging—the debate was wide-ranging; a wide-ranging debate

- >Widgery, Lord—conducted 1972 inquiry into Bloody Sunday
- >widow's pension, payment—see bereavement allowance
- >wi-fi
- >Wilberforce report—resolved 1972 fire dispute
- >WikiLeaks
- >wild flowers
- >wildfowl—wildfowler, wildfowling
- >will-o'-the-wisp
- >willpower
- >willy-nilly
- >Wilson doctrine—whereby MPs are not phone-tapped etc.
- >wind farm
- >windfall (n and adj)
- >winding up—the concluding speeches of Front-Bench spokesmen; the winding-up speech [not “wind-up speech”]; “He is winding up for the Opposition.”; the wind-ups
- >Winsor, Tom—former rail regulator (not “Windsor”)
- >winter—lc
- >winter fuel payment—not same as cold weather payment
- >WIPO—World Intellectual Property Organisation
- >wish list
- >wishy-washy
- >witch hunt
- >with profits policy
- >withhold, withheld—double h
- >wits' end
- >WJEC—see Welsh Joint Education Committee
- >WMDs—weapons of mass destruction
- >WMO—World Meteorological Organisation
- >Wobbe index, number—relates to efficiency of gas combustion
- >Wolf report—“Review of Vocational Education” by Alison Wolf
- >Wolfowitz, Paul—US Republican politician
- >Women's Coalition—see Northern Ireland Women's Coalition
- >women's institute—West Kent women's institute; National Federation of Women's Institutes; the women's institute
- >women's lib
- >women and equality unit—in Cabinet Office
- >women and work commission—Baroness Prosser 2005-06
- >woodland grant scheme—Forestry Commission dosh for farmers
- >Woolsack, the—the seat of the Lord Speaker in the the House of Lords
- >word—the F-word, the L-word etc
- >Work Choice programme—helps disabled people find employment and supports them in employment; to be replaced by Work and Health programme
- >workforce—plural: the workforce are highly motivated
- >workload
- >Work and Health programme—will replace the Work programme and Work Choice

for the long-term unemployment and claimants with health conditions and disabilities

- >Work programme
- >work-based learning for adults—retraining scheme
- >workhorse
- >working class (n); working-class (adj): he is working-class; the working class; working-class attitudes
- >working families tax credit—WFTC; replaced by working tax credit
- >Working Men’s Club and Institute Union—the CIU
- >working tax credit—replaced WFTC
- >workman
- >workpeople
- >workplace
- >workshy
- >Workstep
- >World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty—UNDP-led jolly
- >World Bank—president: Jim Yong Kim; formerly Robert B. Zoellick, Paul Wolfowitz, James Wolfensohn  
official name: International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- >World Bank Institute—training arm of World Bank
- >World Council of Churches
- >World cup—initial cap applies only to four-yearly FIFA football tourney
- >World Economic Forum—meets at Davos
- >World Food Programme—UN agency
- >World Health Organisation—UN agency
- >world heritage site, programme etc—UNESCO
- >World Intellectual Property Organisation—UN body
- >World Meteorological Organisation—UN body
- >World Service—[of the BBC]
- >World Trade Centre
- >World Trade Organisation—director-general: Roberto Azevêdo (2013- ); Pascal Lamy (2005-2013), Supachai Panitchpakdi (2002-2005)  
ministerial conference; general council; secretariat; trade negotiations committee; council for trade in goods; council for trade in services; council for trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights
- >World Uyghur Congress
- >world war one, first world war, the great war, 1914 to 1918—[see style sheet](#)
- >World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF, WWF-UK—no need to expand, follow usage
- >world wide web
- >WorldCom—busted dotcom company
- >worldwide
- >World Wildlife Fund—now World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF
- >worth—£250,000-worth, 50p-worth; billions of pounds-worth; but omit where unnecessary, eg “£2 million(-worth) of taxpayers’ money”;
- >worth while—the project is worth while; it is a worthwhile project
- >wrack—seaweed; all other uses, see “rack”
- >WRAG—work-related activity group

