

I

1. [lɔv] *n*

## 1. самый низкий уровень

to reach a new low - снова /ещё больше/ упасть (о *ценах и т. п.*)

the pound reached an all-time low - курс фунта упал до небывало низкого уровня

2. *обыкн. pl* низина3. *метеор.* область низкого барометрического давления; циклон4. 1) *карт.* младший козырь2) фоска (*игральная карта от двойки до десятки*)5. *спорт.* самый маленький счёт6. *авт.* первая, низшая скорость2. [lɔv] *a*

## 1. 1) низкий, невысокий

low wall [ceiling, fence, table] - низкая стена [-ий потолок, -ая изгородь, -ий стол]

low range of hills - невысокий ряд холмов

low forehead - низкий лоб

low latitudes - *геогр.* низкие широты

low pressure - низкое давление

low frequency - *радио, тлв.* низкая частотаlow polymer - *хим.* низший полимерlow trajectory - *воен.* настильная /отлогая/ траектория (*полёта снаряда*)

low head - малый напор воды

low cover - подрост, нижний ярус (*в лесу*)low gear - *авт.* низшая /первая/ передача

of (a) low stature - невысокого роста

the moon was low in the sky - луна стояла низко над горизонтом

the glass is low - ртуть в барометре опустилась (низко)

## 2) низкий, низменный

trees growing in low, shady places - деревья, растущие в низких тенистых местах

2. 1) низкий, ниже обычного *или* желаемого уровня

low price [wages, rates, temperature] - низкая цена [заработная плата, -ие ставки, -ая температура]

low attendance - плохая посещаемость

low level of employment - низкий уровень занятости, большая безработица

low visibility - плохая /слабая, ограниченная, пониженная/ видимость

low tide - отлив, малая вода

to get low - понижаться, падать

the well is low - вода в колодце /в водоёме/ стоит на низком уровне

the river is low - река обмелела

we are getting low on sugar - у нас остаётся маловато сахара

## 2) открытый (об одежде)

low slippers - открытые туфли

low dress - открытое /декольтированное/ платье

low neck - глубокий вырез, декольте

## 3. 1) тихий, негромкий

low whisper - тихий шёпот

to speak in a low voice - говорить тихим голосом /понизив голос/

## 2) низкий (о звуке)

## 4. низкого происхождения, низкого социального положения

all sorts of people, high and low - всякие люди, люди разных классов

a man of low birth /origin/ - человек низкого происхождения

to have a low station in life - занимать очень скромное положение

## 5. 1) невысокоразвитый, стоящий на низкой ступени цивилизации

low tribes - племена, стоящие на низкой ступени развития

2) *биол.* низший

low forms of life - низшие формы жизни /живых существ/

low organisms - низшие организмы

## 6. 1) вульгарный, грубый; низкий; невоспитанный

low manners - плохие манеры; вульгарные манеры

low language - сквернословие

low fellow - невоспитанный /грубый/ человек, хам

low conduct - низкое поведение, хамство

low tastes - грубые вкусы

## 2) низкий, подлый

low trick - подлая выходка

low cunning - коварство; изворотливость

low stunt to pull - грязная проделка

low company - подозрительная компания; ≅ шпана

## 7. 1) слабый, пониженный, небольшой

low pulse - слабый пульс  
low state of health - слабое здоровье  
low fever- небольшой /несильный/ жар  
in a low condition - в плохом /жалком/ состоянии

2) **слабый, подавленный**

to be feeling low - чувствовать себя неважно  
to be in low spirits - быть в подавленном состоянии

3) **подавленный, униженный**

to bring low - подавлять, угнетать; унижать  
to be brought low - быть униженным, подвергнуться унижениям

8. **плохой, неблагоприятный**

low opinion of smb. - плохое мнение о ком-л.  
low estimate of smth. - плохая оценка чего-л.; неблагоприятный отзыв о чём-л.

9. **скудный, недостаточный, непитательный, истощённый, исчерпанный**

low diet - а) скудное питание; б) низкокалорийная диета  
in low supply - дефицитный  
to run low - истощаться (о запасах и т. п.)  
to be low in pocket - *разг.* остаться без денег  
to be in low supply - быть дефицитным  
oil is in low supply - нефти не хватает, нефть поступает в недостаточном количестве  
our stock of coal is very low - у нас осталось очень мало угля

10. **сравнительно недавний, стоящий ближе к современности (о дате)**

low Latin - поздняя /народная, средневековая/ латынь

11. (часто Low) **церк.** принадлежащие к низкой церкви [см. Low Church]

◇ to be low in the lay, to be in low water - сидеть без денег /на мели/, страдать от безденежья

