

New to America

Nancy was new to America. She came to America speaking only her native language. She brought her 8-year-old son with her. He was all she had in the world.

They found an apartment in Arcadia. They were there for only two months when a neighbor's dog jumped over the fence. The dog ran toward Nancy's son. Nancy put her body in between the dog and her son. The dog stopped when it saw Nancy screaming at it. She was going to punch it in the nose. The dog turned around.

Shaking, Nancy took her son upstairs. They stayed in the apartment all weekend. Then Nancy found another apartment, close to the school that her son was going to attend.

She and her son walked everywhere. One day her son started coughing badly. He had an asthma attack. All the walking was making his asthma worse.

Nancy knew that she had to buy a car. So she called up the Honda dealer. She talked to a salesman who spoke her language. She told him that she wanted to buy a new car if he could come over to pick her up. The salesman said he would be right over.

asth·ma [az-muh, as-] Show IPA

noun

Pathology . a paroxysmal, often allergic disorder of respiration, characterized by bronchospasm, wheezing, and difficulty in expiration, often accompanied by coughing and a feeling of constriction in the chest.

Also called bronchial asthma.

at·tend [uh-tend] Show IPA

verb (used with object)

1.

to be present at: to attend a lecture; to attend church.

2.

to go with as a concomitant or result; accompany: Fever may attend a cold. Success attended her hard work.

3.

to take care of; minister to; devote one's services to: The nurse attended the patient daily.

4.

to wait upon; accompany as a companion or servant: The retainers attended their lord.

5.

to take charge of; watch over; look after; tend; guard: to attend one's health.

cough [kawf, kof] Show IPA

verb (used without object)

1.

to expel air from the lungs suddenly with a harsh noise, often involuntarily.

2.

(of an internal-combustion engine) to make a similar noise as a result of the failure of one or more cylinders to fire in sequence.

3.

to make a similar sound, as a machine gun firing in spurts.

verb (used with object)

4.

to expel by coughing (usually followed by up or out): to cough up phlegm.

noun

5.

the act or sound of coughing.

6.

a illness characterized by frequent coughing.

7.

a sound similar to a cough, a machine gun, or an engine firing improperly.

deal·er **[dee-lər]** [Show IPA](#)

noun

1.

a person who buys and sells articles without altering their condition; trader or merchant, especially a wholesaler: I got a dealer's discount on this coat.

2.

Cards. the player distributing the cards.

3.

a person who behaves or acts toward another or others in a specified manner: a plain dealer.

4.

Slang. a person who buys and sells drugs illegally.

5.

a person who buys securities for his or her account and retains them until sold to another.

fence **[fens]** [Show IPA](#)

noun

1.

a barrier enclosing or bordering a field, yard, etc., usually made of posts and wire or wood, used to prevent entrance, to confine, or to mark a boundary.

2.

Informal. a person who receives and disposes of stolen goods.

3.

the place of business of such a person.

4.

the act, practice, art, or sport of fencing.

5.

skill in argument, repartee, etc.