

## close

I

1. [kləʊs] *n*
  1. огороженное стеной место (*около дома или деревни*)  
breaking smb.'s close - нарушение границы чужого земельного участка
  2. соборная площадь, площадь вокруг собора; территория *обыкн.* огороженная (*включает постройки, сад и т. п.*)
  3. площадка для игр (*при школе*)
  4. *шотл.* ход со двора, проход к лестнице многоквартирного дома
  5. тупик (*улица*)
2. [kləʊs] *a*
  1. 1) закрытый  
close carriage - закрытый экипаж  
close vowel - *фон.* закрытый гласный
  - 2) закрытый, ограниченный, замкнутый  
close season /time/ - время, когда охота запрещена; ≅ охотничий сезон закрыт  
close terrain - *тол.* закрытая местность  
close competition - закрытый конкурс
  2. замкнутый, уединённый  
to keep oneself close - держаться замкнуто; жить уединённо
  3. 1) тайный, скрытый  
close intent - тайное намерение  
to lie /to keep/ close - прятаться  
to keep smth. close - держать что-л. в секрете, скрывать что-л.  
to say smth. in closest confidence - сказать что-л. строго конфиденциально
  - 2) скрытый, сдержанный (*о человеке*)  
he was too close about his past life - он скрывал своё прошлое
  4. строго охраняемый  
close arrest - строгий арест  
close cell [prisoner] - особо охраняемая тюремная камера [-ый заключённый]  
to keep in close confinement - содержать в строгом заключении  
◇ a close as an oyster /as wax/ - ≅ умеет держать язык за зубами
3. [kləʊz] *v*
  1. 1) закрывать  
to close a door [shutters, one's mouth] - закрыть дверь [ставни, рот] [*ср. тж.* ◇ ]  
this road is closed to heavy motor traffic - для грузового транспорта эта дорога закрыта  
to close a hole - заткнуть отверстие/дыру/  
to close a gap - а) заполнить пробел; б) *спорт.* сократить разрыв; в) *воен.* ликвидировать прорыв  
to close a drawer - задвинуть ящик (*стола и т. п.*)
  - 2) закрываться  
the window won't close - окно не закрывается  
the shops close at six - магазины закрываются в шесть часов  
the wound closed - рана закрылась /зарубцевалась/  
the play closed after ten performances - после десяти представлений пьеса сошла со сцены
  2. *эл.* замыкать (*цепь*)
  3. *мор.* заdraивать  
◇ to close one's doors - а) (to) не допускать, не впускать [*ср. тж.* 1, 1]; to close the country's doors to immigrants - не допускать иммиграции в страну б) закрыть предприятие; he had to close his doors for lack of trade - он закрыл своё дело из-за отсутствия заказов  
to close the door (to) - отрезать путь к чему-л.  
his attitude closed the door to further negotiations - его позиция отрезала путь к дальнейшим переговорам  
to close one's parent's eyes - закрыть глаза родителю, присутствовать при смерти родителя  
to close smb.'s eye - подбить кому-л. глаз  
to close one's ear (to) - пропускать (*что-л.*) мимо ушей; быть глухим (к)  
to close one's mouth - держать язык за зубами, помалкивать [*ср. тж.* 1, 1]  
to close one's purse (to) - отказать в деньгах (*кому-л.*)

II

1. [kləʊz] *n*
  1. конец; заключение, завершение  
at the close of one's days - в конце жизни  
day has reached its close - день кончился  
to bring to a close - закончить, завершить; довести до конца  
to draw to a close - приближаться к концу
  2. закрытие, окончание работы  
at the close of the exchange - при закрытии биржи  
close price - *ком.* окончательная цена
  3. *муз.* каданс
2. [kləʊz] *v*
  1. 1) заканчивать, завершать; заключать  
to close a speech - заключить речь /выступление/

to close a meeting [the debate] - закрыть собрание [прения]

to close a subscription list - прекратить подписку

to close an account - *фин.* закрыть счёт

2) заканчиваться; завершаться

the meeting closed with a speech by the president - собрание завершилось выступлением президента

his short life closed - его короткая жизнь оборвалась

2. 1) договариваться

to close a bargain - договориться, заключить сделку /соглашение/

2) (with) принять (*предложение, условия*)

I offered him six pounds and he closed with it - я предложил ему шесть фунтов, и он согласился

the two ministers did not close with each other - два министра не смогли договориться между собой

3. (at) *бирж.* иметь какую-л. цену *или* какой-л. курс на момент закрытия биржи

that stock closed last night at ten dollars - на момент закрытия биржи вчера вечером эти акции стоили десять долларов

4. (with) *воен.* войти в соприкосновение

the order was given to close with the enemy - дан приказ войти в соприкосновение с противником

◇ to close one's days - окончить дни свои, умереть

II

1. [kləʊs] *a*

1. 1) близкий; находящийся *или* расположенный недалеко

close proximity - непосредственная близость

close combat - *воен.* ближний /рукопашный/ бой [*см. тж.* 8, 1)]

close reconnaissance - *воен.* ближняя разведка

close support [defence] - *воен.* непосредственная поддержка [-ое охранение]

close fighting - бой с ближней дистанции (*бокс*)

the house is close to the station - дом находится близко от вокзала

2) близкий, интимный

he is a close friend of mine - он мой большой /близкий/ друг

3) тесный, близкий

close contact - тесный контакт

close co-operation - а) тесное сотрудничество; б) *воен.* непосредственное взаимодействие

there's a close resemblance between them - между ними большое сходство

2. 1) плотный, компактный; тесный

close texture - плотная ткань

close thicket - густая чаща

to sew with close stitches - шить мелкими стежками

close timber - *горн.* сплошная крепь

close formation - *воен.* сомкнутый строй

close march - *воен.* движение в сомкнутом строю

close finish - финиширование в тесной группе участников (*велоспорт*)

close planting - загущённый посев, загущённая посадка (*растений*)

close stand - густое стояние; сомкнутость полога (*леса*)

