

Stop Saying “Very Good”: 3 Stronger English Words

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Key words & expressions · English

8 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

excellent

DEF

Extremely good; of a very high quality.

A strong, versatile upgrade from very good.

Your presentation was excellent.

That is an excellent idea.

2

impressive

DEF

Causing admiration because something is special, skilful or powerful.

Use it when the result creates a strong positive reaction.

Her progress is impressive.

That was an impressive performance.

3

outstanding

DEF

Exceptionally good; clearly better than most others.

Stronger than excellent when something truly stands out.

She did an outstanding job.

The service was outstanding.

4

without notes

DEF

Without looking at written prompts or reminders while speaking.

Often suggests that a speaker is well prepared and confident enough to speak from memory.

She spoke for ten minutes without notes.

He answered every question without notes.

5

stand above the rest

DEF

To be noticeably better or more impressive than the others in a group.

A figurative comparison used when one person, result or performance clearly distinguishes itself.

Her performance stands above the rest.

One candidate stood above the rest.



6

overlap

DEF

To share some features, meaning, time or responsibility with something else.

The things are partly similar or shared, but they are not completely identical.

The meanings of excellent and outstanding overlap.

Our responsibilities overlap in this project.

7

from beginning to end

DEF

For the whole duration of something, from its first moment to its last.

Emphasises completeness or consistency throughout an entire experience or process.

The hotel gave us excellent service from beginning to end.

I watched the presentation from beginning to end.

8

get carried away

DEF

To become so excited or emotional that you lose restraint or perspective.

Often used as a light warning when enthusiasm is making someone go too far.

Let us not get carried away.

I got carried away and bought more than I needed.

