

**assail**

[ə'seɪl] *v*

1. 1) наступать, атаковать, нападать внезапно и яростно  
the fortress was assailed on all sides - крепость была атакована со всех сторон  
we were assailed by a violent hailstorm - нас застиг сильный град
- 2) одолевать, мучить  
to be assailed with /by/ doubts - мучиться сомнениями  
he was assailed by fears - им овладели страхи
- 3) забрасывать, засыпать  
he was assailed with questions - его забросали /засыпали/ вопросами
2. нападать, резко критиковать, высмеивать  
to assail smb. with epigrams - высмеивать кого-л. в эпиграммах
3. решительно, с жаром браться за дело, набрасываться (*на работу и т. п.*)  
he assailed the difficulty with eagerness - он ринулся на преодоление трудностей

**assail**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**as-sail** [assail assails assailed assailing] *BrE* [ə'seɪl] <sup>u</sup> *NAme* [ə'seɪl] <sup>u</sup> *verb*

(formal)

1. ~ **sb/sth** to attack sb/sth violently, either physically or with words
  - He was assailed with fierce blows to the head.
  - The proposal was assailed by the opposition party.
  - (figurative) A vile smell assailed my nostrils.
2. **usually passive** ~ **sb** to disturb or upset sb severely
  - to **be assailed by worries/doubts/fears**

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	assail
	<i>BrE</i> /ə'seɪl/
	<i>NAme</i> /ə'seɪl/
he / she / it	assails
	<i>BrE</i> /ə'seɪlz/
	<i>NAme</i> /ə'seɪlz/
past simple, past participle	assailed
	<i>BrE</i> /ə'seɪld/
	<i>NAme</i> /ə'seɪld/
-ing form	assailing
	<i>BrE</i> /ə'seɪlɪŋ/
	<i>NAme</i> /ə'seɪlɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French *assaill-*, stressed stem of *asalir*, from medieval Latin *assalire*, from Latin *assilire*, from *ad-* 'to' + *salire* 'to leap'; compare with *assault*.

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Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**as-sail** /ə'seɪl/ *BrE* <sup>u</sup> *AmE* <sup>u</sup> *verb* [transitive] *formal*

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: *assaillir*, from Latin *assilire*, from *ad-* 'to' + *salire* 'to jump']

1. [**usually passive**] if you are assailed by unpleasant thoughts or feelings, they worry or upset you:  
Carla was suddenly assailed by doubts.
2. if a strong smell or loud sound assails you, you suddenly experience it:  
The smell of rotten meat assailed her nostrils.
3. to attack someone or something violently
4. to criticize someone or something severely  
**assail somebody for something**  
He was assailed for gross misconduct.

**assail**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **11683**<sup>MCW</sup>  
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 RANGE: **11k** ASSAIL 1853  
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 assails 49  
 assailed 390  
 assailing 87  
 assailable 13  
 unassailable 248  
 assailant 593  
 assailants 378  
 COCA 500k Unlemmatized  
 58 **99720**<sup>59</sup> *vvi*  
 36 **128851**<sup>36</sup> *vv0*