2) хорошо пригнанный; плотный

close lid - плотно закрывающаяся крышка

close bonnet - плотно сидящая на голове шапочка

close fit - *тех.* плотная пригонка

3) облегающий (*об одежде*)

3. 1) сжатый (*о стиле*)

2) краткий и содержательный

close statement - лаконичное заявление

3) убористый (*о почерке и т. п.*)

close print - убористая печать, плотный набор

4. душный, спёртый

close air - спёртый /тяжёлый/ воздух

close day [room] - душный день [-ая комната]

a spell of close weather - период летней духоты

5. 1) тщательный; подробный

close investigation - тщательное расследование

close analysis - подробный анализ

close attention - пристальное /неослабное/ внимание

close check - *тех.* строгий контроль

2) точный

close translation [copy] - точный перевод [-ая копия]

6. срезанный низко, коротко, до корня

close haircut - короткая стрижка

close mowing - низкий срез (*травы, хлебов и т. п.*)

7. скупой, скарденный

he is close with his money - он скуповат

8. почти равный (*о шансах и т. п.*)

close combat /contest/ - а) состязание, в котором силы участвующих почти равны; состязание достойных соперников; б)

упорная борьба на выборах; [см. тж. 1, 1])

close vote - почти равное количество голосов «за» и «против»

close district - **амер.** избирательный округ, в котором победа одержана незначительным большинством

### 9. **разг.**

1) трудно достаемый, ограниченный (о средствах)

money is close - деньги достаются нелегко

2) скуповатый

10. строго логичный

close reasoning - логичное /корректное/ рассуждение

11. **арх.** строгий, суровый

close mourning - глубокий траур

12. **редк.** вязкий; нелетучий

13. **спорт.** осторожный (о футболе и т. п.)

14. **кино** крупный

close shot - крупный план

### 2. [kləʊz] **adv**

1. близко

close at hand - близко, рядом, под рукой; рукой подать

to follow smb. close - следовать за кем-л. по пятам

the end of the year is drawing close - приближается конец года

close to the wind - **мор.** в крутой бейдевинд

2. коротко

to cut one's hair close - коротко подстричься

3. **в сочетаниях:**

close by - рядом

close on = close upon

close to - около

to sit close to the fire - сидеть около камина

to stick close to the text - строго придерживаться текста

close upon - приблизительно около, почти

close upon two hundred people - около двухсот человек

◇ to press smb. close - обращаться с кем-л. сурово /строго/

close to home - ≅ не в бровь, а в глаз

the speaker's remarks hit close to home - замечания оратора попали в самую точку

### 3. [kləʊz] **v**

1) подходить близко, сближаться, смыкаться:

the ship sank and the water closed over it - корабль затонул, и воды сомкнулись над ним

2) **спорт.**, **воен.** сомкнуть (ряды)

to close the ranks - а) сомкнуть ряды; б) сплотиться, объединиться

we must close the ranks to secure peace - мы должны сплотиться, чтобы обеспечить мир

## close

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

▪ **1. close** 1 [close closes closed closing] **verb, noun** **BrE** [kləʊz] <sup>1</sup> **NAmE**

[kləʊz] <sup>1</sup>

**see also** †close <sup>2</sup>

**verb**

### WINDOW/DOOR, ETC.

**1. transitive, intransitive** ~ (sth) to put sth into a position so that it covers an opening; to get into this position

**Syn:** †shut

- Would anyone mind if I closed the window?
- She closed the gate behind her.
- It's dark now— let's close the curtains.
- I closed my eyes against the bright light.
- The doors open and close automatically.

**Opp:** †open

### BOOK/UMBRELLA, ETC.

**2. transitive** ~ sth (up) to move the parts of sth together so that it is no longer open

**Syn:** †shut

- to close a book/an umbrella

**Opp:** †open

### SHOP/STORE/BUSINESS, ETC.

**3. transitive, often passive, intransitive** to make the work of a shop/store, etc. stop for a period of time; to not be open for people to use

- ~ sth (for sth) The museum has been closed for renovation
- ~ sth (to sb/sth) The road was closed to traffic for two days.
- ~ (for sth) What time does the bank close?
- We close for lunch between twelve and two.

Opp: ↑open

4. **transitive, intransitive ~ (sth)** (also ,close 'down , ,close sth'down) if a company, shop/store, etc. closes, or if you close it, it stops operating as a business

- The club was closed by the police.
- The hospital closed at the end of last year.
- The play closed after just three nights.

Opp: ↑open

END

5. **transitive, intransitive** to end or make sth end

- The meeting will close at 10.00 p.m.
- The offer closes at the end of the week.
- ~ **sth** to close a meeting/debate
- to close a case/an investigation
- to close an account (= to stop keeping money in a bank account)
- The subject is now closed (= we will not discuss it again) .

