

# contrary

## 1. [ˈkɒntrəri] n

1. (the contrary) нечто противоположное, обратное

on the contrary - наоборот

to the contrary - в обратном смысле, иначе

instructions to the contrary - противоположные инструкции

I will come tomorrow unless you write me to the contrary - я приеду завтра, если только вы не напишете, чтобы я не приезжал

just /quite/ the contrary - как раз наоборот

it is just the contrary of what you told me - это (как раз) полная противоположность тому, что вы мне сказали

I have nothing to say to the contrary - мне нечего возразить

2. *часто pl* противоположность

to interpret by contraries - толковать от противного

many things in our lives go by contraries - многое в нашей жизни получается не так, как мы хотели бы

dreams go by contraries - дурной сон может предвещать хорошее и наоборот

## 2. [ˈkɒntrəri] a

1. 1) противоположный, обратный

contrary news [directions, orders, measures] - противоположные сообщения [указания, приказания, мероприятия]

they hold contrary opinions - их мнения прямо противоположны

contrary motion - *муз.* противоположное голосоведение

2) противоположного направления

contrary wind - противный ветер

2. неблагоприятный (о погоде)

3. [kənˈtreəri] *разг.* упрямый, капризный, своевольный, своенравный

contrary child - своевольный /капризный/ ребёнок

contrary disposition - упрямый /сварливый/ нрав

# contrary

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

▪ **ˌ** **ɪ** **ˌ** **co** **ˈ** **n** **ˈ** **t** **r** **ɪ** **a** **r** **i** **ˈ** **a** **r** **i** **e** **s** **AW** 1 [contrary contraries] adjective, noun BrE [ˈkɒntrəri] <sup>m</sup> NAmE

[ˈkɑːntrɛrɪ]

see also ↑contrary <sup>2</sup>

adjective

1. ~ to sth different from sth; against sth

• **Contrary to popular belief**, many cats dislike milk.

• The government has decided that the publication of the report would be 'contrary to the public interest'.

• Contrary to expectations and the weather forecast, we had a fine day for the experiment.

2. **only before noun** completely different in nature or direction

**Syn:** ↑opposite

• **contrary advice/opinions/arguments**

• The contrary view is that prison provides an excellent education— in crime.

Word Origin:

Middle English Anglo-Norman French *contrarie* Latin *contrarius* contra 'against'

Example Bank:

• Contrary to popular belief, the economy is doing well.

• Contrary to what the public was told, weapons were still being exported.

• It seems contrary to common sense.

• My own experience is completely contrary.

• The new claim is directly contrary to what was originally stated.

• These results run contrary to our expectations.

• Despite all the contrary evidence, they still believed that the Earth was flat.

Idioms: ↑on the contrary ▪ ↑quite the contrary ▪ ↑the contrary

noun **the contrary** singular

the opposite fact, event or situation

• In the end the contrary was proved true: he was innocent and she was guilty.

Word Origin:

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▪ **ˌ** **ɪ** **ˌ** **co** **ˈ** **n** **ˈ** **t** **r** **ɪ** **a** **r** **i** **e** **s** **AW** 2 [contrary contraries] BrE [kənˈtreəri] <sup>m</sup> NAmE [kənˈtrɛrɪ] <sup>m</sup> adjective (formal, disapproving)

(usually of children) behaving badly; choosing to do or say the opposite of what is expected

• She was such a contrary child— it was impossible to please her.

see also ↑contrary <sup>1</sup>

Derived Words ↑contrarily ▪ ↑contrariness

**contrary**I. **contra**<sup>1</sup> **AC** /'kɒntrəri \$ 'kɑːntrəri/ **BrE** **AmE** *noun*1. **on the contrary/quite the contrary** used to add to a negative statement, to disagree with a negative statement by someone else, or to answer no to a question:

- " It wasn't a good thing; on the contrary it was a huge mistake.
- " 'I suppose your wife doesn't understand you.' 'On the contrary, she understands me very well.'
- " 'Are they happy?' 'No, no, quite the contrary.'

2. **evidence/statements etc to the contrary** something showing or saying the opposite:

- " Unless there is evidence to the contrary, we ought to believe them.
- " He continued to drink despite advice to the contrary.

3. **the contrary** *formal* the opposite of what has been said or suggestedII. **contrary**<sup>2</sup> **AC** **BrE** **AmE** *adjective*1. contrary ideas, opinions, or actions are completely different and opposed to each other **SYN** **opposing**:

- " Two contrary views emerged.
- " The men shouted contrary orders.

**contrary to**

- " The government's actions are contrary to the public interest.

2. **contrary to popular belief/opinion** used to say that something is true even though people believe the opposite:

- " Contrary to popular belief, a desert can be very cold.

3. *formal* a contrary wind is not blowing in the direction you want to sailIII. **contra**<sup>3</sup> /kən'treəri \$ 'kɑːntrəri,kən'treəri/ **BrE** **AmE** *adjective*

someone who is contrary deliberately does different things from other people:

- " Evans was his usual contrary self.

**—contrariness** *noun* [uncountable]**contrary**

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