

**believe**[bɪ'li:v] *v*1. 1) **верить**

to believe a rumour [a statement, a lie] - поверить слуху [утверждению, выдумке]

I believe you - я вам верю

I believe what he says - я верю его словам

I made him believe it - я убедил его в этом

you'd better believe it - *разе*. можете быть уверены2) **доверять**

to believe smb. implicitly - всецело доверять кому-л.

to believe smb.'s word /smb. on his word/ - верить кому-л. на слово

a man who deserves to be believed - человек, который заслуживает (всяческого) доверия

3) (in, *редк.* on) *ред.* **веровать, верить**

to believe in God [in Holy Spirit] - веровать в бога [в святого духа]

to believe in spiritualism [in ghosts] - верить в спиритизм [в привидения]

2. (in) **верить (в кого-л., во что-л.); возлагать надежды (на что-л., кого-л.)**

to believe in human nature - верить в человека

I believe in early rising - я считаю, что рано вставать полезно

I believe in getting plenty of exercise - я придаю большое значение физкультуре

I believe in you - а) я верю вам, я считаю вас честным человеком; б) я верю в вас, я возлагаю на вас большие надежды

he did not believe in women - он был нелестного мнения о женщинах

3. **думать, полагать, считать**

I believe (that) you are right [wrong] - мне кажется /я думаю/, что вы правы [ошибаетесь]

people believed the Earth to be flat - люди думали, что земля плоская

I believe so - думаю, что так; правильно, верно

will they be ready tomorrow? - I believe so [I believe not] - будут они завтра готовы? - Кажется /думаю, думается, полагаю,

по-видимому/, будут [Кажется /по-видимому, по всей вероятности/, нет, вряд ли, едва ли]

the plan is believed to be realistic - план считается реальным; полагают, что план осуществим

I believe him to be alive - я думаю, что он жив; он, по всей вероятности жив

he is believed to be in Paris - думают /говорят/, что он в Париже

we believe him to be the man for the job - мы считаем, что для этой работы он очень подходит

I'd believe absolutely anything of that man - от этого человека можно всего ожидать

4. **иметь какое-л. мнение**to believe meanly of smb., smth. - *арх.* быть плохого мнения /думать плохо/ о ком-л., чём-л.

to believe meanly of one's neighbour - думать плохо /быть нелестного мнения/ о своём ближнем

◇ to make believe - а) делать вид, притворяться; б) воображать (*особ.* в детских играх)

let's make believe we're pirates - давай(те) играть в пиратов

**believe**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**be·lieve** [believe believes believed believing] *BrE* [bɪ'liːv] *NAmE* [bɪ'liːv]*verb*

(not used in the progressive tenses)

**FEEL CERTAIN****1. transitive** to feel certain that sth is true or that sb is telling you the truth

- ~ **sb** I don't believe you!
- The man claimed to be a social worker and the old woman believed him.
- Believe me, she's not right for you.
- ~ **sth** I believed his lies for years.
- I find that **hard to believe** .
- **Don't believe a word of it** (= don't believe any part of what sb is saying) .
- ~ **(that)...** People used to believe (that) the earth was flat.
- He refused to believe (that) his son was involved in drugs.
- **I do believe** you're right (= I think sth is true, even though it is surprising).

**THINK POSSIBLE****2. intransitive, transitive** to think that sth is true or possible, although you are not completely certain

- 'Where does she come from?' 'Spain, I believe.'
- 'Does he still work there?' 'I **believe so/not**.'
- ~ **(that)...** Police believe (that) the man may be armed.
- **it is believed (that)...** It is believed that the couple have left the country.
- ~ **sb/sth to be, have, etc. sth** The vases are believed to be worth over \$20 000 each.
- ~ **sb/sth + adj.** Three sailors are missing, believed drowned.

**HAVE OPINION****3. transitive** ~ **(that)...** to have the opinion that sth is right or true

- The party believes (that) education is the most important issue facing the government
- She believes that killing animals for food or fur is completely immoral.

## BE SURPRISED/ANNOYED

4. **transitive don't/can't believe** used to say that you are surprised or annoyed at sth

- ~ **(that)**... She couldn't believe (that) it was all happening again.
- I don't believe I'm doing this!
- ~ **how, what, etc...** I can't believe how much better I feel.