Opp: ↑open

FINANCE

6. **intransitive ~ (at sth)** to be worth a particular amount at the end of the day's business

- Shares in the company closed at 265p.
- closing prices

DISTANCE/DIFFERENCE

7. **transitive, intransitive ~ (sth)** to make the distance or difference between two people or things smaller; to become smaller or narrower

- These measures are aimed at **closing the gap** between rich and poor.
- The gap between the two top teams is closing all the time.

HOLD FIRMLY

8. **transitive, intransitive ~ (sth) about/around/over sb/sth** to hold sth/sb firmly

- She closed her hand over his.
- Her hand closed over his.

**more at** close/shut the door on sth **at** ↑door, shut/close your ears to sth **at** ↑ear, shut/close your eyes to sth with your eyes shut/closed **at** ↑eye n.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we /they	close
	BrE /kloʊz/
	NAme /kloʊz/
he / she /it	closes
	BrE /kloʊzɪz/
	NAme /kloʊzɪz/
past simple, past participle	closed
	BrE /kloʊzd/
	NAme /kloʊzd/
-ing form	closing
	BrE /kloʊzɪŋ/
	NAme /kloʊzɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English Old French clos- clore Latin claudere 'to shut'

Thesaurus:

close verb

1. T, I

- She closed the gate behind her.

shut • • draw • • slam • • lock • • bolt •

Opp: open

close/shut/slam/lock/bolt a **door/gate**

close/shut/lock a **window/drawer/case/suitcase**

close/shut a/an/your **box/lid/eyes/mouth/flap/valve/book/umbrella**

close/draw the **curtains/blinds**

**Close or shut?** Close often suggests a more slow or gentle action than shut

- Close your eyes and go to sleep.

2. I, T

- It was a pity the business closed.

close (sth) down • • fail • • collapse • • go bankrupt • • fold • • crash • |informal go bust • • flop • |formal, business cease trading •

Opp: open

a **firm/company** closes/closes down/fails/collapses/goes bankrupt/folds/crashes/goes bust/ceases trading

an **industry** closes down/collapses  
an **factory/newspaper /operation /shop** closes/closes down  
a **play/show** closes/folds/flops

**Close or close down?** Both these two words can be used to talk about a business or service, but only **close** can be used to talk about a play or show:

• The play closed after just two nights.

✗ The play closed down after just two nights

### 3. T, I

• The offer closes at the end of the week.

**end** • • **finish** • • **wind (sth) up** • |formal **conclude** •

**Opp:** open

close/end/finish/wind up/conclude a **meeting**

### Which Word?:

#### **close / shut**

You can **close** and **shut** doors, windows, your eyes, mouth, etc.

**Shut** can suggest more noise and is often found in phrases such as slammed shut, banged shut, snapped shut.

**Shut** is also usually used for containers such as boxes, suitcases, etc.

To talk about the time when shops, offices, etc. are not open, use **close** or **shut** = What time do the banks close/shut? ◇ = A strike has shut the factory. You can also use **closed** or **shut** (*NAmE* usually **closed**): = The store is closed/shut today.

Especially in *NAmE*, **shut** can sound less polite.

**Closed** is used in front of a noun, but **shut** is not: = a closed window.

We usually use **closed** about roads, airports, etc: = The road is closed because of the snow.

**Close** is also used in formal English to talk about ending a meeting or conversation.

### Example Bank:

- He closed the door firmly.
- She gently closed the door behind her.
- That factory's been closed down now.
- The museum has been temporarily closed to the public.
- Tomorrow college officially closes for the vacation.
- A police spokesman said that the case was now closed.
- Can you help me close this umbrella?
- It was a pity the business closed.
- It's dark now— let's close the curtains.
- Mr Hunt then closed the debate for the government
- She closed her eyes and fell asleep immediately.
- The meeting will close at 10 p.m.
- The subject is now closed.
- They are closing their Liverpool factory.

Idioms: ↑close its doors = ↑close ranks = ↑close the book on something = ↑close your mind to something

Derived ↑close down = ↑close in = ↑close out something = ↑close over somebody = ↑close something down = ↑close something off = ↑close something up = ↑close up

### noun singular (formal)

the end of a period of time or an activity

- at the close of the 17th century
- His life was **drawing to a close** .
- Can we **bring** this meeting **to a close** ?
- By the close of London trading, Wall Street was up 9.78 points.
- The West Indies were 98 for 3 at the close of play (= at the end of the day's play in a ↑cricket match) .

### Word Origin:

Middle English Old French **clos- clore** Latin **claudere** 'to shut'

### Example Bank:

- At the close of trading, he had lost thousands of pounds on the stock market.
- The chairperson brought the meeting to a close.
- The decade drew to a close with the threat of war hanging over Europe.
- At the close of play, the scores were almost level
- At the close of the first day, things were looking good for the home team.
- Can we bring this meeting to a close?

See also: ↑close down = ↑close something down

• **II. close** 2 [close closes closed closing] adjective, adverb, noun *BrE* [kləʊs] <sup>1</sup> *NAmE* [kloʊs] <sup>2</sup>

**see also** ↑close <sup>1</sup>

adjective (closer, clos-est)

## NEAR

### 1. not usually before noun ~ (to sb/sth) | ~ (together) near in space or time

- Our new house is close to the school.
- I had no idea the beach was so close.
- The two buildings are **close together** .
- This is the closest we can get to the beach by car.
- We all have to work **in close proximity** (= near each other) .
- The President was shot **at close range** (= from a short distance away) .
- The children are close to each other in age.
- Their birthdays are very **close together** .

