



BBC RADIO 2 500 WORDS / OXFORD CHILDREN'S DICTIONARIES

OXFORD CHILDREN'S CORPUS SUMMARY REPORT

2016

Report prepared by

Oxford Children's Dictionaries
Oxford University Press
Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP

*Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford.
It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship, and education by publishing
worldwide.*

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

CONTENTS

Introduction.....	3
Children's Word of the Year 2016.....	4
New words in 2016.....	6
Words that show significant increase in 2016.....	6
Top names in 2016.....	7
Tim Peake.....	9
Star Wars.....	11
Shakespeare.....	13
Social media.....	14
Coding and computing.....	15
Word play.....	16
Sentiment analysis.....	17
Conclusion.....	20

INTRODUCTION

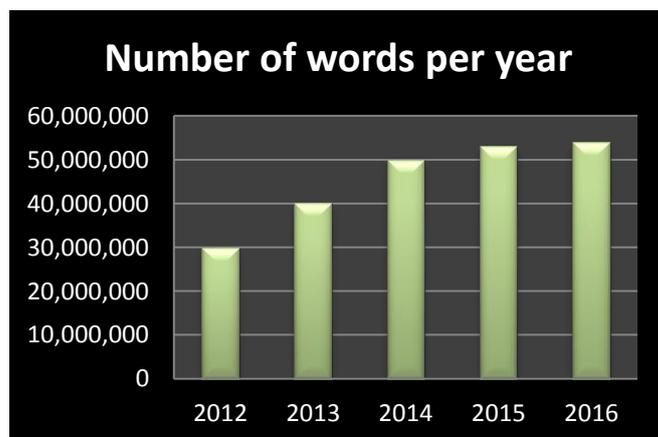
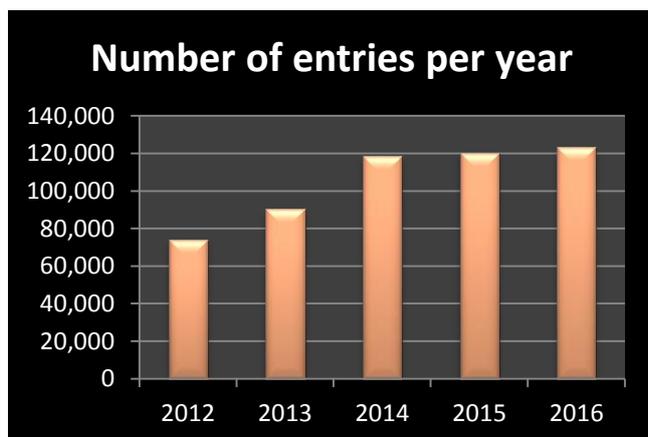
As part of on-going language and lexical research, the Children’s Dictionary department of the Educational Division of Oxford University Press has undertaken to analyse the children’s writing submitted to the BBC Radio 2 500 Words Competition for the fifth year running. The analysis is undertaken by a team of lexicographers, teachers, academics, and computational linguists, and is backed by the Oxford Children’s Corpus, the largest available children’s language database in English.

Language is constantly changing and evolving and children are using language in new and unusual ways to write and communicate. The findings in this document reflect the inventiveness of children today and their new and imaginative use of words every year along with their interests and preoccupations. All citations from the children’s stories are faithful to the original.

Year	Number of stories received in the competition	Number of words in the Corpus
2012	74,075	30 million
2013	90,115	40 million
2014	118,632	50 million
2015	120,421	53 million
2016	123,436	54 million
Total	526,679	227 million

Highlights:

- Overall participation in the competition has increased by 67% from 2012 to 2016.
- The 500 WORDS children’s writing corpus has grown to 7 ½ times its size from 2012 to 2016, making it the largest children’s writing corpus in English in the world.



CHILDREN'S WORD OF THE YEAR

refugee

Significant increase in extended language around *refugee*

- *Refugee* (339 hits) shows a 368% increase from 2015 and is much more commonly used than *migrant* (34 hits), which is a new word this year, not used in 2015.
- *Refugee* and *migrant* are used interchangeably, with no difference in meaning.
- There are more mentions from girls than boys and from older children than younger children.
- Stories come from 45 out of the 58 BBC regions (77% of the total number of counties), e.g. London, Sussex, Surrey, York & North Yorkshire, Cambridgeshire, Birmingham & Black Country, Oxford, South East Wales, Jersey, Glasgow & West Scotland.
- The attitudes towards refugees are empathetic and positive.
- Stories are personalized and show particular empathy for the plight of children – imagining what it is like to leave home and undertake difficult journeys.
- The stories show a detailed and sophisticated understanding of the issues (the war in Syria, the journey across the Mediterranean, refugee camps, people smugglers, children travelling alone, refugees not being wanted anywhere, the camps in Calais).
- There are also extended themes of being a refugee in other historical circumstances, e.g. World War I.