## RELIGION

5. **intransitive** to have a religious faith

- The god appears only to those who believe

**more at** give sb to believe/understand **at** ↑give *v.*

**Idioms:** ↑I don't believe it! ▪ ↑believe it or not ▪ ↑believe me ▪ ↑don't you believe it! ▪ ↑if you believe that, you'll believe anything ▪ ↑make believe ▪ ↑not believe your ears ▪ ↑seeing is believing ▪ ↑would you believe? ▪ ↑you better believe it!

**Derived** ↑believe in somebody ▪ ↑believe in something ▪ ↑believe something of somebody

**Verb forms:** verb forms

present simple	
I / you / we /they	believe
	BrE /bɪˈli:v/
	NAmE /bɪˈli:v/
he / she /it	believes
	BrE /bɪˈli:vz/
	NAmE /bɪˈli:vz/
past simple, past participle	believed
	BrE /bɪˈli:vɪd/
	NAmE /bɪˈli:vɪd/

**Word Origin:**

late Old English belyfan, belēfan, alteration of gelēfan, of Germanic origin; related to Dutch [geloven](#) and German [glauben](#).

**Thesaurus:**

**believe** verb

1. T, I

- I don't believe you!
- Do you believe in God?

**trust** • • **have confidence in sb/sth** • • **have faith in sb/sth** •

**Opp:** doubt, (formal) **Opp:** disbelief

believe/trust/have confidence/have faith in sb/sth

2. T

- She believes that eating meat is wrong.

**think** • • **feel** • • **consider** • • **be under the impression that...** • |especially BrE, informal **reckon** • |formal **hold** •  
believe/think/feel/consider/be under the impression/reckon/hold that...

**Believe or think?** When you are talking about an idea of what is true or possible, use **believe** to talk about other people and **think** to talk about yourself

- Police believe (that) the man may be armed.
- I think this is their house, but I'm not sure.

Use **believe** to talk about matters of principle; use **think** to talk about practical matters or matters of personal taste

- I believe we have a responsibility towards the less fortunate in society.
- I think we should reserve seats in advance.
- I don't think he's funny at all.

**Language Bank:**

**according to**

*Reporting someone's opinion*

- Photography is, **according to** ▪ Vidal, the art form of untalented people.

**For** ▪ Vidal, photography is the art form of untalented people.

- His **view is that** ▪ photography is not art but merely the mechanical reproduction of images.

- Smith **takes the view that** ▪ photography is both an art and a science.

**In** ▪ Brown's **view** ▪, photography should be treated as a legitimate art in its own right.

- James **is of the opinion that** ▪ a good painter can always be a good photographer if he or she so decides.

- Emerson **believed that** ▪ a photograph should only reflect what the human eye can see.

Language Banks at ↑[argue](#), ↑[opinion](#)

**Language Bank:**

**opinion**

*Giving your personal opinion*

**In my opinion** ▪, everyone should have some understanding of science.

- Everyone should, **in my opinion** ▪, have some understanding of science.

**It seems to me that** ▪ many people in this country have a poor understanding of science.

- This is, **in my view** ▪, the result of a failure of the scientific community to get its message across.

▪ Another reason why so many people have such a poor understanding of science is, **I believe** ▪, the lack of adequate funding for science in schools.

▪ Smith argues that science is separate from culture. **My own view is that** ▪ science belongs with literature, art, philosophy and religion as an integral part of our culture.

**In this writer's opinion** ▪, the more the public know about science, the less they will fear and distrust it.

Synonyms at [↑think](#)

Language Banks at [↑according to](#), [↑argue](#), [↑impersonal](#), [↑nevertheless](#), [↑perhaps](#)

### Synonyms:

#### **think**

[believe](#) • [feel](#) • [reckon](#) • [be under the impression](#)

These words all mean to have an idea that sth is true or possible or to have a particular opinion about sb/sth.

**think** • to have an idea that sth is true or possible, although you are not completely certain; to have a particular opinion about sb/sth: ▪ Do you think (that) they'll come? ◇▪ Well, I like it. What do you think?

**believe** • to have an idea that sth is true or possible, although you are not completely certain; to have a particular opinion about sb/sth: ▪ Police believe (that) the man may be armed.

#### **think or believe ?**

When you are expressing an idea that you have or that sb has of what is true or possible, **believe** is more formal than **think**. It is used especially for talking about ideas that other people have; **think** is used more often for talking about your own ideas: ▪ Police believe... ◇▪ I think... When you are expressing an opinion, **believe** is stronger than **think** and is used especially for matters of principle; **think** is used more for practical matters or matters of personal taste.