## ALMOST/LIKELY

### 2. not before noun ~ to sth | ~ to doing sth almost in a particular state; likely to do sth soon

- He was close to tears.
- The new library is close to completion.
- She knew she was close to death.
- We are close to signing the agreement.

## RELATIONSHIP

### 3. ~ (to sb) knowing sb very well and liking them very much

- Jo is a very **close friend** .
- She is very close to her father.
- She and her father are very close.
- We're a very close family.

### 4. near in family relationship

- close relatives, such as your mother and father, and brothers and sisters

**Opp:** ↑distant

- The groom and his close family took their places.

### 5. very involved in the work or activities of sb else, usually seeing and talking to them regularly

- He is one of the prime minister's closest advisers.
- The college has close links with many other institutions .
- She has kept in **close contact** with the victims' families.
- We keep in **close touch** with the police.

## CAREFUL

### 6. only before noun careful and thorough

- Take a **close look** at this photograph.
- **On closer examination** the painting proved to be a fake.
- Pay **close attention** to what I am telling you.

## SIMILAR

### 7. ~ (to sth) very similar to sth else or to an amount

- There's a close resemblance (= they look very similar) .
- His feeling for her was close to hatred.
- The total was close to 20% of the workforce.
- We tried to match the colours, but this is the closest we could get.

## COMPETITION/ELECTION, ETC.

### 8. won by only a small amount or distance

- a **close contest/match/election**
- It was a very **close finish** .
- I think it's going to be close.
- Our team came a **close second** (= nearly won) .
- The game was closer than the score suggests.
- The result is going to be **too close to call** (= either side may win) .

## ALMOST BAD RESULT

### 9. used to describe sth, usually a dangerous or unpleasant situation, that nearly happens

- Phew! That was close— that car nearly hit us.
- We caught the bus in the end but it was close (= we nearly missed it) .

## WITHOUT SPACE

### 10. with little or no space in between

- over 1 000 pages of close print
- The soldiers advanced in close formation.

## CUT SHORT

### 11. cut very short, near to the skin

- a **close haircut/shave**

## GUARDED

12. **only before noun** carefully guarded

- The donor's identity is a **close secret** .
- She was kept under **close arrest** .

## WEATHER/ROOM

13. warm in an uncomfortable way because there does not seem to be enough fresh air

**Syn:** †stuffy

- It's very close today— I think there's going to be a storm.

## PRIVATE

14. **not before noun ~ (about sth)** not willing to give personal information about yourself

- He was close about his past.

## MEAN

15. **not before noun** (BrE) not liking to spend money

- She's always been very close with her money.

## PHONETICS

16. (*also high*) (*of a vowel*) produced with the mouth in a relatively closed position

**compare** †open

**more at** (close/near) at hand **at** †hand <sub>n.</sub>, close/dear/near to sb's heart **at** †heart

### Word Origin:

Middle English Old French **clos** Latin **clausum** 'enclosure' **clausus** 'closed' **claudere**

### Thesaurus:

**close** *adj.*

1.

- Take a close look at this photograph.

**careful** • **detailed** • **minute** • **thorough** • **in-depth** •

a close/careful/detailed/minute/thorough **examination**

a close/careful/detailed/thorough/in-depth **look/study/investigation/analysis**

2.

- His feeling for her was close to hatred.

**like** • **similar** •

close/similar **to** sth

close/like sth/similar **in** size, amount, etc.

3.

- The organizers of the race are predicting a close finish.

**even** • **hard-fought** • **narrow** • **neck and neck** • |especially BrE **level** •

a/an close/even/hard-fought **contest**

a close/hard-fought **battle/finish**

a close/narrow **vote**

### Which Word?:

**near / close**

The adjectives near and close are often the same in meaning, but in some phrases only one of them may be used: ▪ the near future ◊▪ a near neighbour ◊▪ a near miss ◊▪ a close contest ◊▪ a close encounter ◊▪ a close call . Close is more often used to describe a relationship between people: ▪ a close friend ◊▪ close family ◊▪ close links . You do not usually use near in this way.

### Example Bank:

- Get close to the microphone.
- He was quite close to his older brother.
- Keep close to me.
- The two sisters seemed very close.
- Their birthdays are very close together.
- The car came perilously close to running her down.
- Victory was tantalizingly close.
- He had a close shave when his brakes failed on the mountain road.
- It's a desperately close race— I can't quite see who is ahead.
- Jo is a very close friend.
- Phew! That was close— the motorbike nearly hit us.
- The California election looks too close to call as voters go to the polls.
- The invasion never happened but it was a close run thing.
- The organizers of the race are predicting a close finish.
- We're a very close family.

• The unemployment total was close to 20% of the workforce.

• There's a close resemblance between them.

Idioms: ↑at close quarters ▪ ↑close at hand ▪ ↑close by ▪ ↑close call ▪ ↑close on ▪ ↑close run thing ▪ ↑close thing ▪ ↑close to ▪ ↑close to home ▪ ↑close up ▪ ↑close up to somebody ▪ ↑close, but no cigar ▪ ↑come close ▪ ↑keep a close eye on somebody ▪ ↑run somebody close

Derived Words ↑closely ▪ ↑closeness

**adverb** (closer, clos-est)

near, not far away

- They sat **close together** .
- Don't **come** too **close** !
- She **held** Tom **close** and pressed her cheek to his.
- I couldn't **get close** enough to see.
- A second police car followed **close behind** .