- >WRAP—Waste and Resources Action Programme
- >Wright Committee—Committee on Reform of the House of Commons
- >Wright, Lauren—abused child, 2000
- >writ—lc: move the writ etc
- >written answer, written questions
- >written ministerial statement—replaced planted questions, Nov 2002
- >wrong-headed
- >wrongdoer, wrongdoing
- >WSP—Wales spatial plan
- >WTB—Wales Tourist Board; now Visit Wales
- >WTO—World Trade Organisation
- >WWF—World Wildlife Fund, founded 1961; World Wide Fund for Nature since 1986
  
- >X—Mr X; If I take x apples and y pears;
- >X certificate—the film had an X certificate; X-certificate stuff
- >X factor—1. in inflation formulae: RPI minus X  
2. that part of armed forces pay that compensates for disruptions of service life
- >x-axis
- >Xinjiang—autonomous territory in north-west China, home to the Uyghur people among other ethnic minority groups
- >X-rated—it is X-rated; X-rated material
- >X-ray
  
- >*Y Cymro*—Welsh newspaper
- >yah-boo, yah-boo politics
- >Yahoo!
- >yards—with figures: 1 yards; 2 yards; 100-yard dash; run the 100 yards;
- >Yarl's Wood—detention centre; fire 2002
- >years—1. See dates  
2. year 6 [school]
- >yeomanry—uc in TA regiment titles: Queen's Own Yeomanry
- >yes—the answer is yes; they voted yes
- >yes-man, yes-woman
- >yobbo—pl. yobboes
- >yoghurt
- >YOP, YOPs—youth opportunities programme; '80s anti-dole scheme
- >Yorkshire—North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, East Yorkshire, West Yorkshire; North Riding, West Riding, East Riding; North Yorkshire County Council, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Sheffield city region, East Riding of Yorkshire Council; North York Moors national park, Yorkshire Dales national park
- >*Yorkshire Evening Post*
- >Yorkshire Forward—RDA

- > *The Yorkshire Post*
- > Yorkshire Water Services—Yorkshire Water will do
- > YOTs—youth offending teams; set up by Youth Justice Board
- > you—1. “you” is reserved for addressing the occupant of the Chair; when not so used, it is retained only to provide a trail of evidence for the Chair pulling someone up for using it.
  2. May be retained in phrases or sayings such as “You can’t take it with you.”
  3. May be used in reported speech: My constituent said, “You politicians, you’re all the same.”
  4. Its use in other circumstances should be severely rationed. Try reported speech, we, one, people etc. May sometimes be ok in sedentaries.
- > YouGov—pollster
- > Youth Contract—designed to get young people into work
- > YouTube
- > Young Enterprise Northern Ireland
- > young offenders institution
- > Young People’s Learning Agency—now defunct; role taken over by the Education Funding Agency
- > Youth—EU programme, adopted 2000; covers previous European voluntary service and Youth for Europe
- > Youth Council for Northern Ireland
- > Youth Justice Agency—in NI; replaced Juvenile Justice Board in 2003
- > Youth Justice Board—est 1998; ignore “for England and Wales”
- > Youth Parliament—sponsored by NSPCC
- > Youth Sport Trust
- > YPLA—Young People’s Learning Agency (no longer exists)
- > YTS—youth training scheme; 1980s anti-dole scheme; a YTS trainee;
- > Yunus, Professor Muhammad – founder of Grameen bank
- > yuppie, yuppies
  
- > Z—grade Z, from A to Z, the “A to Z” (the road map)
- > Zaire—see Democratic Republic of the Congo
- > ZANU-PF—Robert Mugabe’s party in Zimbabwe; don’t expand
- > ZAPU—long-standing opposition to the above; famous leader, Joshua Nkomo
- > zero—zeroed, zeros, zeroing
- > zero-emission vehicle
- > zero rate (n) zero-rate (v)—we support the zero rate; we are zero-rating children’s shoes; they have been zero-rated
- > zero-hours contracts
- > zig-zag
- > Zimbabwe—[see style sheet on M:drive](#)
- > Zinoviev letter—1924 forgery helped bring down first Labour Government
- > zoonotic diseases—transmissible between animals and humans
- > Zyban—anti-smoking drug

