

# Unit 1

**mean** [mi:n]  
**in relation to** [ɪn ri'leɪʃn tə]  
**relationship** [ri'leɪʃnʃɪp]

**Why are children sometimes mean to other children?**

*Children are sometimes mean to other children because they're jealous of something.*

**Has anyone ever done anything mean to you?  
What was it?**

*Yes, someone's done something mean to me.*

*My elder brother never let me play with his toys.*

**What's the name of the extremely mean man who's the main character of Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'?**

*The name of the extremely mean man who's the main character of Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' is Ebenezer Scrooge.*

[ebə'ni:zə skru:dʒ]

**Would it be easy to have a good relationship with a mean neighbour?**

*No, it wouldn't be easy to have a good relationship with a mean neighbour.*

**Is there any relationship between what we eat and health problems?**

*Yes, there's a relationship between what we eat and health problems.*

**Do women in this country earn lower salaries in relation to men?**

*Yes, women in this country earn lower salaries in relation to men.*

**What kind of relationship do you have with your relatives?**

*I have a good / bad / poor relationship with my relatives.*

**anxious** ['æŋkʃəs]  
**be anxious to do something**  
**anxiety** [æŋ'zaiəti]  
**anxiety to do something**

**What are people usually anxious about?**

*People are usually anxious about losing their jobs.*



If you had to travel somewhere by plane, would you be a little anxious about it? Why?

*Yes, if I had to travel somewhere by plane, I'd be a little anxious about it. Because I'm afraid of flying.*

What are the most common anxieties of a parent?

*The most common anxieties of a parent are children's health / education / safety.*

Are children always very anxious to open Christmas presents?

*Yes, children are always very anxious to open Christmas presents.*

Do most parents have a natural anxiety to do the best for their children?

*Yes, most parents have a natural anxiety to do the best for their children.*

**likely** ['laɪkli]

**unlikely** [ʌn'laɪkli]

**likelihood** ['laɪklihʊd]

**prophecy** ['prɒfəsi]

We sometimes add **-hood** to a word to create a noun meaning a state during a particular period of time.

For example: child – **childhood**, mother – **motherhood**.

If you had your mobile phone stolen, would it be very likely or quite unlikely for it to be found?

*If I had my mobile phone stolen, it would be quite unlikely for it to be found.*

What's the likelihood of catching a thief and finding a stolen car in this town?

*The likelihood of catching a thief and finding a stolen car in this town is very low.*

How likely or unlikely in your opinion is the following prophecy:

*I think it's very unlikely that Europe will have been destroyed in a flood by 2012.*

- a) Europe will have been destroyed in a flood by 2012
- b) a woman will become the next president of the USA
- c) intelligent life will have been found in space by 2030?

**relatively** ['relətɪvli]

**related to** [ri'leɪtɪd tə]

**in-laws** ['ɪnlɔ:z]



<b>Can a heart attack be related to stress?</b>	<i>Yes, a heart attack can be related to stress.</i>
<b>Do you know any other stress-related illnesses?</b>	<i>Yes, I know some other stress-related illnesses.</i>
<b>What's our pay often related to?</b>	<i>Our pay's often related to how well we do our work.</i>
<b>What do we call people related to us by marriage?</b>	<i>We call people related to us by marriage in-laws.</i>
<b>Do people usually have a good relationship with their mothers-in-law?</b>	<i>Yes, people usually have a good relationship with their mothers-in-law.</i>
<b>Why is it sometimes relatively difficult to have a good relationship with one's in-laws?</b>	<i>It's sometimes relatively difficult to have a good relationship with one's in-laws because in-laws sometimes try to influence one's decisions.</i>
<b>Is the length of human life relatively short when compared to the age of the universe?</b>	<i>Yes, the length of human life is relatively short when compared to the age of the universe.</i>

**occur** [ə'kʊ:]

**arise / arose / arisen** [ə'raɪz / ə'rəʊz / ə'rɪzn]

**vital** ['vɪtl]

**mental** ['mentl]

<b>What words are similar in meaning to the word 'happen'?</b>	<i>'Occur' and 'arise' are similar in meaning to the word 'happen'.</i>
<b>What does 'vital' mean?</b>	<i>'Vital' means essential, extremely important and necessary for something to succeed or to exist.</i>
<b>What vital substances naturally occur in meat / fruit / vegetables?</b>	<i>Some vital substances that naturally occur in meat / fruit / vegetables are fat / proteins / sugar and vitamins.</i>
<b>What are some vital elements of a healthy diet?</b>	<i>Some of the vital elements of a healthy diet are water and minerals.</i>



**Has a solution to a vital problem ever occurred to you in a dream?  
What kind of problem?**

*Yes, a solution to a vital problem has occurred to me in a dream.  
It was a problem connected with my work that had been bothering me for some time.*

**Can mental problems arise because of overworking / stress?**

*Yes, mental problems can arise because of overworking / stress.*

**What issues often arise at board meetings?**

*Decreasing sales / strikes / profits are issues that often arise at board meetings.*

**When a change in a train timetable arises, should the passengers be informed?**

*Yes, when a change in a train timetable arises, the passengers should be informed.*

notes