**more at** hold/keep/play your cards close to your chest **at** ↑card <sub>n.</sub>, be close to/near the mark **at** ↑mark <sub>n.</sub>, sail close to the wind **at** ↑sail <sub>v.</sub>

Example Bank:

- The invasion never happened but it was a close run thing.

**noun**

1. (BrE) (especially in street names) a street that is closed at one end
  - Brookside Close
2. the grounds and buildings that surround and belong to a ↑cathedral

See also: ↑high

**close**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **close**<sup>1</sup> **S1 W1** /kleuz \$ klouz/ *BrE* <sup>m</sup> *AmE* <sup>m</sup> **verb**

[**Word Family:** **noun:** close, ↑closure, ↑closing; **adjective:** ↑closed, ↑closing; **verb:** ↑close]

[**Word Family:** **adverb:** ↑close, ↑closely; **verb:** ↑close; **noun:** ↑closeness; **adjective:** ↑close]

[**Date:** 1200-1300; **Language:** Old French; **Origin:** clos, past participle of clore 'to close', from Latin claudere]

1. **SHUT** [**intransitive and transitive**] to shut something in order to cover an opening, or to become shut in this way **SYN shut** **OPP**

**open** ⇒ **closed:**

- Would you mind if I closed the window?
- She closed the curtains.
- Let me do the car door – it won't close properly.
- Beth closed her eyes and tried to sleep.
- She heard the door close behind her.

2. **MOVE PARTS TOGETHER** [**intransitive and transitive**] to move the parts of something together so that there is no longer a space between them:

- Anne closed her book and stood up.

3. **SHUT FOR PERIOD OF TIME** [**intransitive and transitive**] (also **close up**) if a shop or building closes, or you close it, it stops being open to the public for a period of time **OPP open** **SYN shut** *British English* ⇒ **closed:**

- The shops close at six.
- Harry usually closes the store completely when he goes on vacation.

4. **STOP OPERATING** [**intransitive and transitive**] (also **close down**) if a company, shop etc closes, or you close it, it stops operating permanently **SYN shut down** ⇒ **closed:**

- We have reluctantly decided to close the factory.
- The shop closed down some time last year.

5. **END** [**intransitive and transitive**] to end or to make something end, especially in a particular way

**close something with/by etc**

- I will now close the meeting by asking you to join me in a final toast.

**close with**

- The movie closes with an emotional reunion in Prague.

**closing remarks** (=something you say at the end of a speech)

- In her closing remarks, the judge urged the jury to consider the facts only.

6. **close an account** to stop having and using a bank account or other financial account:

- My husband closed all my credit card accounts without even asking me.

7. **IN MONEY MARKETS** [**intransitive always + adverb/preposition**] to be worth a particular amount of money at the end of a day's ↑trading (=the buying and selling of shares) on the ↑stock exchange

**close at**

- The dollar closed at 64p against the pound. **close up/down**
- Their shares closed 27p up (=worth 27p more).

8. **close a deal/sale/contract etc** to successfully agree a business deal, sale etc

9. **OFFER FINISHES** [**intransitive**] to finish on a particular date **SYN end:**

- Our special offer closes on June 3.

10. **MAKE DISTANCE/DIFFERENCE SMALLER** [**intransitive and transitive**] to make the distance or difference between two things

smaller:

an attempt to close the gap between the rich and poor

**close on**

The other car was closing on us fast.

**11. MAKE SOMETHING UNAVAILABLE** [intransitive and transitive] to make taking part in an activity or using an opportunity no longer possible ⇒ **closed**:

Bidding for the painting will close on Friday.

The country has now closed its borders to all foreign nationals (=will not let foreigners in).

The legislation aims to close a lot of legal loopholes.

**12. be closed** if a subject is closed, you are no longer willing to discuss it:

It was a regrettable incident but I now consider the matter closed.

**13. close your doors (to somebody)** to stop operating permanently:

In 1977 the Skyfame Aircraft Museum closed its doors to the public for the last time.

**14. close your mind to/against something** to refuse to think about something:

She wanted to close her mind to the outside world.

**15. HOLD SOMETHING** [intransitive always + adverb/preposition, transitive] if someone's hands, arms etc close around something, or are closed around something, they hold it firmly

**close (something) around/round/over etc something**

Her left hand closed over his arm.

She closed her hand tightly around her bag.

**16. WOUND** [intransitive and transitive] (also **close up**) if a wound closes, or if someone closes it, the edges grow together again or are sewn together:

The surgeon closed the incision neatly.

**17. close ranks**

a) if people close ranks, they join together to protect each other, especially because their group, organization etc is being criticized

b) if soldiers close ranks, they stand closer together

**18. close the book on something** to stop working on something, especially a police operation, because it is not making any progress:

Detectives had closed the book on the Hornsey Murders case three years previously.

⇒ ↑closing date, ↑closing time, ⇒ **close/shut the door on something** at ↑door(9), ⇒ **close your eyes to something** at ↑eye<sup>1</sup>(16)

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## THESAURUS

▪ **close** to stop being open, or to make something stop being open. You use **close** and **shut** especially about your eyes, your mouth, a door, a window, or a container: Can I close the window? | Her eyes slowly closed. | He closed the door gently, so as not to wake the children.

▪ **shut** to close something. **Shut** sometimes has a feeling of doing something quickly and firmly, whereas **close** sounds more careful: He shut the door with a loud bang. | Shut your eyes and go to sleep.

