



## *Using online resources*

### ***Online dictionaries***

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An online dictionary works the same way as a traditional dictionary. Once you have access to the site, online dictionaries can be used to find the meaning of any word you type into the search field. Many online dictionaries can assist you with spelling and they often have a thesaurus function. Many leading publishers have produced online versions of their dictionaries. These contain various helpful tools and features, including pronunciation tools and lists of similar words or words with similar spelling.

### ***Online encyclopedias***

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An online encyclopedia gives you access to a huge volume of valuable and authentic information in an easy-to-use digital format. The greatest advantage of an online encyclopedia over a printed edition is that its information is frequently updated and immediately available. Printed series of encyclopedias are often expensive and quickly become out-of-date. Many online encyclopedias provide search tips and advanced tools to help isolate specific information.

### ***Technical glossaries***

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The field of information and computer technology or ICT has grown rapidly. With this growth has come a staggering number of new words, terms and acronyms. A new technology often requires the creation of new words in order to define its functions or to avoid copyright infringement. Thankfully, a number of online technical glossaries are available to help decode these new ICT terms.