



# ACRONYMS in Our Lives

An **ACRONYM** is a set of letters formed from the initial letters of each of the successive parts of a compound term.

Have you ever noticed how often acronyms are mentioned? Our lives are full of them. Acronyms are used in conversation, on TV, in newspapers and books, and occur more often today than ever before. In her columns in the *New York Times* Maureen Dowd uses acronyms freely. Knowing what they represent makes it easier to understand the points she is making. Quoting from an article in January 2002: “There was no conflict of interest on Planet Enron, only confluence of intips. No S.E.C. or G.A.O., just C.E.O.’s, S.U.V.’s and N.O.B.D.’s (not our bankruptcy, dear). Q.E.D.”

If you are up on your *acronyms*, you recognized SEC as *Securities and Exchange Commission*, GAO as *General Accounting Office*, CEO as *Chief Executive Officer*, SUV as *Sport Utility Vehicle* and QED as *Quid Erat Demonstration* (shows something proven).

*What words do these acronyms represent?*

<b>CMA</b> _____	<b>NATO</b> _____	<b>PBS</b> _____
<b>WPA</b> _____	<b>MADD</b> _____	<b>SOS</b> _____
<b>UPS</b> _____	<b>SIDS</b> _____	<b>AIDS</b> _____
<b>FDA</b> _____	<b>AMA</b> _____	<b>SAD</b> _____
<b>CPI</b> _____	<b>Y2K</b> _____	<b>KISS</b> _____
<b>GOP</b> _____	<b>24/7</b> _____	<b>DUI</b> _____
<b>POTUS</b> _____	<b>WWW</b> _____	<b>AOL</b> _____
<b>FLOTUS</b> _____	<b>WMD</b> _____	<b>DNC</b> _____
<b>CBC</b> _____	<b>FBI</b> _____	<b>CIA</b> _____