**Evaluation**

Title of Source: [Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English](https://www.ldoceonline.com/)

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English(2023). In Ldoceonline.com. https://www.ldoceonline.com/.

‌**Authority (minimum of 75 words):**

The Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English is produced by Pearson Longman, a publishing company founded in London in 1724 and is owned by Pearson PLC. Since authority is directly related to the qualifications of the sponsoring organization/producer/compiler, this background information reflects that Pearson is a reputable company providing English language courseware and assessment tools with over thirty years of language testing experience. As such, this lends credence to the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English.

**Scope (minimum of 100 words) :**

The (LDOCE) is a descriptive dictionary as it provides detailed information about the meanings and uses of words, including definitions, pronunciation guides, and examples of usage. The word treatment displays the definition, spelling, pronunciation and syllabication of the word. Syllabication can be used to help with pronunciation, reading, and spelling, and it can also help to identify the stressed syllables in words. The number of syllables in a word can also affect its meaning and usage, so it's important to be able to correctly identify and count syllables in words.

The LDOCE is designed with the intent to reflect how English is used in the world today, and provides up-to-date information about the latest vocabulary, including new words and phrases that have emerged in recent years. (e.g. FOMO (fear of missing out). The dictionary also includes information about collocations, idioms, and phrasal verbs, helping users to understand and use the language more effectively. Collocations can help to convey meaning and improve the fluency and coherence of language use. It is important to note that collocations can be difficult for non-native speakers of English to learn and use correctly, as they often have idiomatic meanings that are not easily predictable from the individual words. The inclusion of collocations in the LDOCE is an added tool for an English as a second language speaker.

In addition to its descriptive features, the LDOCE Online also includes tools and resources to help with language learning and development, including interactive exercises and quizzes, audio recordings of words and phrases, and a thesaurus section that provides synonyms and related words.

A thesaurus and the origin of the word as well as examples from the corpus are displayed along with the definition of the word. It is important to note, however, that not all words in the LDOCE receive the same treatment. Some also show grammatical examples and some show collocations. Additionally, the publisher’s stated purpose is detailed in the About section with a description of the intended audience of the dictionary.

**Arrangement (minimum of 100 words):**

While there is a search bar at the top of the Longman webpage, the page itself is riddled with advertisements which distract from the actual content of the dictionary and make it difficult to use. The fonts appear in multiple sizes and colors and the lack of uniformity makes the page distracting as well. The bottom of the website has a gray bar with a side scrolling feature and all of the links to the four other kinds of dictionaries pictured are broken and do not lead to further information. Overall, the LDOCE online site is not arranged in a user-friendly manner, and can be confusing to look at.

**Recommendation (minimum of 75 words):**

This online English dictionary would be appropriate for English language learners or individuals for whom English is a second language. The dictionaries contain an integrated thesaurus, collocations, and grammatical data which are all helpful for English language learners. The usage of word clouds, or word collages are useful to differentiate for visual learners. Since example sentences provided are from the Financial Times and Wall Street Journal, this online dictionary might be better suited for working adults in a work climate/environment, as opposed to high school students.

**Evaluation**

Title of Source: [A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia](https://medlineplus.gov/encyclopedia.html)

**Authority (minimum of 75 words):**

‌The [A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia](https://medlineplus.gov/encyclopedia.html) is available through the MedlinePlus website, which falls under the service of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the world's largest medical library, which is part of an even larger umbrella organization, the National Institutes of Health (NIH). NIH is one of the world’s leading medical research institutions and is a highly respected and reputable organization.

ADAM Medical Encyclopedia is robust in that it contains more than 4,000 articles about diseases, tests, symptoms, injuries, and surgeries. It is designed specifically to help healthcare professionals and the general public to better understand health and medical issues. The site holds Copyright 1991-2023 A.D.A.M., Inc. There is also a revision policy where new and updated articles are added each month. The A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia includes the date of review in addition to the names of the medical staff who review the content at the bottom of each encyclopedia page. There is also an editorial policy with schedules of reviews, continuous monitoring and opportunity for consumer feedback.

A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia. (2022). Editorial Policy. In Adam.com. Retrieved February 2, 2023, from <https://www.adam.com/editorial-policy>

**‌Scope (minimum of 100 words) :**

The A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia is designed to provide reliable and accurate information to both medical professionals and non-medical laypeople. The information is written in clear, concise language, and is reviewed by medical experts and healthcare professionals to ensure accuracy and a quality work product. The publisher describes the text content as evidence-based and peer reviewed, in addition to all visual content, which is created by illustrators with advanced degrees and reviewed by physicians.

