

de-pres-sion /dɪ'preʃən/ *noun* a feeling of great sadness that sometimes makes you ill and unable to live normally: *Her mother had depression for many years.*

de-prive /dɪ'praɪv/ *verb* to stop someone having something that they need or that they normally have: *They deprived the prisoners of food.*

de-prived /dɪ'praɪvd/ *adjective* deprived places or people do not have the good things that other places or people have: *Sylvia had a deprived childhood.* • *deprived inner city areas*

depth /depθ/ *noun* how deep something is, measured from the top to the bottom: *As part of our project, we had to measure the depth of the river.*

dep-u-ty /'depjəti/ *noun* (plural **deputies**) the person in a business, school etc who has the second most important position: *the deputy head teacher*

der-e-lict /'derəlɪkt/ *adjective* a derelict building or piece of land is in bad condition because no one has used it for a long time: *derelict factories with broken windows and holes in the roof*

de-scend /dɪ'send/ *verb* (formal) to go down **ANTONYM ascend**: *We watched the plane slowly descend.*

de-scen-dant /dɪ'sendənt/ *noun* someone who is related to a particular person who lived long ago: *a descendant of Abraham Lincoln*

de-scent /dɪ'sent/ *noun* (formal) when a plane, person etc goes down to a lower place **ANTONYM ascent**: *The climbers began their descent.*

de-scribe /dɪ'skraɪb/ *verb*

KEY PATTERNS

describe someone/something
describe someone/something as something
describe how/what/why etc

to say what someone or something is like or what happened: *Can you describe the car you saw?* • *The police have described him as around 25 years old, with brown hair.* • *Describe how you felt when you heard the news.* • *I tried to describe what happened next.*

SPELLING

This word is often spelled wrongly. The correct spelling is: **describe**.

de-scrip-tion /dɪ'skrɪpʃən/ *noun*

KEY PATTERNS

a description of someone/something

something you say or write that shows what someone or something is like: *Carson gave the police a description of the car.*

desert



de-sert¹ /'dezət \$ 'dezət/ *noun* a large area of very hot dry land where few plants grow: *the Sahara desert*

de-sert² /dɪ'zɜ:t \$ dɪ'zə:t/ *verb* if you desert a person or a place, you leave them and never go back **SYNONYM abandon**: *He deserted his family.*

PRONUNCIATION

You pronounce the noun: **DEsert**, with the stress on the first syllable.

You pronounce the verb **deSERT**, with the stress on the second syllable.

de-sert-ed /dɪ'zɜ:rtɪd \$ dɪ'zə:tɪd/ *adjective* a deserted place is empty and quiet: *It was midnight and the streets were deserted.* see thesaurus box at EMPTY¹

desert island *noun* a tropical island where nobody lives

de-serve /dɪ'zɜ:v \$ dɪ'zə:v/ *verb*

KEY PATTERNS

deserve something
deserve to do something

if someone deserves something, they should get it because of something they have done: *After all that work, I think we deserve a cup of coffee.* • *He is guilty and deserves to go to prison.*

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