Associated vocabulary

Nouns associated with the word *refugee*: *boat, camp, dinghy, border, center, survivor, war, bombs, home, hope, food, shelter, journey, sea*

Food words: *rice, hummus/humous, lakhma, eggplant*

Place names: *Syria, Greece, Turkey, Calais, Lesbos, Mediterranean*

Phrase: *refugee camp* shows an increase of 421% (going up from 14 times in 2015 to 79 times in 2016)

Adjectives associated with the word *refugee*: *desperate, poor, homeless, sorrowful, cold, happy, safe, warm, clean, old, new*

Verbs associated with the word *refugee*: *become, arrive, flee, travel, trek, set sail, row, wobble, smile*

Some examples

Details of the journey and the camps

*"Son our neighbours just got bombed. We're lucky we weren't in the house! It's decided we're going!"
"Ok..."Replied Yusuf solemnly "I'll go pack..." This was a tough time for Yusuf. He was going to leave his friends, School and home. (A life of a refugee, boy 11)*

I wanted to tell Hala's story. It is fiction but is based on fact. (Aya, story of a refugee, girl 9)

I'm in France ... place called Calais. It turns out that nobody wants us after all. There was no gold at the end of the rainbow. I have no idea when or how I will get away from this prison.

(Bana's Story, girl 12)

We have been driving constantly towards the border of Syria and Turkey and I can still hear the firing of guns and shells in the distance. Papa says that the journey will take about 28 hours to arrive at a safe refugee camp on the border however, we are cautious as we travel. We have a small supply of food which is mainly rice and this adds to the worry. Mama had packed Lakhma, hummus and eggplant. (the diary of Toqa, girl 10)

We fled for our lives, took what we could, and drove off into the distance. We made our way to a refugee camp. It was awful: no clean water, no good food, rubbish everywhere and mouldy tents.

(Mohammed's Struggle, boy 13)

Endings full of hope

From this day onwards we erase past reality and welcome our future.

(Refugee Reality, girl 11)

Now for the first time in long while she smiled at school and so did Jem then side by side they walked back into the classroom. (The girl that smiled, girl 10)

Sci-fi stories set in the future

We run a sanctuary, a place of rest for around 600 earth refugees. We take in survivors of the apocalypse and protect them.... Recently, we built a large ship to fly us into space, away from destruction and Earth, our destination, Ledidius. It will take 19 years and 25 days to get there.

(I Remember The Feeling, girl 13)

NEW WORDS IN 2016

(words that did not appear in the stories in 2015 and not including invented words)

swegway
migrant
witherstorm
Lesbos
people smugglers
URL
lakhma
toolbar
typeface

The new words above belong to the areas of:

- popular culture (**swegway**)
- contemporary events (**migrant, Lesbos, people smugglers, lakhma**)
- gaming, specifically Minecraft (**witherstorm**)
- coding and computing (**URL, toolbar, typeface**)

WORDS THAT SHOW SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN 2016

	2016 frequency	2015 frequency
velociraptor/s	368	93
raptor/s	360	69
refugee/s	339	67
lightsaber/s	267	48
emoji/s	199	25
spacewalk	167	10
stormtrooper/s	123	19
selkie/s	119	19
illuminati	108	14
chipmunks	101	21

The above words do not include names of people, places, or characters, and are broadly from three main areas of interest:

- Films – **velociraptor, raptor** (Jurassic World); **lightsaber, stormtrooper** (Star Wars); **chipmunks** (Alvin and the Chipmunks 4: The Road Chips)
- Contemporary events – **refugee, spacewalk**
- Social media and popular culture: **emoji, illuminati, selkie** (Scottish folklore)