3. [ləʊ] **adv**

1. **низко**

low at board - на (нижнем) конце стола  
to bow low - низко кланяться; отвесить низкий поклон  
to aim low - целить низко  
to hang low - висеть низко  
to sink low in the water - глубоко погрузиться в воду  
stocks are running low - запасы кончаются  
I hope I shall never fall as low as that - я надеюсь, что никогда не паду так низко  
he sank low in my esteem - он низко пал в моих глазах  
you value yourself too low - вы недостаточно /слишком мало/ себя цените

2. 1) **тихо, негромко**

to speak [to talk, to read] low - говорить [разговаривать, читать] тихо

2) **на низких нотах**

he cannot get so low - он не может взять такую низкую ноту

3. **дёшево, по дешёвой цене**

to buy low - покупать дёшево, купить по дешёвке  
to play low - играть по маленькой (в карты, кости и т. п.)

4. **скудно; бедно, в бедности**

to live low - жить в бедности, скудно питаться

5. **слабо**

to burn low - слабо гореть

6. **поздно, недавно**

you can find it as low as the 18th century - это можно обнаружить ещё и в XVIII веке

◇ to lie low - а) припасть к земле, лежать распростёртым; б) *поэт.* лежать во прахе, быть мёртвым; в) быть униженным; г) притаиться молчать, выжидать  
to lay low - а) опрокинуть; свалить, повалить; б) унижить; в) похоронить

II

1. [ləʊ] **n**

мычание

2. [ləʊ] **v**

мычать

**low**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**low** [low lows lowed lowering lower lowest] **adjective, adverb, noun, verb** BrE

[ləʊ] <sup>AmE</sup> [loʊ] <sup>AmE</sup>

**adjective** (lower, low-est)

**NOT HIGH/TALL**

1. **not high or tall; not far above the ground**

- a low wall/building/table
- a low range of hills
- low clouds
- flying at low altitude

- The sun was low in the sky.

**Opp:** ↑high

## NEAR BOTTOM

**2.** at or near the bottom of sth

- low back pain
- the lower slopes of the mountain
- temperatures in the low 20s (= no higher than 21–23°)

**Opp:** ↑high

## CLOTHING

**3.** not high at the neck

- a dress with a low neckline

**see also** ↑low-cut

## LEVEL/VALUE

**4.** (*also* **low-**) (often in compounds) below the usual or average amount, level or value

- low prices
- low-income families
- a low-cost airline
- the lowest temperature ever recorded
- a low level of unemployment
- Yogurt is usually very low in fat.
- low-fat yogurt
- low-tar cigarettes

**Opp:** ↑high

**5.** having a reduced amount or not enough of sth

- The reservoir was low after the long drought.
- Our supplies are **running low** (= we only have a little left).
- They were **low on** fuel.

## SOUND

**6.** not high; not loud

- The cello is lower than the violin.
- They were speaking in low voices.

**Opp:** ↑high

## STANDARD

**7.** below the usual or expected standard

- students with low marks/grades in their exams
- a low standard of living

**Opp:** ↑high

## STATUS

**8.** below other people or things in importance or status

- low forms of life (= creatures with a very simple structure)
- jobs with low status
- Training was given a very low priority.
- the **lower classes** of society

**Opp:** ↑high

## OPINION

**9.** *usually before noun* not very good

**Syn:** ↑poor

- She has a very low opinion of her own abilities.

**Opp:** ↑high

## DEPRESSED

**10.** weak or depressed; with very little energy

**Syn:** ↑down

- I'm feeling really low.
- They were in low spirits.

## NOT HONEST

**11.** (*of a person*) not honest

**Syn:** ↑disreputable

- He mixes with some pretty low types.

## LIGHT

12. not bright

**Syn:** †dim

- The lights were low and romance was in the air.

## IN VEHICLE

13. if a vehicle is in low gear, it travels at a slower speed in relation to the speed of the engine

## PHONETICS

14. (phonetics) = †open

**more at** a high/low profile **at** †profile <sub>n.</sub>

### Word Origin:

**adj.** and **n. adv.** Middle English Old Norse **lágr** Germanic Dutch **laag** †lie

**v.** Old English hlōwan Germanic Dutch **loeien** Indo-European Latin **clamare** 'to shout'

### Thesaurus:

**low** **adj.**

1. **not before noun**

- Our food supplies were running low.

**scarce** • • **in short supply** • • **short** • • **limited** •

**Opp:** plentiful

**supplies** are low/limited

**resources** are scarce/in short supply/limited

**food** is scarce/in short supply/short

**time** is short/limited

**Which word?** **Scarce** and **in short supply** are used about resources that are not generally available; **short** is used especially about **time** and **money**; **low** is used especially about your supplies when you have not got much left.

2.

- They spoke in low voices.

