**Chapter 17**In God’s hands

**ob‧sti‧nate**

**1** determined not to change your ideas, behaviour, opinions etc, even when other people think you are being unreasonable [= stubborn]:
*He was the most obstinate man I've ever met.*

**2** [only before noun] *British English* difficult to deal with or get rid of:
*obstinate stains*

**ring off** *phrasal verb*TCTto end a telephone call [↪ hang up]: *He rang off without giving his name*

**thought‧ful**

**1** always thinking of the things you can do to make people happy or comfortable [≠ thoughtless]:

*Paul is very thoughtful.*

**it is thoughtful of somebody to do something**

*It was really thoughtful of you to remember my birthday.***2** serious and quiet because you are thinking a lot:  *a* ***thoughtful look*****3** well planned and carefully thought about:  *a thoughtful analysis*

**—thoughtfully** *adverb*

 **en‧close** [transitive]
**1**TCM to put something inside an envelope as well as a letter:
*Please enclose a cheque with your order.*
**please find enclosed** (=used in business letters to say that you are sending something with a letter) *Please find enclosed an agenda for the meeting.*
**2** [usually passive]TBC to surround something, especially with a fence or wall, in order to make it separate:
*The pool area is enclosed by a six-foot wall.*

**shak‧y**

**1** weak and unsteady because of old age, illness, or shock:

*a shaky voice*

**2** not sure about the exact details of something, or not likely to be completely right:

*My knowledge of history is a little shaky; shaky evidence*

**3** not firm or steady: *shaky foundations*

**co‧her‧ent**

**1** if a piece of writing, set of ideas etc is coherent, it is easy to understand because it is clear and reasonable:

*The three years of the course are planned as a coherent whole.*

**2** if someone is coherent, they are talking in a way that is clear and easy to understand:

*He sounded coherent, but he was too ill to have any idea what he was saying.***3** if a group is coherent, its members are connected or united because they share common aims, qualities, or beliefs: *They were never a coherent group.*

**—coherently** *adverb*:

**snatch**2 [countable]

**1** **a snatch of conversation/music/song etc**

a short part of a conversation, song etc that you hear:

*I could hear snatches of the conversation from across the room.*

**2** **in snatches**

for short periods: *I only slept in snatches during the night.*

**3** when someone quickly takes or steals something: *reports of a bag snatch*

**4** *taboo informal* a very offensive word for a woman's sex organ. Do not use this word.

**hill station** [countable]

DN a town in the hills in South Asia

**moan**1

**1** [intransitive and transitive] *informal* to complain in an annoying way, especially in an unhappy voice and without good reason: *'I feel seasick already,' she moaned.*

**moan about** *A lot of people moaned about the parking problems.*

**moan at** *British English* *My mum never stops moaning at me.*

**moan that** *He's always moaning that we use too much electricity.*

**2** [intransitive] to make a long low sound expressing pain, unhappiness, or sexual pleasure
*She moaned and cried out in pain.*

**3** [intransitive] *literary*CDN if the wind moans, it makes a long low sound:

*They could hear the wind moaning in the trees.*

**snap**1 W3 *past tense and past participle* **snapped***, present participle* **snapping**

**1** **break**

[intransitive and transitive] to break with a sudden sharp noise, or to make something break with a sudden sharp noise: *A twig snapped under my feet.*

*The wind snapped branches and power lines.*

**snap (something) off (something)**
*I snapped the ends off the beans and dropped them into a bowl.*

**snap (something) in two/in half** (=break into two pieces)
*The teacher snapped the chalk in two and gave me a piece.*

**2** **move into position**

[intransitive,transitive always + adverb/preposition]XX to move into a particular position suddenly, making a short sharp noise, or to make something move like this

**snap together/back etc** *The pieces just snap together like this.*

**snap (something) open/shut** *She snapped her briefcase shut.*

**3** **say something angrily**

[intransitive and transitive] to say something quickly in an angry way:

*'What do you want?' Mike snapped.*

**snap at** *He snapped at Walter for no reason.*

**4** **become angry/anxious etc**

[intransitive] to suddenly stop being able to control your anger, anxiety, or other feelings in a difficult situation: *The stress began to get to her, and one morning she just snapped.*

**5** **animal**

[intransitive] if an animal such as a dog snaps, it tries to bite you

**snap at** *The dog started snapping at my heels.*

**6** **photograph**

[intransitive and transitive] *informal*TCP to take a photograph: *Dave snapped a picture of me and Sonia.*

**7** **snap your fingers**

to make a short, sharp noise by moving one of your fingers quickly against your thumb, for example in order to get someone's attention or to mark the beat of music

**lounge**1 [countable]

**1**TBBTTA a waiting room at an airport: *the* ***departure lounge***

**2**DL a public room in a hotel or other building, that is used by many people as a place to relax:

*the television lounge*

**3** *British English*DHH the main room in a house where people relax, watch television etc [= living room]
**4** *British English*DFDDL a lounge bar
**5** *American English* a cocktail bar

**a‧sleep** S2 [not before noun]

**1** sleeping [≠ awake]:

*Quiet! The baby's asleep.*

**fast/sound asleep** (=sleeping deeply)

**swirl**1

**1** [intransitive and transitive] to move around quickly in a twisting circular movement, or to make something do this

**swirl around/round** *Smoke swirled around her.*

**swirl something around/round** *He swirled the brandy around in his glass.*

**2** [intransitive] if stories or ideas swirl around a place, a lot of people start to talk about them - used especially in news reports

**swirl around** *Rumours of a takeover began to swirl around the stock markets*