

Exercise 1

- 1. Match the meanings in the boxes below to the nouns in the table below them. You will need to use one of the meanings twice.
- 2. Are the nouns countable or uncountable? If countable, are the plurals regular?
- 3. Complete the columns for verbs, 'person who...' (nouns), and adjectives.

Putting money into something with expecting to increase your money

Paying out (usually cash, for goods or services); opposite of income

Telling someone in authority about dishonest or illegal activity

Cheating a person or business out of money or other assets

Inability (usually of a company) to pay debts when they are due

Something that puts you apart from your competitors in customers' minds

Illegal copying of documents, money, usually for financial gain

Something taken wrongfully, often by force or by trickery

Meaning	Noun	Verb	Person who	Adjective
Putting money into something	investment	invest (r)	investor	
with expecting to increase your	(c/r)			
money				
Something that puts you apart	unique selling			
from your competitors in	point (USP)			
customers' minds	(c/r)			
Something taken wrongfully, often	plunder (u)	plunder (r)	plunderer	
by force or by trickery				
Illegal copying of documents,	forgery (c/r)	forge (r)	forger	
money, usually for financial gain				
Paying out (usually cash, for	expenditure (u)	expend (r) –		
goods or services); opposite of		rare		
income		spend		
Inability (usually of a company) to	insolvency (u)			insolvent
pay debts when they are due				
Cheating a person or business	swindle (c/r)	swindle (r)	swindler	
out of money or other assets				
Cheating a person or business	fraud (c/r)	defraud (r)	fraud/	fraudulent
out of money or other assets			defrauder	
Telling someone in authority	whistleblowing	blow (r) the	whistleblower	
about dishonest or illegal activity	(u)	whistle		

Note: The verb 'swindle' is more common than the noun. It is less formal than 'defraud', which has a more legalistic sense.

Teaching English | Lesson plans



Exercise 2

Use words from the table in exercise 1 to fill in the gaps in the following sentences. You may need to make changes, like use of past tense, or plural nouns.

- 1. We won't make any profit if <u>expenditure</u> continues to outstrip income like this.
- 2. In our <u>whistleblower</u> policy, we encourage staff to report any behaviour that goes against our organisational values.
- 3. His car was never stolen at all. The insurance claim he made was completely fraudulent.
- 4. He's a complete crook. He <u>swindled/defrauded</u> his own brothers out of everything, and left them with nothing.
- 5. That document may look genuine, but it's just a very good forgery.
- 6. While he was president, he <u>plundered</u> his country, moving tens of millions of dollars to private bank accounts.
- 7. I don't think our product really stands out yet, we need a USP.
- 8. I'm afraid you are unlikely to see your money. The company's insolvent.