Compared with the Mayo Clinic’s Patient Care and Health Information encyclopedic site, one notices right away that Mayo’s site has advertisements embedded in the page, whereas MedlinePlus and A.D.A.M. have none. Mayo’s Patient Care and Health Information page is divided up into four subsections: Diseases and Conditions A-Z, Symptoms A-Z, Tests and Procedures A-Z, and Drugs and Supplements A-Z. Instead, A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia combines all of these topics in their alpha-ordered online directory of articles and does not separate them out. While this organization process lends itself to a more streamlined effect on A.D.A.M’s page, the way the Mayo Clinic has subdivided their medical information is helpful to the layperson who just wants to search for symptoms or for their medication. Furthermore, when searching for “Allergies” in A.D.A.M., the user receives detailed information including causes, symptoms, testing and treatment in addition to renderings, photographs and a video. In the Mayo Clinics encyclopedia of Diseases and Conditions, a text based article appears for “Allergies” without any visuals.

A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia. (2022). Editorial Policy. In Adam.com. Retrieved February 2, 2023, from <https://www.adam.com/editorial-policy>

Mayo Clinic. (2023). Patient Care and Health Information. In Mayoclinic.org. Retrieved Feb 7, 2023 from <https://www.mayoclinic.org/patient-care-and-health-information>

**Arrangement (minimum of 100 words):**

The arrangement of A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia’s articles are organized A-Z in

alphabetical order. The site itself is laid out in a clear, easy to follow fashion. There are no advertisements on the site, preventing the user from getting distracted or misled. There is a search bar at the top of the site for searching MedlinePlus for topics. The user is referred to a results list and upon clicking on a link, one is referred to a corresponding article in the encyclopedia. Therefore, information can be accessed via the search bar or by clicking on the corresponding letter of the alphabet that starts the name of the disease, part of the anatomy, tests or symptoms.

The site map is arranged fist by information on conditions, diseases and wellness for a

variety of linked health. It includes ways to contact the National Library of Medicine,

in addition to Copyright information and an About MedlinePlus section. The mission of

MedlinePlus is to provide easily accessible information to the general public that is free of charge and uncomplicated to understand. Additionally, the encyclopedia is accessible in both English and Spanish languages.

**Recommendation (minimum of 75 words):**

Upon evaluation, the A.D.A.M, Medical Encyclopedia is overall a comprehensive and trustworthy source of information that is designed to help both healthcare professionals and the general public to come to a better understanding of a vast array of health and medical topics. The encyclopedia is accessible to a layperson as well as a medical student or physician. Terms are clearly defined and visual representations of show detailed and accurate illustrations of various human anatomy and physiology systems. The illustrations are accompanied by animations and text descriptions that provide additional information and help to explain the functions of different structures within the body. A.D.A.M. is designed specifically to aid healthcare professionals, students, and the public to better understand the human body, and can be a valuable resource for anyone interested in learning more about health and medicine.

**Evaluation**

Title of Source: [Directory of Open Access Books](https://www.doabooks.org/)

**Authority (minimum of 75 words):**

The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) is a comprehensive directory of academic peer-reviewed books that have been published under an open access license, boasting over 64,500 academic peer reviewed books. The publishers featured in DOAB are required to meet certain criteria, including having a peer-review process, providing open access to their publications, and having a registered International Standard Book Number (ISBN). However, DOAB does not assess or endorse the credentials of individual publishers, but only checks that the publisher meets these minimum criteria.

The copyright listed is for 2020-2023 OAPEN. OAPEN is a European initiative with the goal of improving the accessibility and visibility of open access books. The ability to contact DOAB’s producer has been made possible under Contact by providing two email points of contacts in addition to an embedded Google Form to contact DOAB.

**Scope (minimum of 100 words) :**

There are several limitations to the DOAB that should be kept in mind when using it as a resource, including currency, completeness, and even the quality control of the books available. Regarding currency, while DOAB is regularly updated, there can be delays between the book publishing date and the date it’s put into the directory. Even though DOAB only lists peer-reviewed books, the quality of the books included in the directory can vary. DOAB does not perform its own independent quality assessments, but instead relies on the peer-review process of the publishing organizations. Additionally, DOAB is not a comprehensive directory of all open access books that have been published. Books listed have been submitted by publishers and may not be representative of all open access books available. These limitations should be taken into consideration when using the DOAB as a resource for research or study.

**Arrangement (minimum of 100 words):**

DOAB’s website has a slick, professional layout and the color palate is easy to view. There is a Search button at the very top of the page that leads the user to narrow the search by category: Subjects, Publishers, Languages or Collections. One can also opt to search All of DOAB. The navigation is intuitive and there is an ample FAQ section that includes advanced search feature help. Upon further examination of the site, no broken links were found, however, the probability is high that some links to the book downloads may be broken or lead to restricted access pages. Additionally, availability of the full text of a book may be subject to restrictions imposed by the publisher or the copyright holder.

**Recommendation (minimum of 75 words):**

Researchers, scholars, students, and anyone interested in accessing scholarly books would comprise the primary users of the DOAB. DOAB offers a way for users to discover and access a wide range of academic books from different publishers and disciplines, with the benefit of being free of charge via open access scholarly publishing. In addition, librarians and academic institutions use DOAB as a tool to support open access publishing and to promote the visibility and dissemination of scholarly books. Despite the aforementioned limitations, the DOAB remains a valuable tool for discovering open access books and increasing the visibility and impact of open access scholarly publishing.‌