TOP NAMES IN 2016

Top 30 famous people and fictional characters

	2016 frequency
Santa (Claus)	2439
Zeus	1206
Lionel Messi	1058
Cristiano Ronaldo	969
Adolf Hitler	867
William Shakespeare	736
Cinderella	736
Snow White	696
Tim Peake	586
James Bond	511
Harry Potter	500
Chris Evans	496
Tooth Fairy	493
Wicked Witch	483
Neymar	405
Wayne Rooney	380
Romeo	359
Darth Vader	332
Queen Victoria	331
Red Riding Hood	323
Usain Bolt	320
Yoda	300
John Cena	283
Cleopatra	275
Macbeth	267
One Direction	255
David Cameron	225
Fairy Godmother	205
Henry VIII	197
Barack Obama	189

Top 10 famous people (without fictional characters)

Lionel Messi
Cristiano Ronaldo
Adolf Hitler
William Shakespeare
Tim Peake
Chris Evans
Neymar
Wayne Rooney
Queen Victoria
Usain Bolt

Top 10 fictional characters

Santa (Claus)
Zeus
Cinderella
Snow White
James Bond
Harry Potter
Tooth Fairy
Wicked Witch
Romeo
Darth Vader

Top 5 politicians

David Cameron
Barack Obama
Donald Trump
Boris Johnson
Jeremy Corbyn

Top 5 footballers

Lionel Messi
Cristiano Ronaldo
Neymar
Wayne Rooney
Suarez

Top 5 football clubs

Chelsea
Liverpool
Barcelona
Manchester United
Real Madrid

Some examples

*He was having a debate like **David Cameron** in his head fighting pros and cons of going forward.*
(Whatever Floats Your Goat, boy 13)

*This paintball match was no ordinary paintball match, with the Queen and the Prime Minister vs the leaders of America president **Obama** and **Donald Trump**. This all started after a House of Commons vote.* (The Paintball Match That Turned into World War Three, boy 10)

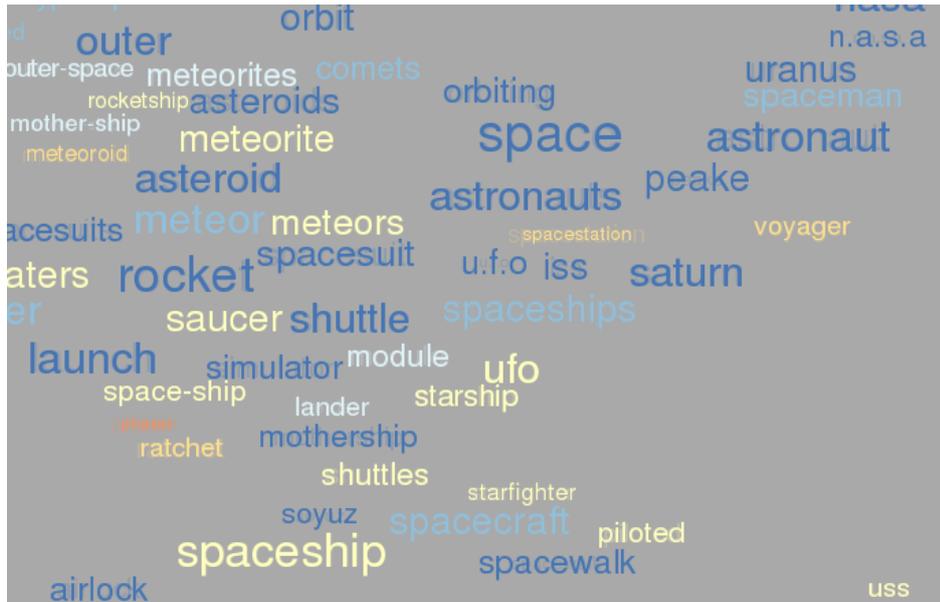
*So Today was the day! Today was the league finals at new camp stadium. **Messi** was running up and down the pitch and **Ronaldo** was taking free kicks. Thirty minutes later the game began.*
(Messi vs Ronaldo, boy 9)

*Since John was a little boy, he had loved football and loved **Chelsea**. He always dreamed for playing for Chelsea and England. John was very good at football and got scouted by Chelsea when he was only 9 years old.*
(Having a dream, boy 12)

TIM PEAKE

- Tim Peake is a new name in the 2016 stories, not mentioned in 2015, and goes straight to no. 5 in the list of famous people mentioned, contemporary and historical.
- Mentions of Tim Peake come equally from boys and girls, younger rather than older children, and from 88% of the total number of counties ranging from London, Kent, and Oxford to Edinburgh & E. Scotland, South West Wales, Isle of Man, and Northern Ireland.

