

Bono can't help Africans by stealing their voice (17 June 2013)

The ONE campaign does not drown out African voices (25 June 2013)

heap praise on [idiom]

to praise someone a lot

mired [adj] (< mire [n, vt])

stuck in a bad situation and unable to get out or make progress

butchery [n]

cruel and unnecessary killing

the preparation of meat for sale

figurative [adj] (> figuratively [adv])

a figurative word or phrase is used in a different way from its usual meaning, to give you a particular idea or picture in your mind

drown out [phv]

if a loud noise drowns out another sound, it prevents it from being heard

draw attention [idiom]

to notice something

(draw somebody's attention = to make someone notice something)

strike a deal [idiom]

to agree to do something for someone if they do something for you

furious [adj] (+at, about, with)

very angry

step up [phv]

to increase the amount of an activity or the speed of a process in order to improve a situation

elision [n] (< elide [vt])

the act of leaving out the sound of part of a word when you are pronouncing it

exaggeration [n]

a statement or way of saying something that makes something seem better, larger etc than it really is

pique your interest/curiosity [idiom]

to make you feel interested in something or someone

assert [vt]

to state firmly that something is true

in the face of [idiom]

when confronted with

despite of

devastating [adj]

badly damaging or destroying something

making someone feel extremely sad or shocked

amplify [vt]

to make sound louder, especially musical sound

to increase the effects or strength of something

to explain something that you have said by giving more information about it

discourse [n]

the language used in particular types of speech or writing

a serious speech or piece of writing on a particular subject

patronise [vt]

to talk to someone in a way which seems friendly but shows that you think they are not as intelligent or do not know as much as you

to support or give money to an organization or activity

slick [adj]

if someone is slick, they are good at persuading people, often in a way that does not seem honest

done smoothly and quickly

missionary [n, adj]

someone who has been sent to a foreign country to teach people about Christianity and persuade them to become Christians

technocracy [n]

a social system in which people with a lot of knowledge about science, machines, and computers have a lot of power

mandate [n]

an official instruction given to a person or organization, allowing them to do something

if a government or official has a mandate to make important decisions, they have the authority to make the decisions because they have been elected by the people to do so

assume a role [idiom]

to play or take on a role

saviour [n]

someone who saves you from a difficult or dangerous situation

lend something to something [phv]

to give a situation, event etc a particular quality

(lend weight/support to something = to make an opinion or belief seem more likely to be correct)

aristocrat [n]

someone who belongs to the highest social class

enforcer [n]

someone whose job is to make sure people do the things they should

browbeat [vt]

to try to make someone do something, especially in a threatening way

baron [n]

a businessman with a lot of power or influence

projection [n]

something that you imagine to have particular qualities because of your wishes or feelings

revolting [adj]

extremely unpleasant (= disgusting)

opaque [adj]

difficult to understand

opaque glass or liquid is difficult to see through and often thick

dubious [adj]

probably not honest, true, right, etc.

whereupon [conj]

used when something happens immediately after something else, or as a result of something happening

philanthropy [n] (> philanthropist)

the practice of giving money and help to people who are poor or in trouble

canvass [vt, vi]

to ask people about something in order to get their opinion or to get information

illuminate [vt]

to make something much clearer and easier to understand

come about [phv]

to happen, especially in a way that is not planned

vaccinate [vt] (> vaccination [n])

to protect a person or animal from a disease by giving them a vaccine