▪ **slam** to close a door or lid quickly and noisily, especially because you are angry: She left the room, slamming the door behind her.

▪ **draw the curtains** to close curtains by pulling them across a window: The curtains were still drawn at ten o'clock in the morning.

▪ **put the lid on something** to close a container by putting a lid onto it: Did you put the lid on the cookie jar?

▪ **seal** to close something so that no air or water can get in or out: In this experiment, the chamber must be completely sealed.

## close down phrasal verb

**1. close something ↔ down** if a company, shop etc closes down or is closed down, it stops operating permanently:

Paramount closed down its London office in 1968.

**2. British English** to stop broadcasting radio or television programmes at the end of the day:

BBC 2 closes down at 12:45 tonight.

## close in phrasal verb

**1.** to move closer to someone or something, especially in order to attack them:

The snake closed in for the kill.

**close in on/around/upon etc**

enemy soldiers closing in on them from all sides

**2.** if the night, bad weather etc closes in, it becomes darker or gets worse:

The sun had set and dusk was closing in.

**3.** if the days close in, they become shorter because it is autumn

## close something ↔ off phrasal verb

to separate a road, room etc from the area around it so that people cannot go there or use it:

The roads into the docks were closed off by iron gates.

## close on somebody/something phrasal verb

**1.** to get nearer to someone or something that is moving in front or ahead of you:

The patrol car was rapidly closing on us.

**2. American English** to successfully arrange a ↑loan, especially in order to buy a house

## close something ↔ out phrasal verb American English

**1.** to finish in a particular way:

The bond market closed out the week on a strong note.

**2.** if a store closes out a type of goods, they sell all of them cheaply:

We're closing out this line of swimwear.

## close up phrasal verb

**1. close something ↔ up** if a shop or building closes up or is closed up, it stops being open to the public for a period of time:

The resorts are all closed up for the season.

2. **close up shop** to stop doing something for a period of time or permanently:

When it rains, there is no alternative but to close up shop.

3. if a group of people close up, they move closer together

4. **close something ↔ up** if a wound closes up or if someone closes it up, the edges grow together again or are sewn together:

The scar is closing up nicely – it'll soon be time to take the stitches out.

5. to become narrower or to shut:

The flowers close up at night.

Occasionally the channel widened then closed up tight again.

6. to refuse to talk to someone about something:

The moment I said I was a police officer, everyone would close up like a clam.

**close with somebody/something** *phrasal verb*

1. to agree a business deal with someone:

It was such a good offer that I closed with him on the spot.

2. *literary* to move towards someone in order to fight with them

II. **close**<sup>2</sup> **S1 W1** /kləʊs \$ klouz/ *BrE* *AmE* *adjective* (comparative **closer**, superlative **closest**)

[Word Family: *adverb*: ↑close, ↑closely; *verb*: ↑close; *noun*: ↑closeness; *adjective*: ↑close]

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: clos, from Latin clausus, past participle of claudere; ⇨ ↑close<sup>1</sup>]

1. **NEAR** not far from someone or something **SYN** near:

If you need to buy bread or milk, the closest shop is about a mile away.

**close to**

Susan sat on a chair close to the window.

I don't mind where we go on vacation as long as it's close to a beach.

His eyes were small and close together.

There are several accounts of dolphins living in close proximity to humans (=close to humans).

The victim had been shot at close range (=from very close).

2. **NEAR IN TIME** near to something in time

**close to**

It was close to 1:15 a.m.

**close together**

Our birthdays are quite close together.

3. **LIKELY TO HAPPEN** seeming very likely to happen or very likely to do something soon

**close to doing something**

The two countries are close to signing a peace agreement.

We're close to clinching the deal.

**close to death/tears/despair etc**

The old dog could barely whimper and seemed close to death.

The prosecution's main witness was close to tears as she described the assault.

4. **LIKE/LOVE** if two people are close, they like or love each other very much:

My brother and I are very close.

**close to**

I felt closer to Rob that evening than ever before.

Fiona and I have always been close friends.

5. **SIMILAR** very similar to each other

**close to**

When I saw Henry with another woman I felt something close to jealousy.

Fitt was the closest thing to a socialist in the party.

Their newest model bears a close resemblance to (=is very similar to) that of their rival competitor.

6. **CAREFUL** [usually before noun] looking at, thinking about, or watching something very carefully ⇨ **closely**

**take/have/get a close look (at something)**

She lifted up Jenny's silver medallion to take a closer look.

**keep a close watch/eye on** (=watch someone or something very carefully)

Don't worry, I'll keep a close eye on the kids.

You could have improved your answers by closer attention to detail.

7. **NUMBER/AMOUNT** if a number or amount is close to another number or amount, it is not much higher or lower than it:

We don't know the exact figures, but about 10,000 might be a close approximation (=close to the actual figure).

**close to**

Inflation is close to 7 percent.

8. **COMPETITION/ELECTION ETC** finishing or being played, fought etc with both sides almost equal:

It was a close game that could have gone either way.

**a close second/third etc** (=very nearly first, second etc)

The result is too close to call (=so close that it is impossible to know who will win).

9. **close relation/relative** a member of your family such as your brother, sister, parent etc **OPP** distant:

The wedding was attended by close family only.

10. **VERY NEARLY BAD** used when you have only just managed to avoid something bad, dangerous, or embarrassing happening:

'Phew, that was close,' Frank said as he swerved to avoid the cyclist.