A galaxy of space words in the 2016 stories



Key to word cloud:

the size of word relates to frequency: the bigger the word is, the more it is used

the colour spectrum relates to trend over time: light blue to dark blue show a rising trend with the darkest blue showing words that have become most popular in 2016; yellow to orange show a declining trend, words in orange being the ones which have declined the most in 2016.

Space words that show significant increase in 2016:

	2016 frequency	2015 frequency
space	17101	13274
rocket	9391	7763
galaxy	2062	1341
astronaut	1954	1322
space station*	1260	460
asteroid	736	534
countdown	524	447
space shuttle	314	240
spacewalk	167	10
intergalactic	126	104
holographic	73	61

**Space station* includes 700 specific mentions of *ISS* or *International Space Station* (this is a 714% increase from 80 mentions in 2015, taking into account the relative sizes of the two corpora)

Some examples

- Many stories involve meeting Tim Peake and going to the ISS.
- Images of the spacewalk have clearly inspired children and many stories give very visual and detailed descriptions, suggesting that children are fascinated by the images on their TV screens.

*A man in a spacesuit approached them, "Hello, I'm **Tim Peak**, welcome to the **ISS**. You must be very tired after the adventures you've had finding us."*

(The Howl of the Wolf, boy 9)

*Slowly, my thimble feet touched the **International Space Station's** metal floor and I said, with excitement in my voice, "One small step for me one huge step for kid kind!"*

(The Space Station's Secret, boy 11)

*I was watching the news on TV. Tim Peake, the Astronaut was **space walking** to remove a mystery object that was stuck on the space station.*

(Who Stole Daddy's pants, girl 9)

Creativity and imagination unlocked

(adaptations and similes inspired by Tim Peake)

*That nerve-wracking day **Finn Peak** and his fellow astronaut Asher Smith set of to the international space station. They would be the first British astronauts to go.*

(Space, boy 8)

*I felt like **Tim Peak** doing a space walk on the international space station.*

(The Day I met an Alien, girl 11)

STAR WARS

Star Wars words that show significant increase in 2016

	2016 frequency	2015 frequency
Darth Vader*	332	69
lightsaber/s	267	48
Rey*	149	12
stormtrooper/s	123	19
Han Solo	113	11
Boba	54	3
Obi Wan/Obi-Wan	54	6
Hoth	34	6
Princess Leia	32	2
Jar Jar Binks	8	1

*The 2 words *Darth* and *Vader* used separately have even higher mentions:

Darth: 670 mentions (269 in 2015, 266% increase in 2016)

Vader: 528 mentions (129 in 2015, 299% increase in 2016)

Rey shows an increase of 1024%. All percentages take into account the relative sizes of the two corpora.

Related words that have also grown in frequency:

- The phrase **star wars** has increased by 161% (from 154 mentions in 2015 to 434 in 2016).
- The phrase **force awakens** has increased the most by 1900% although the number of mentions are low (25 in 2016 from 1 in 2015).
- The phrase **a galaxy far, far away** was used 80 times in 2016, a 216% increase from 2015, mostly in story openers like *Once upon a time, in a galaxy far, far way.../ A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...*
- Other words and characters that have increased in frequency: *jedi, C3PO, Sith, Skywalker, Chewbacca, Anakin, Yoda, droid, Jabba the Hutt, R2D2.*

