

**while** *n*

## 1. 1) время; промежуток времени

a long [a short] while - долго [недолго]

in a little while - скоро, вот-вот

a while ago - только что, недавно

a long while ago - давным-давно

after a little while - вскоре, через некоторое время

at whiles - по временам, иногда

once in a while - время от времени

quite a while - *разг.* довольно долго

for a while - на (некоторое) время

we must rest for a while - мы должны немного передохнуть

all the /this/ while - всё (это) время

2) (the while) *преим. поэт.* (всё) это время

he sang to her and looked in her eyes the while - он пел для неё, всё время смотря ей в глаза

## 2. затраченные усилия и время; беспокойство

he will make it worth your while - он не останется в долгу

**while** *v*1. проводить, коротать (время; *обыкн.* to while away the time)2. *диал.* тянуться (о времени)3. *редк.* забываться за каким-л. занятием, отвлекаться

to while sorrow - отвлечься от горестных мыслей

**while** *prep диал.*

до

while then - до тех пор (пока)

**while** *conj*

## 1. вводит временные придаточные предложения, выражающие

1) действие, процесс, во время совершения которого *что-л.* происходит пока; в то время как; когда

while (he was) reading he fell asleep - за чтением он заснул

he had an accident while (he was) coming here - по дороге сюда с ним произошёл несчастный случай

finish the work while there is light - кончайте работу, пока светло

## 2) протекание действия одновременно с каким-л. другим действием пока; когда

while there's life there's hope - пока живу - надеюсь

while (he was) here, he studied a great deal - пока он был здесь, он много занимался

## 2. вводит предложения, выражающие противопоставление в то же время; тогда как; а

one of the sisters was in white, while the other was all in black - одна сестра была в белом, а другая вся в чёрном

he was generous towards others, while stinting himself - он был щедр по отношению к другим, в то же время отказывая себе во всём

3. вводит предложения с противительным значением *разг.* хотя, несмотря на то, что

while I don't like it I'll do it - хотя мне это (и) не нравится, я это сделаю

4. вводит предложения, указывающие на дополнительное свойство, действие *и т. п.* а также; кроме того; не только ...

но и

while the book will be welcomed by scholars, it will make an immediate appeal to the general reader - книга будет хорошо принята

не только учёными, но и широким кругом читателей

**while**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**while** [**while** **whiles** **whiled** **whiling**] *conjunction, noun, verb* *BrE* [waɪl] <sup>m</sup>*NAmE* [waɪl] <sup>m</sup>*conjunction* (also formal **whilst** *BrE* [waɪlɪst] <sup>m</sup> ; *NAmE* [waɪlɪst] <sup>m</sup> especially in *BrE*)

## 1. during the time that sth is happening

**Syn:** ↑when

- We must have been burgled while we were asleep.
- Her parents died while she was still at school.
- While I was waiting at the bus stop, three buses went by in the opposite direction.

## 2. at the same time as sth else is happening

- You can go swimming while I'm having lunch.
- shoes mended while you wait

## 3. used to contrast two things

- While Tom's very good at science, his brother is absolutely hopeless.
- Some people work better to music while others do not.

4. (used at the beginning of a sentence) **although**; **despite the fact that...**

- While I am willing to help, I do not have much time available

5. (*NEngE*) **until**

- I waited while six o'clock.

Word Origin:Old English hwīl 'period of time', of Germanic origin; related to Dutch **wijl**, German **Weile**; the conjunction is an abbreviation of Old English thā hwīle the 'the while that'.

## Language Bank:

### **contrast**

#### *Highlighting differences*

- This survey **highlights a number of differences in** ▪ the way that teenage boys and girls in the UK spend their free time.
- One of the main differences between** ▪ the girls **and** ▪ the boys who took part in the research was the way in which they use the Internet.
- Unlike** ▪ the girls, who use the Internet mainly to keep in touch with friends, the boys questioned in this survey tend to use the Internet for playing computer games.
- The girls **differ from** ▪ the boys **in that** ▪ they tend to spend more time keeping in touch with friends on the telephone or on social networking websites.
- Compared to** ▪ the boys, the girls spend much more time chatting to friends on the telephone.
- On average the girls spend four hours a week chatting to friends on the phone. **In contrast** ▪, very few of the boys spend more than five minutes a day talking to their friends in this way.
- The boys prefer competitive sports and computer games, **whereas** ▪ / **while** ▪ the girls seem to enjoy more cooperative activities, such as shopping with friends.
- When the girls go shopping, they mainly buy clothes and cosmetics. The boys, **on the other hand** ▪, tend to purchase computer games or gadgets.

Language Banks at ↑generally, ↑illustrate, ↑proportion, ↑similarly, ↑surprising

## Language Bank:

### **nevertheless**

#### *Conceding a point and making a counter-argument*

- While** ▪ the film is undoubtedly too long, it is **nevertheless** ▪ an intriguing piece of cinema.
- It can be argued that** ▪ the movie is too long. It is **nonetheless** ▪ an intriguing piece of cinema.
- The film is undoubtedly too long. **Still** ▪, it is an intriguing piece of cinema.
- Of course** ▪, huge chunks of the book have been sacrificed in order to make a two-hour movie, **but** ▪ it is **nevertheless** ▪ a successful piece of storytelling.
- Critics are wrong to argue that the film's plot is too complicated. **Certainly** ▪ there are a couple of major twists, **but** ▪ audiences will have no difficulty following them.
- It is true that** ▪ you cannot make a good movie without a good script, **but it is equally true** ▪ that a talented director can make a good script into an excellent film.
- It remains to be seen whether** ▪ these two movies herald a new era of westerns, **but there is no doubt that** ▪ they represent welcome additions to the genre.

