

## Foreign Words Used in English

<b>Word</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
ad hoc	for this special purpose
ad infinitum	to infinity
ad nauseam	tiresome to the point of disgust
agent provocateur	one who tempts a suspect to commit a crime so they may be caught
al dente	cooked so as to be firm when eaten
alfresco	in the open air
au fait	fully informed; an expert
au naturel	naked; uncooked or cooked simply
bête noire	an object of particular dislike; pet aversion
blitzkrieg	lightening war
bona fide	in good faith
brasserie	informal or inexpensive restaurant
carpe diem	enjoy/ make the most of the present day
carte blanche	full discretionary powers
cause célèbre	famous lawsuit or controversy
caveat emptor	let the buyer beware
chef-d'œuvre	masterpiece
compos mentis	sane
coup de grâce	a finishing blow
coup d'état	a sudden decisive political move; violent seizure of power
de facto	actually, in fact
déjà vu	sense of having previously experienced the current situation
dolce vita	a life of pleasure and luxury
doppelgänger	an apparition or double of a living person
double entendre	double meaning
enfant terrible	one whose behaviour is controversial
en masse	in a body; altogether
ex gratia	payment given as a favour as opposed to a legal obligation
ex officio	by virtue of one's office/ position
fait accompli	a thing done that cannot be undone
faux pas	false step, an indiscretion

<b>Word</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
femme fatale	seductive woman
force majeure	superior strength
haute couture	high fashion
haute cuisine	high-class cooking
in absentia	while not present
in camera	in a judge's private room
in situ	in its original position
inter alia	among other things
je ne sais quoi	hard to describe; I do not know what
joie de vivre	joy of living
laissez-faire	policy of non-intervention or inaction
mea culpa	acknowledging fault; by my fault
modus operandi	manner of working
non sequitur	it does not follow logically from the previous statement
nouveau riche	one newly enriched, an upstart
par excellence	pre-eminently
per annum	for each year
per capita	for each person
per se	by or in itself
persona non grata	unacceptable or unwelcome person
pièce de résistance	the most important/ impressive item
prima facie	at first view
pro rata	proportionally
quid pro quo	a favour given in return for something
raison d'être	the most important reason for someone's existence
sine die	without date, indefinitely
sub judice	being considered by a court and not to be discussed elsewhere
table d'hôte	general guest table; fixed-price meal
terra firma	solid earth
tête-à-tête	a private conversation
vis-à-vis	in relation to; as compared with