10 Star War words that are new in 2016

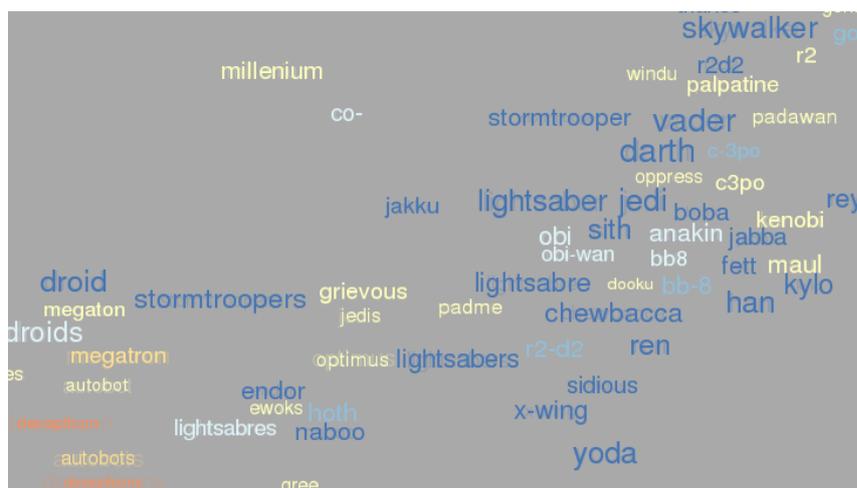
(these names did not appear in the stories in 2015)

Kylo Ren
BB8
Jakku
Millennium Falcon
Phasma
Snoke
Alderaan
Wookie
Dagobah
Starkiller

Meanwhile at the rebel base Leia was starting to get worried about Luke. She decided to go and find him herself. She jumped into the Millennium Falcon with Chewbacca and they received a message from R2D2 and C3PO that Luke had been captured by Kylo Ren. She was right– it had been a trap!

(THE DARK LORD, boy 11)

The Star Wars galaxy of words



Key to word cloud:

the size of word relates to frequency: the bigger the word is, the more it is used

the colour spectrum relates to trend over time: light blue to dark blue show a rising trend with the darkest blue showing words that have become most popular in 2016; yellow to orange show a declining trend, words in orange being the ones which have declined the most in 2016.

Some examples

Donald Trump and Luke Skywalker:

He threw chairs, tables and smashed plates on the floor. Then his short burst of rage suddenly ended. He thought to himself. "What was that and how on earth did this happen." The next morning his business partner Donald Trump came in and he fired Luke Skywalker for horrible work.
(Good to Bad, boy 12)

Harry Potter meets the Star Wars universe (and Asterix):

Use the force, you must," explained the Jedi master. "I am!" Shouted Harry furiously "I need to kill Darth Vader now!" Harry argued with Dumbledore and Remus Lupin. (Star Wars (with the starring role of Harry Potter, Asterix and Obelix), boy 9)

Made-up words and names

Darth Destroy, Darth Sitax [real characters: Darth Vader, Darth Sidious, Darth Maul]

botvader

One morning when I woke up I couldn't stop thinking about my dream last night of a crazy but kind robot called botvader . He was 100 foot tall, he had 4 arms, 2 heads, 20 eyes on each head, spiders for hair and 2 legs that are extra extra stretchy.

(The story of botvader, boy 7)

catrooper

When they got there one of the catroopers slipped and his blaster shot a bomb and the death ball blew up. (Cat Wars, boy 9)

SHAKESPEARE

William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare is a new name in the list of top 10 famous people this year and did not appear in the top 10 in any of the previous years of the competition

The library was warm and dry... Just going to change his books, he saw a display on William Shakespeare . It was his 400th anniversary of his death that day. (The Tempest, boy 10)

Shakespearean names that show significant increase in 2016

	2016 frequency	2015 frequency
Romeo	359	240
Macbeth*	267	48
the Globe/Globe theatre	236	48
Hamlet	63	60
Banquo*	42	2
Prospero*	31	2
Puck	30	8
Titania	26	11
Othello	14	6
Capulet	8	5

*Although the hits are low, *Banquo* and *Prospero* increased by 2133% and 1533% respectively (taking into account the different sizes of the two corpora). *Macbeth* increased by 416%.

The Globe Theatre

A few months later Lisa found herself standing in front of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cornwall, in the globe theatre, being presented with the winning award for the 500 words short story writing competition. (The 500 Words, girl 10)

Shakespearean character names that are new in 2016

(these names did not appear in the stories in 2015)

Fleance
Orsino
Malvolio
Nerissa
Laertes
Mercutio
Fortinbras
Feste

The Queen's corgis

Another corgi called Hamlet saw Puck looking sad and asked him what the matter was. Puck told him everything, even about his secret visits to the Queen's dressing room.... The following week it was the Queen's 90th birthday. This, Hamlet suggested, might present the perfect opportunity. (Puck, girl 8)

