

USING THE WORD "UP"

There is a two-letter word that has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that word is 'UP.'

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP ?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP ?

Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report ? We call UP our friends.

And we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver; we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car.

At other times the little word has a real special meaning.

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.

A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP.

We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP !

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4 of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions.

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 wind UP with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP .

When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP...

When it rains, it wets the earth and often messes things UP.

When it doesn't rain for awhile, things dry UP.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP for now..... my time is UP, so it is time to shut UP!

Now it's UP to you what you do with this information.

Fill in the Blanks: Use the words in the chart to fill in the blanks in the sentences below. You will only use each word one time.

uphill	update	up and coming
upbeat	uplifting	upright
uproar	ante up	upkeep
upside down	upset	upgrade
up in the air	upcoming	upbringing

1. If you turn something so that the bottom part is at the top, it is _____.
2. If you _____ something, you make it more modern by adding newer parts to it.
3. Events which will happen in the future are _____ events.
4. If you are playing poker with your friends and they want you to put your money on the table, they might say _____.
5. Someone who is cheerful and optimistic can be described as _____.
6. People who are likely to be successful in the future are sometimes called _____.
7. Your _____ is the way your parents treat you and the things that they teach you as you are growing up.
8. You _____ something when you change it to make it better.
9. If you are going up a slope, you are going _____.
10. The continual process of keeping a place in good condition can be called the _____.
11. A song or a story that makes you feel cheerful and happy is _____.
12. If you are not bending over or sitting down, you are standing _____.
13. An _____ is a lot of shouting and noise because people are angry.
14. You are _____ if you are unhappy, disappointed or mad about something.
15. Something that is not settled or undecided is _____.

Match the “UP” idiom with the definition in the table.

equal to the usual quality	most recent	behave
something you are keeping secret	tired of continual bad behavior	old or elderly
your decision or responsibility	good fortune and bad fortune	planning some bad act
capable	available to anyone	to separate or end a relationship

1. I've had my ups and downs, but in general life has been good to me.
2. The teams are so even in the city softball league that the championship is up for grabs.
3. My mother is getting up in years now.
4. I can tell by the way he is acting that John has something up his sleeve.
5. I heard Evan and Judy have split up.
6. If you want to go to college it is up to you to get the applications in on time.
7. I've had it up to here with your constant whining and complaining.
8. Keep an eye on those boys. They look like they're up to no good.
9. I don't think vinyl flooring is up to par for a house in that price bracket.
10. I have a new phone app that gives me up to the minute weather reports from every city I travel to.
11. You kids straighten up or we won't go out to eat.
12. I don't think Brian is up to the job of designing a new website for the company.