

## bitter

I

1. ['bitə] *n*

- 1) горькое пиво
- 2) горькое лекарство
- 3) горечь

◇ to take the bitter with the sweet - ≅ в жизни всякое бывает

2. ['bitə] *a*

## 1. горький

bitter taste - горький (при)вкус

## 2. горький, мучительный

the bitter truth - горькая истина

bitter moment - горькая минута

bitter feeling - горькое чувство

bitter disappointment - горькое разочарование

bitter hardships - тяжёлые лишения

bitter tears - горькие слёзы

bitter grief - сильное горе

bitter poverty - ужасная нищета

bitter lesson - жестокий урок

bitter hatred - жгучая ненависть

bitter remark - горькие слова

to be bitter about smth. - злобствовать по поводу чего-л.; быть в обиде на что-л.

## 3. сильный, резкий

bitter cold - страшный холод; сильный мороз

## 4. злой, ожесточённый

bitter enemy - злейший враг

◇ bitter as gall, bitter as wormwood - горький как полынь

3. ['bitə] *adv*1. *уст.*, *диал.*, *поэт.* = bitterly 12. *эмоц.-усил.* очень, ужасно

it was bitter cold - стояли ужасные холода, был сильный мороз

4. ['bitə] *v*

## 1) горчить

## 2) делать горьким

II

['bitə] *n мор.*

шлаг на битенге

## bitter

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**bit·ter** [bitter bitters bitterer bitterest] *adjective, noun* BrE ['bitə(r)] <sup>1</sup> NAmE

['bitə]

*adjective* **more bitter** and **most bitter** are the usual comparative and superlative forms, but **bitterest** can also be used.

## 1. (of arguments, disagreements, etc.) very serious and unpleasant, with a lot of anger and hatred involved

• a long and bitter dispute

## 2. (of people) feeling angry and unhappy because you feel that you have been treated unfairly

• She is very bitter about losing her job.

## 3. usually before noun making you feel very unhappy; caused by great unhappiness

• to **weep/shed bitter tears**

• Losing the match was **a bitter disappointment** for the team.

• I've learnt from **bitter experience** not to trust what he says.

## 4. (of food, etc.) having a strong, unpleasant taste; not sweet

• Black coffee leaves a bitter taste in the mouth.

**compare** ↑sweet

## 5. (of weather conditions) extremely cold and unpleasant

• bitter cold

• a bitter wind

• It's really bitter out today.

Word Origin:

Old English biter, of Germanic origin; related to Dutch and German **bitter**, and probably to ↑bite.

Thesaurus:

**bitter** *adj.*

## 1.

• bitter coffee/chocolate

**sharp** • **acid** • **pungent** • **acrid** • **sour** •

**Opp:** sweet

a/an bitter/sharp/acid/pungent/acrid/sour **taste/flavour/smell/odour**

a/an bitter/sharp/acid/sour **fruit**

a/an bitter/sharp/pungent/acrid **scent**

**Which word?** A **bitter** taste is usually unpleasant, but some people enjoy the bitter flavour of coffee or chocolate; no other word can describe this flavour. A **sharp** or **pungent** flavour is more strong than unpleasant, especially when describing cheese.

**Sharp**, **sour** and **acid** all describe the taste of a lemon or a fruit that is not ripe. An **acid** smell is strong and unpleasant, especially the smell of smoke or burning, but not the smell of food.

2.

• He is bitter about losing his job.

**resentful** • • **sour** • • **disgruntled** • |formal **embittered** • • **aggrieved** • • **acrimonious** •

bitter/resentful/disgruntled/aggrieved **about** sth

bitter/resentful **towards** sb

a/an bitter/sour/embittered **man**

a bitter/an acrimonious **dispute/divorce**

**Bitter, resentful or sour?** **Bitter** feelings are the strongest and most openly expressed; if you feel **resentful** or **sour** it may be less obvious

- feeling extremely/intensely/very bitter
- a bitter laugh/smile
- vaguely/silently resentful
- resentful eyes
- a sour face

### Synonyms:

**bitter**

pungent • sour • acrid • sharp • acid

These words all describe a strong, unpleasant taste or smell.

**bitter** • (of a taste or smell) strong and usually unpleasant; (of food or drink) having a bitter taste.

**pungent** • (of a smell or taste) strong and usually unpleasant; (of food or smoke) having a pungent smell or taste: ▪ the pungent smell of burning rubber

**sour** • (of a taste) bitter like the taste of a lemon or of fruit that is not ripe; (of food or drink) having a sour taste: ▪ Too much pulp produces a sour wine.

**acid** • (of a smell or taste) strong and unpleasant; (of smoke) having an acid smell: ▪ acid smoke from burning tyres

**sharp** • (of a taste or smell) strong and slightly bitter; (of food or drink) having a sharp taste: ▪ The cheese has a distinctively sharp taste.

**acid** • (of a taste or smell) bitter, like the taste of a lemon or of fruit that is not ripe; (of food or drink) having an acid taste.