**a close call/thing/shave** (=a situation in which something dangerous, embarrassing etc almost happens)

United had a close shave when Liverpool almost scored.

11. **ALMOST** very nearly getting, finding, or achieving something

## close to

At this point, the investigators were closer to the truth than they realized.

12. **keep in close contact/touch** if two people keep in close contact, they see, talk to, or write to each other often:  
Text messaging enables people to keep in close contact at all times.
  13. **WORK/TALK TOGETHER** relating to a situation in which people work well with each other or talk to each other often:  
He retained very close links with France throughout his life.  
What we need now is closer cooperation between the club and supporters.
  14. **WITH LITTLE SPACE** with little or no space around something or between things:  
The horses are always eager for exercise after the close confinement of the stables.  
The shoe is a close fit (=there is no space around the foot).  
I find it difficult to read such close print (=with letters printed so close together).
  15. **close/you're close/that's close spoken** used to tell someone that they have almost guessed or answered something correctly:  
'I reckon he must be about 38.' 'Close – he was 40 last week.'
  16. **close to the bone** if something someone says is close to the bone, it makes you feel uncomfortable or offends you, especially because it is about something you do not want to admit is true
  17. **close, but no cigar spoken** used when something someone does or says is almost correct or successful:  
It was close, but no cigar for the Dodgers as they lost to the Reds 4–3.
  18. **too close for comfort** if something that happens is too close for comfort, it is near enough to make you feel nervous or afraid:  
From somewhere too close for comfort came the sound of machine-gun fire.
  19. **close to home**
    - a) if a remark or criticism is close to home, it makes you feel uncomfortable because it is likely to be true:  
His comments struck unpleasantly close to home.
    - b) if something unpleasant happens close to home, you are directly affected by it:  
It's one thing seeing riots on TV, but when they happen so close to home it's a different matter.
  20. **at close quarters** if something happens or is done at close quarters, it happens inside a small space or is done from a short distance away:  
The troops had been fighting at close quarters.
  21. **WEATHER** *British English* uncomfortably warm because there seems to be no air:  
The weather that night was hot and close, with a hint of thunder in the distance.
  22. **UNWILLING TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING** [not before noun] unwilling to tell people about something **SYN secretive**  
**close about**  
You're very close about your work, aren't you?
  23. **UNWILLING TO SPEND MONEY** [not before noun] not generous  
**close with**  
You won't get a penny out of Jack – he's very close with his money.
  24. **a close shave** when the hair on someone's face is cut very close to the skin
  25. **close work** work that involves looking at or handling things in a very skilful, detailed, and careful way:  
After years of close work, she could hardly see a thing if it was over a yard away.
  26. **close vowel** *technical* a close vowel is pronounced with only a small space between the tongue and the top of the mouth  
**—closeness** *noun* [uncountable]:  
She had never had the physical or emotional closeness that she needed.
- ⇒ **play your cards close to your chest** at ↑card<sup>1</sup>(14)

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## COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 6)

### phrases

- **take/get a close look** She moved forward to take a close look at the painting.
- **keep a close eye/watch on somebody/something** (=watch someone or something carefully) They have to keep a close eye on their finances.

### nouns

- **a close examination** A closer examination of the facts soon solved the mystery.
- **a close study** Their research involved a close study of two communities.
- **close attention** You will lose weight if you combine exercise with close attention to your diet.
- **close scrutiny** (=careful and thorough examination of someone or something) The investigation included close scrutiny of the images on CCTV.
- **close inspection** (=looking at someone or something in detail) Closer inspection revealed that the rocks were from an earlier period.
- **close supervision** (=constantly making sure that someone does things in the correct way) Initially there will be close supervision of the trainee.

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## THESAURUS

- **similar** *adjective* almost the same: Jo said she'd had a similar experience. | The colours are very similar, but I like this one best.
- **like** *preposition* similar to something or someone else: It tastes a little like chicken. | She still looks like a teenager.
- **alike** *adjective* [not before noun] very similar - used especially about the way people look or behave: She and her sister look alike. | Lawyers are all alike - I don't trust them.
- **close** *adjective* very similar: The film bears a close resemblance to real life (=is very similar). | The painting is remarkably close to the original.
- **much the same** very similar: The glass is still made in much the same way as it was 100 years ago. | People are much the same, wherever you go. | She still looks very much the same.
- **identical** *adjective* exactly the same: The two computers were identical in design. | identical names

- **matching adjective** having the same colour, style, pattern etc as something else - used about clothes or furniture that you wear or use together: She wore matching silver shoes and handbag. | a dining table and matching chairs
- **akin to something formal** fairly similar to something: These dialects are akin to Arabic, though different in several respects.

### III. **close**<sup>3</sup> /kloʊs \$ kloʊz/ BrE " AmE " adverb

[Word Family: **adverb**: ↑close, ↑closely; **verb**: ↑close; **noun**: ↑closeness; **adjective**: ↑close]

#### 1. not far away **SYN** near:

- Come a little closer, so you can see better.
- Her father lives quite close by.
- They were sitting close together on the couch.
- A variety of good restaurants are close at hand (=very near).
- James heard footsteps close behind him.
- Ronnie sped off, with his brother's car following close behind.

#### stay/keep close

- We must all stay close.

#### hold/draw somebody close (=hold someone against your body)

- He drew her close to him.

#### 2. **close up/up close/close to** from only a short distance away:

- Now that I could see him close up, I saw that he was very attractive.