**deep** • |**approving rich** • |**music bass** •

**Opp:** high

a low/deep/rich/bass **voice/sound**

a low/deep **groan/roar/rumble**

**Low or deep?** A **low** voice or sound is one that is near the bottom of the musical scale and is quiet. A **deep** voice or sound is near the bottom of the musical scale and can be loud or quiet.

3.

- Sadly, the work was of a low standard.

**poor** • • **bad** • • **second-rate** • • **inferior** • |**informal dismal** •

**Opp:** high

low/poor/bad/second-rate/inferior **quality**

a low/poor/bad **opinion** of sb/sth

a low/poor/inferior/dismal **standard**

### Example Bank:

- I felt very low after my husband left me.
- I think he got a bit low when he had the flu.
- Keep your voice low.
- Our stocks of food were getting low.
- Supplies ran low.
- The failure rate is extremely low.
- The government wants to keep taxes low.
- The river was extremely low for winter.
- The windows look very low to me.
- This dish is very low in fat.
- historically low marriage statistics
- Much of the work was of a very low standard.
- Our supplies are running low.
- These measures will lead to a lower quality of life for many older people.
- They were low on fuel

**Idioms:** †at a low ebb = †brought low = †lay somebody low = †lowest of the low

**adverb** (lower, low-est)

## NOT HIGH

1. in or into a low position, not far above the ground

- to crouch/bend low
- a plane flying low over the town
- low-flying aircraft

- The sun sank lower towards the horizon.

## NEAR BOTTOM

2. in or into a position near the bottom of sth

- a window set low in the wall
- The candles were burning low.

## LEVEL

3. (especially in compounds) at a level below what is usual or expected

- low-priced goods
- a low-powered PC
- a very low-scoring game

## SOUND

4. not high; not loudly

- He's singing an octave lower than the rest of us.
- Can you turn the music lower— you'll wake the baby.

see high and low at **↑high** adv., lie low at **↑lie** v., **↑sink** v., stoop so low (as to do sth) at **↑stoop** v.

### Word Origin:

adj. and n. adv. Middle English Old Norse **lágr** Germanic Dutch laag **↑lie**

v. Old English hlōwan Germanic Dutch **loeien** Indo-European Latin **clamare** 'to shout'

noun

## LEVEL/VALUE

1. a low level or point; a low figure

- The yen has fallen to **an all-time low** against the dollar.
- The temperature reached a record low in London last night.
- The government's popularity has hit a new low.

## DIFFICULT TIME

2. a very difficult time in sb's life or career

- The break-up of her marriage marked **an all-time low** in her life.
- We all experience highs and lows in life.

## WEATHER

3. an area of low pressure in the atmosphere

- Another low is moving in from the Atlantic.

Opp: **↑high**

### Word Origin:

adj. and n. adv. Middle English Old Norse **lágr** Germanic Dutch laag **↑lie**

v. Old English hlōwan Germanic Dutch **loeien** Indo-European Latin **clamare** 'to shout'

### Example Bank:

- He had experienced all the highs and lows of an actor's life.
- Morale is at an all-time low.
- The pound has hit a new low against the dollar.

verb intransitive (literary)

when a cow lows, it makes a deep sound

Syn: **↑moo**

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	low
	BrE /ləʊ/
	NAmE /loʊ/
he / she / it	lows
	BrE /ləʊz/
	NAmE /loʊz/
past simple, past participle	lowed
	BrE /ləʊd/
	NAmE /loʊd/
-ing form	lowing
	BrE /ləʊɪŋ/
	NAmE /loʊɪŋ/

### Word Origin:

## low

I. **low**<sup>1</sup> **S1 W1** /ləʊ \$ loʊ/ *BrE* <sup>u</sup> *AmE* <sup>u</sup> **adjective** (comparative **lower**, superlative **lowest**)

[Word Family: adjective: †low, †lower, †lowly; verb: lower; noun: †low; adverb: †low]

[Date: 1100-1200; Language: Old Norse; Origin: *lagr*]

### 1. SMALL AMOUNT/LEVEL/VALUE

a) small, or smaller than usual, in amount, level, or value **OPP high**

**low income/pay/wages**

- families existing on very low incomes
- In May, the price of cocoa fell to its lowest level since 1975–76.
- Morale has been low since the latest round of job cuts.
- In this sort of investment, the risks are fairly low.
- low temperatures
- the need for low-cost housing
- a low-security prison

b) **low in something** having less than the usual amount of a substance or chemical **OPP high**:

- food that is low in calories

**low-fat/low-salt etc**

- low-alcohol beer

c) **in the low 20s/50s etc** if a number, temperature, or level is in the low 20s, 30s etc, it is between 21 and 23, 31 and 33 etc:

- Tonight, temperatures in most areas will be in the low 50s.