**feel** • to have a particular opinion about sth that has happened or about what you/sb ought to do: ▪ We all felt (that) we were unlucky to lose.

**reckon** • (*informal*) to think that sth is true or possible: ▪ I reckon (that) I'm going to get that job.

**be under the impression that...** • to have an idea that sth is true: ▪ I was under the impression that the work had already been completed.

to think/believe/feel/reckon/be under the impression **that...**

It is thought/believed/reckoned **that...**

to **be** thought/believed/felt/reckoned **to be** sth

to think/believe/feel sth **about** sb/sth

to **sincerely/honestly/seriously/mistakenly** think/believe/feel

### Synonyms:

#### **trust**

[depend on sb/sth](#) • [rely on sb/sth](#) • [count on sb/sth](#) • [believe in sb](#)

These words all mean to believe that sb/sth will do what you hope or expect of them or that what they tell you is correct or true.

**trust** • to believe that sb is good, honest, sincere, etc. and that they will do what you expect of them or do the right thing; to believe that sth is true or correct: ▪ You can trust me not to tell anyone. ◇▪ Don't trust what you read in the newspapers!

**depend on/upon sb/sth** • (often used with [can/cannot/could/could not](#)) to trust sb/sth to do what you expect or want, to do the right thing, or to be true or correct: ▪ He was the sort of person you could depend on. ◇▪ Can you depend on her version of what happened?

**rely on/upon sb/sth** • (used especially with [can/cannot/could/could not](#) and [should/should not](#)) to trust sb/sth to do what you expect or want, or to be honest, correct or good enough: ▪ Can I rely on you to keep this secret? ◇▪ You can't rely on any figures you get from them.

#### **trust, depend or rely on/upon sb/sth?**

You can **trust** a person but not a thing or system. You can **trust** sb's [judgement](#) or [advice](#), but not their support. You can **depend on** sb's [support](#), but not their judgement or advice. **Rely on/upon sb/sth** is used especially with [you can/could](#) or [you should](#) to give advice or a promise: I don't really rely on his judgement. ◇▪ You can't really rely on his judgement.

**count on sb/sth** • (often used with [can/cannot/could/could not](#)) to be sure that sb will do what you need them to do, or that sth will happen as you want it to happen: ▪ I'm counting on you to help me. ◇▪ We can't count on the good weather lasting.

**believe in sb** • to feel that you can trust sb and/or that they will be successful: ▪ They need a leader they can believe in.

to trust/depend on/rely on/count on sb/sth **to do sth**

to trust/believe **in** sb/sth

to trust/rely on **sb's advice/judgement**

to depend on/rely on/count on **sb's support**

to **completely** trust/depend on/rely on/believe in sb/sth

### Example Bank:

- I couldn't believe what I was hearing.
- I didn't believe a word of what he said.
- I personally believe that it's important.
- I'm inclined to believe you.
- I've long believed that a good reputation is the most valuable asset you can have in business.
- It's hard to believe that this campaign has been going on for ten years.
- No one seriously believes that this war will happen.
- Paul thinks he's happy, but his mother believes otherwise.
- The ad led us to believe that all prices had been cut.
- The boss gave me to believe that we would all get a pay rise.

- We have reason to believe that the escaped prisoner may be hiding in this house.
- 'Does he still work there?' 'I believe so/not.'
- 'Where does she come from?' 'Spain, I believe.'
- Believe me, she's not right for you.
- Don't believe a word of it.
- He refuses to believe his son was involved with drugs.
- I believe that we have a responsibility towards the less fortunate in society.
- I don't believe you!
- I find that very hard to believe.
- It was generally believed that evil spirits lived in the forest.
- No one seriously believed that the war would happen.
- People used to believe that the earth was flat.
- Police believe...
- She believes that killing animals for food or fur is completely immoral.
- The paintings are believed to be worth over \$20 000 each.
- We believe (that) education is the most important issue facing the government

## believe

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**be** **believe** **S1 W1** /bə'li:vɪ'li:v/ *BrE* *AmE* *verb*

[**Word Family**: **noun**: ↑belief, ↑disbelief, ↑believer, **adjective**: ↑believable ≠ ↑unbelievable, ↑disbelieving, **verb**: ↑believe ≠ ↑disbelieve; **adverb**: ↑unbelievably]

[**Language**: Old English; **Origin**: beľefan, from lyfan, ľefan 'to allow, believe']

1. [**transitive not in progressive**] to be sure that something is true or that someone is telling the truth:

- " You shouldn't believe everything you read.
- " I believed him, even though his story sounded unlikely.