SOCIAL MEDIA

- The social media sites *YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter*, etc., continue to feature widely in the stories, particularly in the 10-13 age group.
- The term *social media* itself is becoming more common.
- Three 'textspeak' abbreviations are widely used in the stories: OMG, BFF, and LOL, the first two by girls a lot more than boys.
- The symbol # is increasing in its use as a prefix to a comment or an aside

'help, help!' I shouted but obviously no one heard me because of the size of me #tiny
(WILL I EVER GET BACK?, girl 11)

	2016 frequency
youtube	746
# (hashtag)	502
selfie/s	396
facebook	351
instagram	302
blog/s	269
Zoella	245
social media	223
emoji/s	199
twitter	154
youtuber	151
skype	126
facetime	90
snapchat	77
vlog	44
vlogging	33
blogger	22
vlogger/s	21
whatsapp	21
blog post	15
tumblr	11
imessage	10
Pointless Blog	6

CODING AND COMPUTING

- There has been an increase in a large number of words relating to computers and coding.
- In the examples given below, words that show the most significant increase (between 50-100%) are: **server, cache, virtual, user, hacker**

	2016 frequency
computer	5046
laptop	1495
hack	1081
internet	972
program	632
online	588
password	421
hacker	296
keyboard	254
digital	182
virtual	173
download	162
data	161
network	142
cache	120
user	108
server	103

Some examples

The screen flashed and flickered, slightly buffering as he surreptitiously scanned through the millions of bank details of commoners on the XYZ bank database. William Drake, just an unsuspecting fourteen year old boy, had successfully hacked into one of the largest banks' servers in the world.
(The Big Hack, boy 11)

Simon came up with the solution. Using the power of smart programming, a couple of data chips, a microcamera, a mini-microphone and some sticking plaster, Simon invented Super Sign Specs[®]. The Super Sign Specs[®] prototype converts all speech into sign language, displayed inside the left hand lens.
(Dragon's den, boy 11)

I reached for my laptop. I had to do this. I entered my password and clicked on the 'Terminal' button. I thought for a moment, and then decided to connect it to the dictionary. This was probably the most efficient way to do it, as it would try every word. I just had to hope the password wasn't zabaglione. I typed some commands. "Scanning dictionary..." the screen read, "a, aardvark, aardvarks, aardwolf, aardwolves..." This was going to take some time.
(Computer hack, boy 10)

WORD PLAY

Long words

pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanokoniosis

(longest word in 2016, 45 letters, 1 hit)

I remember that her books are so boring and they have no WOW words like 'Scrumptious, Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanokoniosis (it means: A supposed lung disease), Huge.'
(My Favourite Diary Entry (Not), girl 12)

hippopotomonstrosesquipedaliophobia (34 letters, 1 hit)

The next day, Josh Bond tried out his phobias to test if he was actually died of suffering painfully. Some of the strange phobias such as: ELaingaphobia, tryphobia, hippopotomonstrosesquipedaliophobia, Cibophobia, Arrhenphobia, Pedgophobia, Ailurophobia, Arrhenphobia. All failed... his plan worked. The evil in him came alive and running.

(Josh Bond, girl 11)

supercalifragilisticexpialidocious (34 letters, 60 hits)

After they had finished the scrumptious picnic, Harry thought it was time to go home. So Harry and the small black dog thanked the fairy for a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious day and left the fairy all alone.

(Harry his small black dog and the dripping wet fairy, girl 8)

Invented words

manffragettes

They were known by the name "manffragettes " who fought for men's rights but, when that didn't work, they turned to violence.

(King and Queens, girl 10)

weti

Then the big blue creature said that he was a weti. Afterwards John asked the weti, "what is a weti?" Slowly in a deep booming voice the weti replied "A weti is a water yeti."

(the mountain adventure crash, boy 8)

Spelling

- Nearly all the 50 words that had the most spelling errors in the stories in 2012, show improved spelling in 2016, the top 5 being **accidentally, frantically, definitely, doesn't, beginning.**
- Children still have problems with the spelling of 2 of those words: **minute** and **soldier**, minute having 20 different spelling variations, the most frequent being minuet.

Similes

Iridescent flames licked the bottom of the walls like a cat lapping up milk.

Tears ran down my cheek like a waterfall.

He sprinted like a cheetah going for the kill.

