abandon verb
1 The robbers abandoned the stolen car.
leave, desert, forsake, leave behind, strand (informal) dump, ditch
2 We abandoned our picnic because of the rain.
cancel, give up, scrap, drop, abort, discard

abduct verb
The pirates abducted two members of the crew.
kidnap

ability noun
Skin has a natural ability to heal itself.
capability, competence, aptitude, talent, expertise, skill

able adjective
1 Will you be able to come to my party?
allowed, permitted, free, willing
opposite unable
2 Penguins are very able swimmers.
competent, capable, accomplished, expert, skilful, proficient, talented, gifted
opposite incompetent

abnormal adjective
It's abnormal to have snow in June.
unusual, exceptional, extraordinary, peculiar, odd, strange, weird, bizarre, unnatural, freak
opposite normal

abolish verb
I wish someone would abolish homework!
get rid of, do away with, put an end to, eliminate
opposite create

about preposition
There are about two hundred children in the school.
approximately, roughly, close to, around
to be about something
The film is about a dog called Scruff.
concern, deal with, involve

above preposition
The witch flew above the rooftops on her broom.
over, higher than

abroad adverb
We're planning to go abroad next summer.
overseas, to a foreign country

abrupt adjective
1 The book came to a very abrupt end.
sudden, hurried, hasty, quick, unexpected
opposite gradual
2 The sales assistant had a very abrupt manner.
blunt, curt, sharp, rude, gruff, impolite, tactless, unfriendly
opposite polite

absence noun
There's an absence of salt in the soup.
lack, want, need, deficit
opposite presence

absent adjective
Why were you absent from school yesterday?
away, missing
To be absent from school without a good reason is to play truant.
opposite present

absent-minded adjective
The absent-minded witch had forgotten the spell.
forgetful, careless, inattentive, vague
opposite alert

absolute adjective
The hypnotist asked for absolute silence.
complete, total, utter, perfect

absolutely adverb
This floor is absolutely filthy!
completely, thoroughly, totally, utterly, wholly, entirely