**which word?**

A **bitter** taste is usually unpleasant, but some people enjoy the bitter flavour of coffee or chocolate. No other word can describe this flavour. A **sharp** or **pungent** flavour is more strong than unpleasant, especially when describing cheese. **Sharp**, **sour** and **acid** all describe the taste of a lemon or a fruit that is not ripe. An **acid** smell is strong and unpleasant, especially the smell of smoke or burning, but not the smell of food.

a(n) bitter/pungent/sour/acrid/sharp/acid **taste/flavour**

a(n) bitter/pungent/acrid/sharp/acid **smell/odour**

a(n) bitter/sour/sharp/acid **fruit**

pungent/sharp **cheese**

pungent/acrid **smoke**

### Example Bank:

- I felt very bitter towards them.
- Loving relationships can turn bitter.
- She still seems bitter about it.
- The divorce had left her bitter.
- The drink tasted bitter.
- The weather turned bitter.
- He is very bitter about losing his job.
- It's really bitter out today.
- She bit her lip hard to stop the rush of bitter words.
- She stepped out into a bitter wind.
- The whole sorry affair had left a bitter taste in her mouth.
- They are locked in a bitter custody battle over their three children.
- They had no protection against the bitter cold.
- This plant is ignored by livestock because of the bitter taste.
- bitter coffee/chocolate

Idioms: †**bitter pill** ▪ the bitter end

Derived Word †**bitterness**

noun (BrE)

1. **uncountable, countable** a type of beer with a dark colour and a strong bitter taste, that is very popular in Britain

- A pint of bitter, please.

**compare** †mild

2. **bitters** **uncountable + singular or plural verb** a strong bitter alcoholic liquid that is made from plants and added to other alcoholic

drinks to give flavour

- gin with a dash of bitters

### Word Origin:

Old English *biter*, of Germanic origin; related to Dutch and German *bitter*, and probably to †*bite*.

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

## bitter

I. **bitter**<sup>1</sup> **S3 W3** /'bɪtə \$ -ər/ **BrE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **AmE** <sup>ˈ</sup> *adjective*

[Language: Old English; Origin: *biter*]

1. feeling angry, jealous, and upset because you think you have been treated unfairly ⇒ **bitterly**

**bitter about**

• I feel very bitter about it.

• a bitter old man

2. [only before noun] making you feel very unhappy and upset ⇒ **bitterly**

**a bitter disappointment/blow**

• If he failed, it would be a bitter disappointment to his parents.

• His photo stirred up bitter memories.

**from bitter experience** (=because of your own very unpleasant experiences)

• She knew from bitter experience that it would be impossible to talk it over with Julian.

3. a bitter argument, battle etc is one in which people oppose or criticize each other with strong feelings of hate and anger

**bitter dispute/battle/struggle etc**

• The couple are locked in a bitter battle for custody of the children.

• The government faces bitter opposition to these policies.

• The countries are still bitter enemies.

4. having a strong sharp taste, like black coffee without sugar ⇒ **sour, sweet:**

• Enjoy the beer's bitter taste as you slowly drink it.

• bitter chocolate

5. unpleasantly cold ⇒ **bitterly:**

• a bitter wind

• the bitter cold of the Midwestern winters

6. **to the bitter end** continuing until the end, even though this is difficult:

• Employees have vowed to fight the closure to the bitter end.

7. **a bitter pill (to swallow)** something very unpleasant that you must accept:

• The knowledge that his friends no longer trusted him was a bitter pill to swallow.

—**bitterness** *noun* [uncountable]

• • •

### COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 3)

#### nouns

• **a bitter battle/dispute** There was a bitter battle over the building of the new airport.

• **a bitter fight/struggle** The law was passed after a bitter fight that lasted nearly a decade.

• **a bitter conflict** The stage is set for a bitter conflict with trade unions.

• **a bitter debate/argument** The country now faces a bitter debate over the issue.

• **bitter disagreement** There were reports of bitter disagreement between the European Communities.

• **bitter opposition** The new tax aroused bitter opposition.

• **a bitter rival/enemy** (=a rival/enemy who you have strong feelings of dislike or anger about) The two men are bitter rivals for the party leadership.

• • •

### THESAURUS

• **bitter** having a strong sharp taste that is not sweet, like black coffee without sugar - used especially about chocolate, medicine etc: The dessert is made with a slightly bitter chocolate. | Hops give beer its distinctive bitter taste. | The medicine tasted bitter. | As the lettuce gets older, the leaves become more bitter.

• **sharp** having a taste that makes your tongue sting slightly: Rhubarb has quite a sharp taste. | The cheese has a pleasing colour and a pleasantly sharp flavour.

• **sour** having a usually unpleasant sharp acid taste, like the taste of a lemon, or a fruit that is not ready to be eaten – used especially about fruit, or about liquids that have gone bad: Some people say that the purpose of the lemon's sour taste is to stop the fruit being eaten by animals. | Rachel sampled the wine. It was sour.

• **acidic** very sour – used especially about liquids or things made with fruits such as oranges, lemons, or grapes: Some fruit juices taste a bit acidic.

• **tangy** having a taste that is pleasantly strong or sharp, and that often tastes a little sweet as well: The ribs are cooked in a tangy barbecue sauce.

• **tart** having a taste that lacks sweetness – used especially about fruit such as apples, which you need to add sugar to: The pudding had rather a tart flavour. | The trees were covered with tart wild plums.

II. **bitter**<sup>2</sup> **BrE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **AmE** <sup>ˈ</sup> *noun*

1. [uncountable and countable] **British English** a type of dark beer that is popular in Britain, or a glass of this:

• A pint of bitter, please.

2. **bitters** [uncountable] a strong bitter liquid made from plants that is added to alcoholic drinks

**bitter**12500 **3154**<sup>MCW</sup>15000 **2379**<sup>COCA</sup>RANGE: **3k** BITTER 12951

bitter 8749

bitterness 2074

bitterly 2038

bitterest 90

bitterer 0

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

6864 **4580**<sup>8631</sup> *jj*87 **77824**<sup>95</sup> *nn1*7 **166431**<sup>23</sup> *np1*