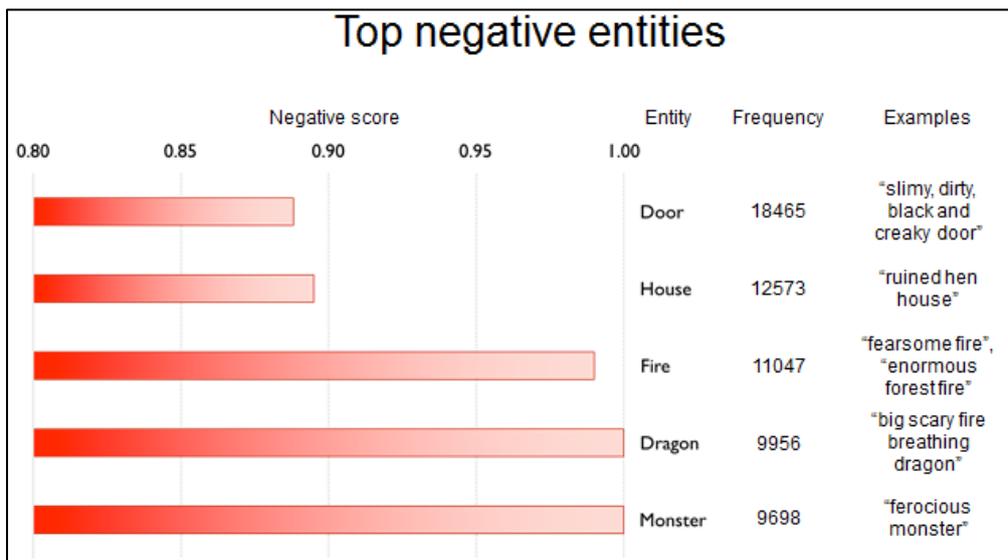
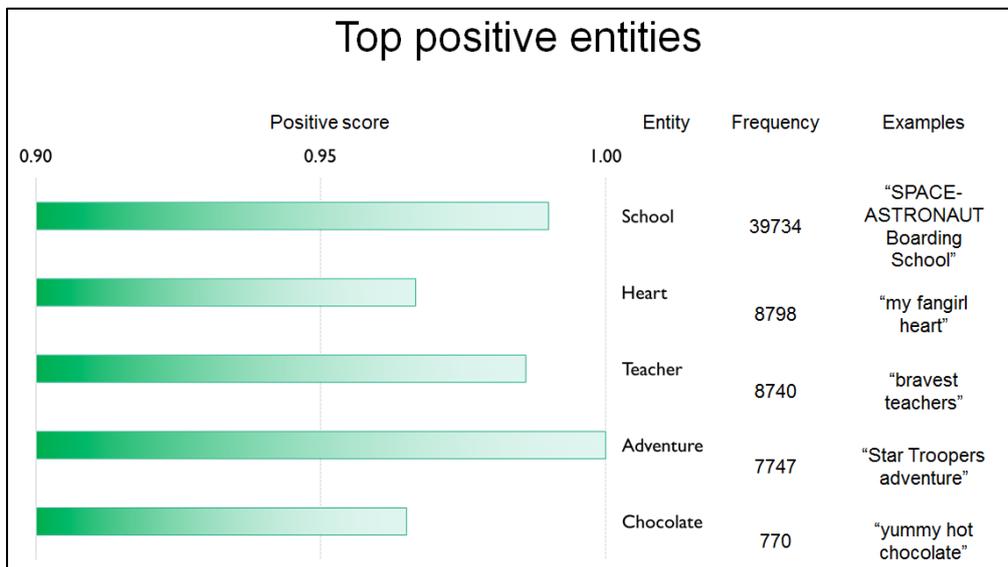
His legs shook like a tambourine.

SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

For the first time in 2016, the data has been analysed by an academic and computer science team at Oxford with specialized software used for the analysis of positive and negative contexts of words (sentiment analysis).

Highlights of the sentiment analysis of the 2016 stories:

- Each word or 'entity' was analysed in context and in relation to other words used, to determine the overall 'sentiment' that the usage of the word reflects.
- Words were scored on a scale of 0-1, 1 being the highest score (most positive or most negative).
- In the 1000 most frequent nouns, the most positive words are **adventure, school, teacher, heart, chocolate** and the most negative words are **monster, dragon, fire, house, door**.
- The graphs below show examples of phrases in which these words were used.



