

What's in a word

This task is about understanding some of the key features found on a page in a dictionary.

Here are some entries from a dictionary page.

rampant

rampant /ræmpənt/. ADJ If a crime, feeling, or disease is **rampant**, it is growing or spreading in an uncontrolled way. ... *the abuses now rampant in the American legal system.*

ramshackle /ræmʃækəl/. ATTRIB ADJ A **ramshackle** building is badly made or in a very bad condition. ... *a ramshackle cottage.*

ran /ræn/. **Ran** is the past tense of **run**.

rap /ræp/, **raps**, **rapping**, **rapped**. 1 VB WITH OR WITHOUT OBJ, WITH ADJUNCT If you **rap** on something or if you **rap** it, you hit it with a series of quick blows. *He rapped on the table and called for silence.* 2 COUNT N A **rap** is a quick hit or knock against something. *A light rap sounded at the door.*

PHRASES • If you receive a **rap over the knuckles**, you receive a warning or criticism. • If you **take the rap**, you are blamed or punished for something, even if it is not your fault; an informal use. *Lloyd will have to take the rap.*

rap out. PHR VB If you **rap out** an order or a question, you say it quickly and sharply. *'Is that the truth?' he suddenly rapped out.*

rat race

rash /ræʃ/, **rashes**. 1 ADJ If you or your behaviour is **rash**, you do foolish things because you act without thinking carefully first. *Don't do anything rash... Some rash promises were made.*

◆ **rashly** ADV *I'm not a man who does things rashly.* 2 COUNT N A **rash** is an area of red spots on your skin which appear when you are ill or have an allergy. ... *a man with a rash on one side of his neck.* 3 SING N A **rash** of events is a large number of them that all happen within a short period of time. *No one wishes to see a rash of strikes.*

rasher /ræʃə/, **rashers**. COUNT N A **rasher** of bacon is a thin slice of it.

rasp /ræsp/, **rasps**, **rasping**, **rasped**. VB To **rasp** means to make a harsh unpleasant sound. *Crickets rasped loudly. ... a dry rasping voice.* Also SING N ... *the rasp of sandpaper on wood.*

rat race. SING N If you describe a situation as a **rat race**, you mean that the people in it are all competing fiercely with each other; used showing disapproval. *I was determined to get out of the rat race.*

a) Write down the two guide words that appear on this page.

b) Write down two head-words that are on this page. _____

c) Some head-words have more than one syllable. Write down one of these words.

d) There are several different types of font used in the dictionary extract.

Draw a line to join the type of font with its use. There will be one "use" left over.

Type of font used	Use
i) UPPER CASE	A used when explaining the meaning of a word
ii) <i>italic</i>	B identifies the head-word in the entry
iii) bold	C used to give examples of words with opposite meanings
iv) normal type	D used to give some information about which parts of speech the word belongs to
	E used when giving an example of how the word is used

e) In one sentence, explain how the dictionary shows which syllable of a word is stressed when it is spoken.

f) Write down one example of a word which can be used both as a noun and as a verb.

g) What do the following abbreviations from the dictionary extract mean?

- i) ADJ _____
- ii) SING N _____