Language Banks at ↑argue, ↑however, ↑impersonal, ↑opinion

Idiom: ↑while I'm at it

Derived ↑while something away

## noun singular

### a period of time

- They chatted **for a while** .
- I'll be back in **a little while** (= a short time) .
- I haven't seen him for **quite a while** (= a fairly long time) .
- They walked back together, talking **all the while** (= all the time) .

**see** (every) once in a while **at** ↑once adv., worth your while **at** ↑worth adj.

## Word Origin:

Old English hwīl 'period of time', of Germanic origin; related to Dutch **wijl**, German **Weile**; the conjunction is an abbreviation of Old English thā hwīle the 'the while that'.

## Example Bank:

- Everybody makes a mistake once in a while.
- He kept me waiting for quite a while.
- I'll be back in a while.
- I'll mend it for you, but it could take a while.
- The bird hopped across the lawn, keeping a sharp lookout all the while.
- The problems started a while back.
- There's no need to do anything for the while.
- They chatted for a while.
- Things continued quiet for some while.
- I haven't seen him for quite a while.
- They walked back together, talking all the while.

## verb

## Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	while
	BrE /waɪl/
	NAme /waɪl/
he / she / it	whiles
	BrE /waɪlz/
	NAme /waɪlz/
past simple, past participle	whiled
	BrE /waɪd/
	NAme /waɪd/
-ing form	whiling
	BrE /waɪlɪŋ/
	NAme /waɪlɪŋ/

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## while

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

### I. **while**<sup>1</sup> **S1 W1** /waɪl/ BrE<sup>u</sup> AmE<sup>u</sup> *conjunction*

#### 1. during the time that something is happening:

- They arrived while we were having dinner.
- While she was asleep, thieves broke in and stole her handbag.
- She met Andy while working on a production of Carmen.

#### 2. all the time that something is happening:

- Would you look after the children while I do the shopping?

### GRAMMAR

In a clause beginning with **while** that refers to the future, use the present tense, not 'will':

- I will enjoy my fame while it lasts (NOT while it will last).

#### 3. used to emphasize the difference between two situations, activities etc:

- Schools in the north tend to be better equipped, while those in the south are relatively poor.

#### 4. in spite of the fact that **SYN** **although**:

- While never a big eater, he did snack a lot.
- While there was no conclusive evidence, most people thought he was guilty.

#### 5. **while I'm/you're etc at/about it spoken** used to suggest that someone should do something at the same time that they do something else:

- Print out what you've written, and while you're at it make a copy for me.

• • •

### THESAURUS

- **while** during the time that you are doing something, or something is happening: I bought a magazine while I was waiting for the train. | While we were on holiday, my bag was stolen.
- **meanwhile** at the same time as something else is happening: They're still working on our bedroom. Meanwhile, we're sleeping downstairs. | The Russians, meanwhile, declared war on August 8.
- **in the meantime** during the period of time between now and a future event, or between two events in the past: More aid is expected soon, but in the meantime these people are going hungry. | My new job hadn't started, so in the meantime I tried to write a book.
- **whilst** *British English* while. **Whilst** sounds a little more formal than **while**: One American plane was forced to land whilst flying over North Korea. | Whilst all this was going on, the performers were getting ready for the show.

### II. **while**<sup>2</sup> **S1 W2** BrE<sup>u</sup> AmE<sup>u</sup> *noun*

[Language: Old English; Origin: hwil]

#### 1. **a while** a period of time, especially a short one:

- It takes a while to recover from the operation.

#### **in a while**

- Mr Thomas will be with you in a while.

#### **for a while**

- At last, he could relax for a while.

#### **a little/short while**

- Wait a little while before deciding.
- We talked for quite a while (=a fairly long time) on the phone.

#### 2. **all the while** all the time that something is happening:

- He examined her thoroughly, talking softly all the while.
- She continued working, all the while keeping an eye on the clock.

⇒ **(every) once in a while** at ↑**once**<sup>1</sup>(8), ⇒ **be worth sb's while (to do/doing something)** at ↑**worth**<sup>1</sup>(5), ⇒ **make it worth sb's while** at ↑**worth**<sup>1</sup>(6)

• • •

### THESAURUS

- **when** at or during the time that something happens: Call me when you get home. | When I got here, the place was empty.
- **while** during the time that something is happening – used to emphasize that something is continuing: I'll make the salad while you set the table. | While we were on holiday, our house was burgled.

▪ **whenever** used in order to emphasize that something always happens when another thing happens: He visits his mother whenever he can. | You can come and talk to me whenever you have a problem.

▪ **by the time** used in order to say that one thing has or will have already happened when something else happens: By the time a child is five, he will have watched hundreds of hours of television.

III. **while** <sup>3</sup> *BrE* <sup>\*</sup> *AmE* <sup>\*</sup> *verb*

**while away the hours/evening/days etc** to spend time in a pleasant and lazy way:

“ The evenings were whiled away in endless games of cards.

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**THESAURUS**

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**while**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **175**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **141**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k** WHILE <sup>277194</sup>

while <sup>276747</sup>

whilst <sup>447</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

95531 **151**<sup>245207</sup> *cs*

19952 **1357**<sup>30982</sup> *nnt1*

282 **43413**<sup>289</sup> *vv0*

129 **63354**<sup>142</sup> *npx*

66 **93945**<sup>66</sup> *jj*

24 **156604**<sup>25</sup> *nn1*

16 **199436**<sup>16</sup> *vvi*

10 **247230**<sup>11</sup> *nnu*

2 **416430**<sup>5</sup> *np1*

4 **450449**<sup>4</sup> *pph1*