Sentiment analysis by region

Top regional positive & negative entities

Region	Top Positive Entities	Top Negative Entities
Channel Islands	dad	day
	mum	eyes
England	school	day
	adventure	man
Northern Ireland	dad	fire
	family	time
Scotland	teacher	door
	school	man
Wales	friends	dragon
	light	door

Some examples

Channel Islands

Positive entities: **dad, mum**

"You are the best dad." (Sterban Stolz (in German), girl 11, Guernsey)

I hugged my mum and dad. (Another Earth, girl 12, Jersey)

Negative entities: **day, eyes**

After a day the Guinea Pigs hated Scruffy who bullied them all day.

(The Great Escape, girl 8, Guernsey)

But just as we thought they were dead, they arose with bloodshot eyes.

(Somethings Just Aren't What They Seem, girl 11, Guernsey)

England

Positive entities: **school, adventure**

A wide grin spread over my face, I'd won! I'd actually won, for the school, for my friends.

(It's Just Playing Tennis, girl 12, Gloucestershire)

She kept on having wonderful adventures every time they walked together.

(The magic collar, girl 8, Hampshire)

Negative entities: **day, man**

The worst day. My best friend dead. I went home sad. (Christmas Trouble, boy 12, Humberside)
The great bank of Kentucky was robbed by a man wearing full black and a ski mask over his face.
(Love is is all around, girl 11, Essex)

Scotland

Positive entities: **teacher, school**

Luckily, I have the nicest teacher in the school, Mr. Neil.
(Werewolf Of The School, boy 8, Highlands & Islands)
I woke up at 7:00am bright and early excited to go on a school trip to the museum.
(The Missing Child, girl 11, Edinburgh & E. Scotland)

Negative entities: **door, man**

But then the zombies broke down the door. (the apocalypse, boy 12, Edinburgh & E. Scotland)
Suddenly the shady man picks up a slimy greasy rock and try's to skim it across the dark gloomy loch.
(The man at the end of the loch, boy 11, Glasgow & W. Scotland)

Northern Ireland

Positive entities: **dad, family**

The chocolate bar that Dad gave me was like heaven. (that was so fun, boy 12, Northern Ireland)
On their fire place there was a picture of a happy family. (My Ghost Story, boy 13, Northern Ireland)

Negative entities: **fire, time**

Out of the forest flew an enormous dragon breathing out fire and it rushed straight at Adam.
(The Other Dimension, girl 9, Northern Ireland)
It was an enemy agent. I tried countless times to break free, it was no use.
(How To Spy Like A Girl, girl 11, Northern Ireland)

Wales

Positive entities: **friends, light**

I got a cool I-pad and me and my three friends lived happily ever after.
(Mr Grumbles Get Back In There, girl 10, Mid Wales)
They launched galloping upwards into the sky and looked down at her village, Christmas lights twinkling from all directions. (Midnight Unicorn, girl 9, South East Wales)

Negative entities: **dragon, door**

"Let me in!" roared the dragon. "Never!" screamed the king, but the dragon took a deep breath and blew the castle into flames. (The Evil Dragon and Evil Genie vs The Knight, boy 6, North East Wales)
They tried to get out but the doors slammed shut. (The Haunted House, girl 7, South East Wales)

Sentiment analysis by post code

- Entries were analysed by post code to reveal the average number of ‘positive’ words, i.e. words used in positive rather than negative contexts, in the stories from that region.
- Submissions in each post code vary from 1 or 2 stories to 50-60 stories – the analysis takes into account the relative distribution of the stories.
- The top ‘positive’ postcode in the UK which shows the highest average levels of ‘happiness’ or words with positive sentiment in the stories of that region is:
LL20: Llandudno, Wales
- Examples of positive words or entities with high positive scores from LL20:
best friend, enchanted bow, happily ever after, winning the battle, amazing dream

Some examples

They became the best of friends. They laughed and played all the time.

(The Magical Dream, girl 9, LL20, N.W. Wales)

One day I took them for a amazing walk in the woods.

(The most amazing day, boy 7, LL20, North West Wales)

CONCLUSION

This document records the highlights of the analysis done on the BBC 500 Words 2016 corpus by the Oxford Children’s Dictionaries department. For more information, please contact:

Harriet Bayly Harriet.bayly@oup.com

Vineeta Gupta Vineeta.gupta@oup.com

Oxford Children’s Dictionaries, Oxford University Press, Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP