

1. [drift] *n*

1. медленное течение; медленное перемещение

the drift of labour into the city - **образн.** приток рабочей силы в городthe drift from the land - **образн.** отток людей из деревни /из сельской местности/

to be on the drift - а) дрейфовать б) плыть по течению

2. **мор.** дрейф3. **ав.**

1) девиация, снос

2) скорость сноса

3) угол сноса

4. **воен.**

1) деривация

2) движение облака дыма *или* отравляющего вещества5. **радио** уход частоты

6. 1) направление (развития); тенденция

drift of affairs - ход дел; направление развития событий

2) **лингв.** тенденция развития языковой структуры; направление языкового развития

7. (подспудный) смысл; (скрытая) цель; стремление

the drift of a speech - скрытый смысл речи

I don't catch /get, see, understand/ your drift - я не понимаю, куда вы клоните /к чему вы ведёте/

what's the drift of all this? - к чему бы это?; что бы это могло значить?

8. пассивность; бездействие

policy of drift - политика бездействия

9. перегон (*скота*)10. эвакуация раненых (*в тыл*)11. (быстро проносящийся) ливень; снег, гонимый ветром *и т. п.*12. 1) сугроб (*снега*); нанос (*песка*); куча (*листьев и т. п.*), нанесённая *или* наметённая ветром; лёд, вынесенный морем на берег2) **геол.** моренный материал, делювий; ледниковый нанос

13. 1) молевой лесосплав

2) плывущее бревно

14. дрейфтерная *или* плавная сеть15. **южно-афр.** брод16. **горн.** горизонтальная выработка

exploratory drift - разведочная горизонтальная выработка

main drift - главный штрек, главная выработка

17. **тех.** упругое последствие18. **тех.** пробойник2. [drift] *v*1. 1) относить *или* гнать (*ветром, течением*); сносить

to drift logs down the stream - сплавлять лес

2) относиться, перемещаться (*по ветру, течению*); дрейфовать

to drift ashore - прибиться к берегу

to drift down the stream - относиться вниз течением

to drift with the current - плыть по течению: сплавляться (*о лесе и т. п.*)

the clouds are drifting across the sky - облака плывут по небу

3) изменять состояние

I was slowly drifting into sleep - я медленно погружался в сон

the conversation drifted from one subject to another - разговор переходил с одной темы на другую

4) **радио** уходить (*о частоте*)

2. плыть по течению; бездействовать; полагаться на волю случая:

to drift through life - жить бездумно

to drift into war - втягиваться /вползаты/ в войну

to drift into pessimism - становиться всё более пессимистичным; впадать в меланхолию

let things drift - пусть всё идёт, как шло; ≅ покоримся судьбе

things are allowed to drift - ≅ все отделились на волю судьбы никто не хочет менять (естественный) ход вещей

3. 1) насыпать (*сугробы*); наносить, заносить (*снегом и т. п.*)

the snow had drifted everywhere - всё занесло снегом

2) вырастать (*о сугробах, наносах и т. п.*)4. **спец.** сплавлять (*лес*) моле5. пробивать, расширять *или* увеличивать отверстие6. **горн.** проводить горизонтальную выработку

drift

drift [drift drifts drifted drifting] noun, verb BrE [drift] ^m NAmE [drift] ^m

noun

1. **singular, uncountable** a slow steady movement from one place to another, a gradual change or development from one situation to another, especially to sth bad

- a population drift away from rural areas
- attempts to halt the drift towards war

OF SHIP

2. **uncountable** the movement of a ship or plane away from its direction because of currents or wind

- Remember to allow for drift.

OF SEA/AIR

3. **uncountable, countable** the movement of the sea or air

Syn: ↑current

- the general direction of drift on the east coast
- He knew the hidden drifts in that part of the river.

OF SNOW

4. **countable** a large pile of sth, especially snow, made by the wind

- The road was blocked by deep drifts of snow.

see also ↑snowdrift

OF FLOWERS

5. **countable** a large mass of sth, especially flowers

- Plant daffodils in informal drifts.

MEANING

6. **singular** the general meaning of what sb says or writes

Syn: ↑gist

- Do you **catch my drift** ?
- My German isn't very good, but I **got the drift** of what she said.

see also ↑continental drift

Word Origin:

Middle English (in the sense 'mass of snow, leaves, etc.'): originally from Old Norse **drift** 'snowdrift, something driven'; in later use from Middle Dutch **drift** 'course, current'.

Example Bank:

- He criticized the rightward drift of the party.
- I didn't follow the speech exactly, but I caught the main drift of what was being said.
- I lost the drift of what she was saying.
- his drift into crime
- the drift of people away from rural areas into urban slums
- Action is needed to prevent a drift into lawlessness.
- Do you catch my drift?
- I got the gist/drift of what she said.
- My German isn't very good, but I got the drift of what she said.
- No attempts were being made to halt the drift towards war.
- The polls show a drift back towards Labour.

Derived ↑drift apart ▪ ↑drift off

verb

MOVE SLOWLY

1. **intransitive (+ adv./prep.)** to move along smoothly and slowly in water or air

- Clouds drifted across the sky.
- The empty boat drifted out to sea.
- A cool breeze drifted through the open window.
- Smoke drifted across the room.