#### 3. **close on something/close to something spoken** used to talk about a number, amount etc that is almost exact, but not completely:

- a voyage of close on 2,000 miles

#### 4. **come close (to doing something)**

##### a) to almost do something:

- I tell you, I was so mad I came close to hitting her.
- She came so close to the finals she must have been bitterly disappointed to go out now.

##### b) to be almost as good as someone or something else:

- It's not as good as his last movie, but it comes pretty close.

#### 5. **a close run thing British English** a situation in which the people competing with each other are almost equal, so neither of them is more likely to win than the other:

- The upcoming election looks likely to be a close run thing.

#### 6. **close on the heels of something** very soon after something else

##### come/follow close on the heels of something

- Yet another scandal followed close on the heels of the senator's resignation.

#### 7. near to the surface of something:

- An electric razor doesn't really shave as close as a blade.

#### 8. **run somebody close British English** to be almost as successful, skilful etc as someone else:

- Last season United ran them close both at home and away.

⇒ **sail close to the wind** at ↑sail<sup>1</sup>(6)

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### THESAURUS

- **near** only a short distance from something or someone: I live near Salzburg in Austria. | If we moved to Dallas, we'd be near my parents.
- **close** very near something or someone, or almost touching them: The hotel is close to the beach. | Nancy came and sat close beside me on the bed.
- **not far (away)** not a long distance away – used when saying that a place is near enough to be easy to get to: The station's not far away from here.
- **nearby** near here or near a particular place: Is there a post office nearby? | A group of reporters were waiting nearby.
- **within walking distance (of something)** easy to walk to from somewhere, or near enough to something for you to walk there: There's a good school within walking distance. | The house is within walking distance of shopping facilities.
- **be convenient for something British English, be convenient to something American English** to be near a place that people want to get to, so that the place is easy to reach: The area is very convenient for Gatwick airport. | I want a hotel that's convenient for the city centre.
- **locally** in or near the area where you are or the area you are talking about: I prefer to buy fruit and vegetables that are grown locally.
- **around here** (also **round here British English**) *spoken* in the general area near here: Parking is impossible around here. | Is there a garage round here?
- **in the neighbourhood British English, in the neighborhood American English** living or existing in the area where you are or the area you are talking about: We grew up knowing all the other kids in the neighbourhood. | There's very little crime in the neighborhood.
- **in the vicinity formal** in the area around and near a particular place – used especially in news reports: A white van was seen in the vicinity at the time the murder took place.
- **neighbouring British English, neighboring American English** used about towns, countries etc that are very near a particular place: discussions between Egypt and neighbouring states | The rioting quickly spread to neighbouring areas.

### IV. **close**<sup>4</sup> /kloʊz \$ kloʊz/ BrE " AmE " noun

[singular] **formal** the end of an activity or of a period of time:

- At the close of trade, the Dow Jones index was 1.92 points down.
- The monsoon season was drawing to a close (=ending).
- The event came to a close (=finished) with a disco.
- Finally the meeting was brought to a close (=ended).

## THESAURUS

### ■ Actions when using a computer

- **start up/boot up** to make a computer start working: I'm having problems starting up my computer.
- **log on/in** to start using a computer system by typing your name and password: He logged on and read his emails.
- **click on something** to press a button on a computer mouse to choose a program, file etc from the screen: When you click on the link, it sends you to the company's website.
- **install** to add new software to a computer so that the software is ready to be used: All users should install anti-virus software.
- **download** to move information, pictures, or music from the Internet onto your computer: You can download MP3 files.
- **upload** to move information, pictures, or music from your computer to a different computer across the Internet: Sites such as YouTube allow you to upload your own videos.
- **open** to make a file or program ready to use: Open a new file and type in the information.
- **scroll up/down** to move information on a computer screen up or down so that you can read it: Scroll down to read the questions and answers.
- **enter** to type information into a computer: The program requires you to enter a password.
- **delete** to remove information from a computer: I've deleted his email. | When you delete a file, it first gets moved to the recycle bin.
- **cut and paste** to remove information from one place and put it in another place: Tutors are looking out for students who cut and paste their essays from the Internet.
- **save** to make a computer keep the work that you have done on it: Make sure you save any work you do before you shut the computer down.
- **close** to stop having a file or program ready to use: To close the window, click on the 'X' in the top right-hand corner of the screen.
- **log off/out** to stop using a computer system by giving it particular instructions: I get an error message when I log off.
- **shut down** to make a computer stop working: Employees should shut their computers down at the end of each day.
- **restart/reboot** to make a computer start working again: Wait a few minutes before rebooting your computer.

### V. **close**<sup>5</sup> /kloʊs \$ klous/ BrE<sup>u</sup> AmE<sup>u</sup> noun British English

1. [singular] used in street names for a road that has only one way in or out:  
Take a left turn into Brown's Close.
2. [countable usually singular] the area and buildings surrounding a ↑cathedral

## close

Freakuency Pack

12500 **633**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **313**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k CLOSE** 151368

close 94829

closely 17937

closeness 1524

closer 29234

closest 7844

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

30611 **881**<sup>45484</sup> *jj*

18095 **1802**<sup>23833</sup> *rr*

8895 **3030**<sup>13867</sup> *vv0*

7983 **4060**<sup>9902</sup> *vvi*

1230 **17541**<sup>1338</sup> *nn1*

175 **49180**<sup>230</sup> *np1*

120 **59369**<sup>161</sup> *nnl1*

14 **214306**<sup>14</sup> *nnu*