**believe (that)**

- " I don't believe he's only 25.
- " I don't believe a word of it (=I think it is completely untrue).

2. [**transitive not in progressive**] to think that something is true or possible, although you are not completely sure

**believe (that)**

- " Detectives believe that the victim knew his killer.

**it is believed (that)**

- " It is believed that the house was built in 1735.

**believe so** (=think that something is true)

- " 'Have they arrived yet?' 'Yes, I believe so.'

**be believed to be something**

- " At 115, Mrs Jackson is believed to be the oldest person in the country.
- " The four men are widely believed (=believed by a lot of people) to have been killed by their captors.
- " Did you honestly believe that I'd be stupid enough to do that?
- " I firmly believe that the business will be a success.

3. **it's difficult/hard to believe (that)** used when you are surprised that something is true:

- " Sometimes, it's hard to believe we've been married for 50 years.

• • •

## SPOKEN PHRASES

4. **can't/don't believe something** used when you are very surprised or shocked by something:

- " I can't believe he's expecting us to work on Sunday!
- " I couldn't believe it when he told me what had happened.

**can hardly/scarcely believe something**

- " I could scarcely believe my luck.

5. **believe it or not** used when you are saying something that is true but surprising:

- " He enjoys school, believe it or not.

6. **would you believe it!** (also **I don't believe it!**) used when you are surprised or angry about something:

- " And then he just walked out. Would you believe it!

7. **believe (you) me** used to emphasize that something is definitely true:

- " There'll be trouble when they find out about this, believe you me!

8. **you'd better believe it!** used to emphasize that something is true

9. **don't you believe it!** used to emphasize that something is definitely not true

10. **can't believe your eyes/ears** used to say that someone is very surprised by something they see or hear

11. **if you believe that, you'll believe anything** used to say that something is definitely not true, and that anyone who believes it must be stupid

12. **seeing is believing** (also **I'll believe it when I see it**) used to say that you will only believe that something happens or exists when you actually see it

13. [**intransitive**] to have a religious faith:

- " She says those who believe will go to heaven.

⇒ **make believe** at ↑make<sup>1</sup>(19)

• • •

## THESAURUS

■ **to believe something**

- **believe** to be sure that something is true or that someone is telling the truth: I believed her when she said that she loved me. |

Don't believe anything he tells you.

▪ **accept** to believe that something is true, especially because someone has persuaded you to believe it: His wife accepted his explanation for why he was late. | Leah had slowly come to accept her brother's version of events.

▪ **take sb's word for it** *especially spoken* to believe what someone says is true, even though you have no proof or experience of it: I don't know anything about him, so I'll just have to take your word for it. | You don't have to take my word for it – go and see for yourself. | 'Cakes are very easy to make.' 'I'll take your word for it.'

▪ **give somebody the benefit of the doubt** to believe what someone says, even though you think it might not be true: Unless you have proof, you should give him the benefit of the doubt.

■ **to believe something that is untrue**

▪ **be taken in** (also **fall for something** *informal*) to be tricked into believing something that is not true: A lot of people were taken in by these claims. | I can't believe she fell for that old excuse!

▪ **swallow** *informal* to believe a story or explanation that is not true, especially when this makes you seem silly: His aunt had swallowed his story unquestioningly. | Police refused to swallow his story, and put him in a cell.

**believe in somebody/something** *phrasal verb*

1. to be sure that someone or something exists:

▪ Do you believe in God?

2. to think that something is effective or right:

▪ I don't believe in these diets.

**believe in doing something**

▪ The school believes in letting children learn at their own pace.

3. to trust someone and be confident that they will be successful:

▪ The people want a president they can believe in.

▪ Believe in yourself, or you'll never succeed.

**believe**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **260**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **216**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k** BELIEVE 200246

believe 128714

believed 31049

believes 21495

believing 5091

disbelief 2664

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believer 2072

believers 2451

unbeliever 77

unbelievers 160

disbelievingly 23

disbelieving 267

disbelieved 62

disbelieves 9

disbeliever 15

disbelievers 28

unbelief 147

unbelieving 88

unbelievingly 16

disbelieve 143

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

39029 **539**<sup>71709</sup> *vv0*

31640 **692**<sup>56823</sup> *vvi*

102 **70878**<sup>114</sup> *jj*

40 **120270**<sup>41</sup> *nn1*

27 **149962**<sup>27</sup> *nnu*