2. **intransitive + adv./prep.** to move or go somewhere slowly

- The crowd drifted away from the scene of the accident.
- Her gaze drifted around the room.
- People began to drift back to their houses.

WITHOUT PURPOSE

3. **intransitive (+ adv./prep.)** to happen or change, or to do sth without a particular plan or purpose

- I didn't intend to be a teacher— I just drifted into it.
- He hasn't decided what to do yet— he's just drifting.
- The conversation drifted onto politics.

INTO STATE/SITUATION

4. **intransitive** ~ **in/into sth** to go from one situation or state to another without realizing it
- Finally she drifted into sleep.
 - The injured man tried to speak but soon drifted into unconsciousness.

OF SNOW/SAND

5. **intransitive** to be blown into large piles by the wind

- drifting sand
- Some roads are closed because of drifting.

FLOAT

6. **transitive + adv./prep.** to make sth float somewhere

- The logs are drifted downstream to the mill.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	drift
	BrE /drɪft/
	NAme /draɪft/
he / she / it	drifts
	BrE /drɪfts/
	NAme /draɪfts/
past simple, past participle	drifted
	BrE /drɪftɪd/
	NAme /draɪftɪd/
-ing form	drifting
	BrE /drɪftɪŋ/
	NAme /draɪftɪŋ/

Word Origin:

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Example Bank:

- Cold and hungry, they drifted helplessly closer to the Arctic.
- He allowed his thoughts to drift back to his conversation with Carrie.
- He drifted in and out of consciousness.
- He drifted into teaching, but never really enjoyed it.
- He drifted off into a deep slumber.
- He finally drifted back to his home town.
- He spent the day drifting aimlessly about the house.
- Her gaze gradually drifted to the bookshelf.
- Over the years the two friends drifted apart.
- She began to drift between sleep and wakefulness.
- She closed her eyes and slowly drifted off to sleep.
- She drifted across the room to where we were standing.
- Smoke drifted up from the campfire.
- The boat drifted slowly downstream.
- They were drifting out to sea.
- Voices drifted up through the floorboards.
- We drifted with the current.
- We seem to be drifting away from the point.
- A single snowflake drifted down and settled on the ground.
- His cigarette smoke drifted away on the breeze.
- I spent the next decade drifting aimlessly from place to place.
- The boat drifted out to sea.
- The crowd slowly drifted away from the scene.
- They drifted around south-east Asia for a while and then headed into China.
- White clouds drifted across the sky.

drift

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **drift**¹ /drɪft/ BrE ¹ AmE ¹ verb [intransitive]

1. **MOVE SLOWLY** to move slowly on water or in the air

drift out/towards etc

" The rubber raft drifted out to sea.

" Smoke drifted up from the jungle ahead of us.

2. **WITHOUT PLAN** to move, change, or do something without any plan or purpose

drift around/along etc

" Jenni spent the year drifting around Europe.

drift into

" I just drifted into teaching, really.

drift away

The others drifted away. Melanie stayed.

drift from something to something

The conversation drifted from one topic to another.

let your gaze/eyes/thoughts/mind etc drift

Idly she let her eyes drift over his desk.

3. CHANGE to gradually change from being in one condition, situation etc into another without realizing it

drift into

She was just drifting into sleep when the alarm went off.

He drifted in and out of consciousness.

4. MONEY/PRICES if values, prices, ↑shares etc drift, they gradually change:

The dollar drifted lower against the yen today.

5. SNOW/SAND if snow, sand etc drifts, the wind blows it into large piles

6. let something drift to allow something, especially something bad, to continue in the same way:

He couldn't let the matter drift for much longer.

drift apart phrasal verb

if people drift apart, their relationship gradually ends:

Over the years my college friends and I have drifted apart.

drift off phrasal verb

to gradually fall asleep:

I was just drifting off when the phone rang.

He felt himself drifting off to sleep.

II. drift² BrE AmE noun

[Date: 1300-1400; Origin: Probably from Old Norse drift 'pile of wind-blown snow', related to drive]

1. SNOW/SAND [countable] a large pile of snow or sand that has been blown by the wind

drift of

The road is blocked with massive drifts of snow.

a snow drift

2. CHANGE [singular] a slow change or development from one situation, opinion etc to another

drift towards/to

a drift towards longer working hours

3. MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE [singular, uncountable] a slow movement of large numbers of people that has not been planned

drift from/to/into

the drift from the countryside to the cities

4. the drift (of something) the general meaning of what someone is saying:

So what's the drift of the argument?

follow/get/catch sb's drift (=understand the general meaning of what someone is saying)

She didn't quite get my drift, did she?

5. SHIPS/PLANES [uncountable] the movement of a ship or plane from its original direction because of the movement of the wind or water

6. SLOW MOVEMENT [uncountable] very slow movement, especially over water or through the air

drift

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3525**^{MCW}

15000 **2427**^{COCA}

RANGE: **3k** DRIFT 12519

drift 4098

drifted 3793

drifting 2834

drifts 1360

drifter 252

drifters 182

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

1317 **14481**¹⁷⁹⁶ *nn1*

1189 **17889**¹³⁰¹ *vvi*

870 **21150**⁹⁹⁵ *vv0*

2 **36918**¹⁶ *np1*