

Words of Wisdom from The Words Workshop

Wordsworth says ... The word 'up' seems to have more meanings than any other two-letter word in the English language.

This two-letter word is listed in the dictionary as an adverb, a preposition, an adjective, a noun and a verb, not to mention the fact that it can also be used as a prefix.

It's easy to understand the word 'up' meaning towards the sky or in the context of something moving 'up' a list, but there are plenty of other uses for the word 'up'.



- When we awaken in the morning, we wake 'up'?
- At a meeting, a topic comes 'up', we speak 'up', and officers are 'up' for election. At the end of meetings it is 'up' to the secretary to write 'up' a report.
- We call 'up' our friends, brighten 'up' a room, warm 'up' the leftovers and clean 'up' the kitchen.
- People stir 'up' trouble, line 'up' for tickets, work 'up' an appetite and think 'up' excuses.
- To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed 'up' is special.

To be knowledgeable about the uses of the word 'up', look it 'up' in the dictionary. In my dictionary, it takes 'up' almost 1/2 a page with 35 different meanings.

If you are 'up' to it, you might try building 'up' a list of the many ways 'up' is used. It will take 'up' a lot of your time, but if you don't give 'up', you may end 'up' with a lot of uses for the word 'up'.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it 'up' now.

One thing is for sure, we seem to be pretty mixed 'up' about 'up'.



Wordsworth's management speak to avoid ...

People often use complicated jargon and management speak to make themselves appear as though they know what they are talking about. However, more often than not, this attempt to look clever leaves them looking like David Brent from *The Office*. A good example of this is the phrase 'there is no 'I' in team'. This is possibly one of the most cringeworthy 'motivational' quotes ever invented.

Let us know if you can think of any more and we might feature your suggestion in the next Wordsworth.

Wordsworth's quote of the month ...

"In a slight change of format, over the next few months Wordsworth will bring you the stupidest things ever said by politicians. Hold on to your hats guys, there are some crackers!"

To start us off Wordsworth quotes Mr foot-in-mouth himself, the former President of the USA, **George W Bush**.

On February 29th 2000, Bush was campaigning in Saginaw, Michigan. He gave a speech about energy policy, and said that he would not support the removal of energy-producing dams simply because they endangered fish. Everything was going smoothly until he declared: **"I know the human being and fish can coexist peacefully."**

A classic 'Bushism' we're sure you will agree. Looks like he should have come to The Words Workshop for some public speaking training!

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Telephone: +44 (0)1908 695500

26 Swanwick Lane, Broughton
Milton Keynes, MK10 9LD

<http://www.thewordsworkshop.co.uk>

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