

1. [tʃi:f] *n*

- 1) глава, руководитель; лидер; начальник, шеф; заведующий, директор
chief of chemical corps - **воен.** начальник (управления) химических войск
fire chief - начальник пожарной команды
chief of the hill - **разг.** «комендант горы» (*лыжный спорт*)
chief of a library - заведующий библиотекой директор библиотеки
chief of police - начальник полиции, полицмейстер
chief of the watch - **мор.** вахтенный командир /начальник/
chief of the court - председатель суда
Chief of Chaplains - **воен.** начальник службы военных священников; главный капеллан

2) **разг.** шеф, чиф (*в обращении*)2. вождь (*племени, клана*); властитель, повелитель

- Red Indian chief - вождь индейского племени
- robber chief - атаман разбойников
- Hail to the Chief - «привет вождю» (*марш при встрече президента США*)

3. **гербальд**, верхняя часть щита

4. = chief-rent

- ◇ in chief - а) главным образом; б) **уст.** пожалованный сюзереном (*о поместье*)

2. [tʃi:f] *a*

1. главный; руководящий; старший

- chief editor - главный редактор
- chief engineer - а) главный инженер; б) старший механик
- chief librarian - заведующий библиотекой директор библиотеки
- chief magistracy - пост президента США *или* губернатора штата
- chief cameraman - **кино** главный оператор
- Chief Command - **воен.** главное командование
- Chief of Naval Staff - начальник морского штаба (*Великобритании*); первый морской лорд
- chief officer - **мор.** старший помощник
- chief signal officer - **воен.** начальник службы связи
- chief surgeon - **воен.** начальник медицинской службы
- chief medical officer - **воен.** старший офицер медицинской службы
- chief nurse - старшая медсестра

2. основной; важнейший, главный

- chief problem - основная проблема, главный вопрос
- chief business - основное занятие /дело/
- chief opposing force - главные силы противника
- chief good - **книжн.** величайшее благо
- chief happiness - **книжн.** высшее блаженство
- the chief rivers of France - главные реки Франции
- the chief news is printed on the second page - самое важное сообщение напечатано на второй странице
- the chief thing to remember is this - прежде всего нужно запомнить следующее
- the chief thing to do - основное, что нужно сделать
- my chief concern is ... - я больше всего озабочен тем, что ...
- ◇ chief cook and bottle washer - **пренебр.** доверенный слуга; человек на побегушках
- chief mourner - самый близкий родственник *или* друг умершего (**обыкн.** овдовевший супруг)

chief

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

chief [**chief chiefs**] **adjective, noun** *BrE* [tʃiːf] ^m *NAmE* [tʃiːf] ^m**adjective only before noun**

1. most important

- the chief cause/problem/reason
- one of the President's chief rivals

2. (*often Chief*) highest in rank

- the Chief Education Officer
- the chief financial officer of the company
- Detective Chief Inspector Williams

3. **-in-'chief** (in nouns) of the highest rank

- commander-in-chief

see also ↑chieflyWord Origin:Middle English: from Old French **chief**, **chef**, based on Latin **caput** 'head'.Thesaurus:**chief** **adj.**

1.

- her chief rival for the gold medal

main • **principal** • **prime** • **primary** • **central** • **key** • **major** • |informal number one •

the chief/main/principal/prime/primary/central/key/major/number one **concern**
the chief/main/principal/prime/primary/key/major/number one **cause**
the chief/main/prime/number one **suspect**

2. only before noun

- the Chief Education Officer

top • • **senior** • • **superior** • • **leading** • • **high-ranking** •

a chief/top/senior/superior/leading/high-ranking **officer**

a chief/top/senior/leading **adviser/aide/economist/lawyer**

a chief/top/senior/high-ranking **executive**

Synonyms:

main

major • key • central • principal • chief • prime

These words all describe sb/sth that is the largest or most important of its kind.

main • [only before noun] largest or most important: ▫ Be careful crossing the main road. ▫ The main thing is to remain calm.

major • [usually before noun] very large or important: ▫ He played a major role in setting up the system.

Major is most often used after **a** with a singular noun, or no article with a plural noun. When it is used with **the** or **my/your/his/her/our/their** it means 'the largest or most important': ▫ Our major concern here is combatting poverty. In this meaning it is only used to talk about ideas or worries that people have, not physical things, and it is also more formal than **main**: ▫ Be careful crossing the major road. ▫ The major thing is to remain calm.

key • [usually before noun] most important; essential: ▫ He was a key figure in the campaign.

