

Embers, Complete — Key Vocabulary

by Gilbert Parker

48 key English words, graded A2–C2 — each with a simple definition and an example. Learn them before you read, or review them after.

A2 words (10)

afraid /ə'freɪd/

A2

filled with fear or apprehension

"afraid even to turn his head"

alive /ə'laɪv/

A2

possessing life

"the happiest person alive"

ancient /'eɪntɪənt/

A2

a very old person

"ancient history"

angry /'æŋɡri/

A2

feeling or showing anger

"angry at the weather"

apart /ə'pɑːt/

A2

remote and separate physically or socially

"existed over the centuries as a world apart"

arise /ə'raɪz/

A2

come into existence

"A new religious movement originated in that country"

bag /bæg/

A2

a flexible container with a single opening

"he stuffed his laundry into a large bag"

ban /bæn/

A2

a decree that prohibits something

"Smoking is banned in this building"

band /bənd/

A2

an unofficial association of people or groups

“the smart set goes there”

battle /ˈbætəl/

A2

a hostile meeting of opposing military forces in the course of a war

“Grant won a decisive victory in the battle of Chickamauga”

B1 words (10)

aboard /əˈbɔːd/

B1

on a ship, train, plane or other vehicle

“Their second homer with Bob Allison aboard”

acceptance /əkˈseptəns/

B1

the mental attitude that something is believable and should be accepted as true

“he gave credence to the gossip”

afternoon /ˌæftərˈnuːn/

B1

the part of the day between noon and evening

“he spent a quiet afternoon in the park”

aged /ˈeɪdʒɪd/

B1

people who are old collectively

“special arrangements were available for the aged”

alike /əˈlaɪk/

B1

having the same or similar characteristics

“all politicians are alike”

alternate /ˈɔltərˌneɪt/

B1

someone who takes the place of another person

“We take turns on the night shift”

ambassador /æmˈbæsədər/

B1

a diplomat of the highest rank

“an ambassador of good will”

anchor /ˈæŋkər/

B1

a mechanical device that prevents a vessel from moving

“faith is his anchor”

anger /'æŋgə/

a strong emotion

"The news angered him"

B1

Arctic /'ɑːtɪk/

the regions to the north of the Arctic Circle centered on the North Pole

"the Arctic summer"

B1

B2 words (10)

abide /ə'baɪd/

dwell

"You can stay with me while you are in town"

B2

abode /ə'boʊd/

any address at which you dwell more than temporarily

"a person can have several residences"

B2

admirer /æd'maɪrər/

a person who backs a politician or a team etc.

"all their supporters came out for the game"

B2

adore /ə'dɔːr/

love intensely

"he just adored his wife"

B2

adorn /ə'dɔːn/

make more attractive by adding ornament, colour, etc.

"Decorate the room for the party"

B2

afar /ə'fɑː/

(old-fashioned) at or from or to a great distance

"we traveled afar"

B2

affirm /ə'fɜːm/

establish or strengthen as with new evidence or facts

"his story confirmed my doubts"

B2

afield /ə'fiːld/

far away from home or one's usual surroundings

"looking afield for new lands to conquer"

B2

ain

B2

belonging to or on behalf of a specified person (especially yourself); preceded by a possessive
"for your own use"

alae /ə'læs/

B2

a flat wing-shaped process or winglike part of an organism
"the alae of the nose"

C1 words (9)**abreast** /ə'brɛst/

C1

being up to particular standard or level especially in being up to date in knowledge
"kept abreast of the latest developments"

adieu /ə'du/

C1

a farewell remark
"they said their good-byes"

afterglow /'æftər,gləʊ/

C1

a glow sometimes seen in the sky after sunset
"he basked in the afterglow of his victory"

ageless /'eɪdʒləs/

C1

continuing forever or indefinitely
"the ageless themes of love and revenge"

apace /ə'peɪs/

C1

with rapid movements
"he works quickly"

assail /ə'seɪl/

C1

attack someone physically or emotionally
"The mugger assaulted the woman"

asunder /ə'sʌndər/

C1

widely separated especially in space
"as wide asunder as pole from pole"

auroral /ər'ɔrəl/

C1

of or relating to the atmospheric phenomenon auroras
"a prominent green line in the spectrum of the auroras is called the 'auroral line'"

beading

C1

ornamentation with beads

*"bead the wedding gown"***C2 words (9)****abasement**

C2

a low or downcast state

*"each confession brought her into an attitude of abasement"***affright**

C2

an overwhelming feeling of fear and anxiety

*"The stranger who hangs around the building frightens me"***agleam** /ə'glim/

C2

bright with a steady but subdued shining

*"from the plane we saw the city below agleam with lights"***appal**

C2

strike with disgust or revulsion

*"The scandalous behavior of this married woman shocked her friends"***aslant**

C2

having an oblique or slanted direction

*"the sun shone aslant into his face"***astir**

C2

out of bed

*"are they astir yet?"***bewail**

C2

regret strongly

*"I deplore this hostile action"***clime**

C2

the weather in some location averaged over some long period of time

*"the dank climate of southern Wales"***deader** /'dɛdər/

C2

no longer having or seeming to have or expecting to have life

"the nerve is dead"

Read it along with audio — tap any word to hear it and see it highlighted in the sentence:

<https://readingcorner.uk/books/embers-complete/vocabulary>