Key is used most frequently in business and political contexts. It can be used to talk about ideas, or the part that sb plays in a situation, but not physical things. It is slightly more informal than **major**, especially when used after a noun and linking verb: ▫ Speed is key at this point.

central • (rather formal) most important: ▫ The central issue is that of widespread racism.

Central is used in a similar way to **key**, but is more formal. It is most frequently used in the phrase **sth is central to sth else**.

principal • [only before noun] (rather formal) most important: ▫ The principal reason for this omission is lack of time.

Principal is mostly used for statements of fact about which there can be no argument. To state an opinion, or to try to persuade sb of the facts as you see them, it is more usual to use **key** or **central**: ▫ The key/central issue here is...

chief • [only before noun] (rather formal) most important: ▫ Unemployment was the chief cause of poverty.

prime • [only before noun] (rather formal) most important; to be considered first: ▫ My prime concern is to protect my property.

a/the main/major/key/central/principal/chief/prime **aim/concern**

a/the main/major/principal **road/town/city**

the main/key **thing** is to...

to be **of** major/key/central/prime **importance**

Example Bank:

- He was America's ambassador to France and became chief architect of the Treaty of Paris.
- Her chief rival for the gold medal is Jones of the USA.
- The chief financial officer of the company paid us a visit.
- The lion is the zebra's chief enemy.
- Their chief preoccupation was how to feed their families.
- Unemployment was the chief cause of poverty.
- Who is the new Chief Education Officer?
- sb's chief enemy/rival/opponent
- the chief architect/exponent of sth

Idiom: †too many chiefs and not enough Indians

noun

1. a person with a high rank or the highest rank in a company or an organization

- **army/industry/police chiefs**

2. (often as a title) a leader or ruler of a people or community

- Chief Buthelezi
- Chief Crazy Horse

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French **chief**, **chef**, based on Latin **caput** 'head' .

Example Bank:

- Sanger was appointed chief of the Fire Department.
- Health chiefs say waiting times are down.
- Politicians are demanding the resignation of the chief of the Los Angeles Police Department.
- Security chiefs are keeping their men on full alert after the bomb threat.
- Virgin chief, Richard Branson, may take legal action against the newspaper.
- We spoke to a former CIA chief of European operations.
- the police/fire chief

chiefI. **chief**¹ **S2 W2** /tʃiːf/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *adjective*

1. [only before noun] highest in rank:

- He was recently appointed chief economist at the Bank of Scotland.
- the government's chief medical officer

2. most important **SYN main** ⇔ **chiefly**:

- One of the chief causes of crime today is drugs.
- Safety is our chief concern.
- The chief reason for this is that people are living longer.
- his chief rival for the job
- the prosecution's chief witness
- She had many reasons for taking the money, but chief among them was revenge.

3. **chief cook and bottle washer** someone who does a lot of small jobs to make sure that an event is successful – used humorouslyII. **chief**² **W3** *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *noun* [countable]

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: 'head, chief', from Latin caput 'head']

1. **SOMEBODY IN CHARGE OF AN ORGANIZATION** the most important person, or one of the most important people, in a company or organization – used especially in job titles and in news reports*police/army/fire etc chief*

- Los Angeles Police Chief Willie L. Williams

chief of

- the British Chief of Defence Staff
- Most health chiefs believe the reforms have gone too far.
- industry chiefs

commander-in-chief/editor-in-chief etc (=used in job titles for people with the highest rank)

- They offered him the position of editor-in-chief.

2. **RULER OF TRIBE** the ruler of a tribe:

- the Zulu leader, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi
- Native American tribal chiefs

3. **too many chiefs and not enough Indians** *British English* used to say there are too many people saying how something should be done and not enough people doing it4. **great white chief** *British English old-fashioned* the person in charge of a group of people, company, organization etc – used humorously**chief**

Frequency Pack

12500 **1486**^{MCW}15000 **852**^{COCA}RANGE: **2k** CHIEF 54823

chief 49829

chiefs 3681

chiefly 1313

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

17145 **1483**²⁸³¹⁷ *jj*11859 **2141**²⁰¹²⁰ *nn1*627 **17427**¹³⁵³ *nnb*19 **160956**²⁴ *nnu*10 **209561**¹⁵ *np1*