### 2.



### HEIGHT

a) having a top that is not far above the ground **OPP high**:

- a low wall
- a long low building

b) at a point that is not far above the ground or near the bottom of something **OPP high**:

- low clouds
- The sun was low in the sky now.
- Store raw meat on the lowest shelf.

c) below the usual height **OPP high**:

- a low bridge
- a low ceiling
- The river is very low today.

3. **STANDARDS/QUALITY** bad, or below an acceptable or usual level or quality **SYN poor OPP high**:

- Their safety standards seem to be pretty low.
- Cost-cutting has led to a lower quality of service.
- the children's low achievement in school

4. **SUPPLY** if you are low on something, or if your supply of something is low, there is not much of it left

**be/get/run low (on something)**

- We're running low on gas.
- Stocks are getting low.

### 5. VOICE/SOUND

a) not loud:

- I heard a low moaning noise.
- The volume is too low – turn it up.
- a low whisper

b) not high:

- a low note

6. **LIGHT** a light that is low is not bright **SYN dim**:

- Use low lighting to give the room a romantic atmosphere.

7. **HEAT** if you cook something over a low heat or in a low †oven, you cook it using only a small amount of heat **OPP high**

8. **BATTERY** a †battery that is low does not have much power left in it

9. **CLOTHES** a low dress, †blouse etc does not cover your neck and the top of your chest ⇒ **low-cut**

10. **UNHAPPY** [not before noun] unhappy and without much hope for the future **SYN depressed**:

- He was feeling a bit low, so I did my best to cheer him up.

Terry seems to be in rather low spirits today.

⇒ **be at a low ebb** at ↑ebb<sup>1</sup>(2)

—**lowness** *noun* [uncountable]

• • •

## THESAURUS

### ■ voices/sounds that are not high

- **low** a low voice or sound is not high on the scale of musical sounds: I can't sing the low notes. | He's got quite a low singing voice. | Boys' voices usually become much lower as they get older.
- **deep** a deep voice or sound is low, strong, and pleasant: He has a lovely deep voice. | The engine has a wonderfully deep sound to it, like it's ready to race.
- **husky** a husky voice is deep, quiet, and rough-sounding, especially in a way that is attractive: Monroe sang 'Happy Birthday, Mr President' in a slow husky voice. | His voice dropped to a husky whisper.
- **gravelly** a gravelly voice is very low and rough sounding: The singer is famous for his gravelly voice.

## II. **low**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* " *AmE* " *adverb* (comparative **lower**, superlative **lowest**)

[Word Family: adjective: ↑low, ↑lower, ↑lowly; verb: lower; noun: ↑low; adverb: ↑low]

### 1. in or to a low position or level:

- He bent low over the engine.
- She pulled her hat low down over her eyes.
- I had the radio on low.

### 2. near the ground or the bottom of something:

- That plane's flying too low!
- There was a hole low down in the hedge.

### 3. if you play or sing musical notes low, you play or sing them with deep notes:

- Sing those bars an octave lower.

### 4. **be brought low** *old-fashioned* to become much less rich or important

⇒ **search/look high and low** at ↑high<sup>2</sup>(6), ⇒ **lay somebody low** at ↑lay<sup>2</sup>(20), ⇒ **lie low** at ↑lie<sup>1</sup>(7)

## III. **low**<sup>3</sup> *BrE* " *AmE* " *noun* [countable]

[Word Family: adjective: ↑low, ↑lower, ↑lowly; verb: lower; noun: ↑low; adverb: ↑low]

### 1. a low price, level, or value **OPP high**

**fall to/hit/reach etc a new low** (=be worth less than ever before)

- The euro has fallen to a new low against the dollar.
- Public confidence in the legal system is at an all-time low (=much lower or worse than ever before).

### 2. a very difficult time in someone's personal or working life

**highs and lows (of something)** (=good times and bad times)

- the highs and lows of an actor's life

### 3.

a) the lowest point that the temperature reaches during a particular time **OPP high**:

- The overnight low will be 8°C.

b) an area of low pressure in the air **OPP high**:

- a low moving in over the Pacific

### 4. **the lowest of the low**

a) *informal* someone you think is completely unfair, cruel, immoral etc

b) someone from a low social class – often used humorously

## IV. **low**<sup>4</sup> *BrE* " *AmE* " *verb* [intransitive] *literary*

[Language: Old English; Origin: hlowan]

if cattle low, they make a deep sound

## low

Freakuency Pack

12500 **356**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **335**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k** **LOW** 143264

low 68227

lows 1195

lowly 769

lowlier 7

lowliest 81

lower 52521

lowered 6841

lowest 8205

lowering 3429

lowers 1989

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

32971 **610**<sup>63530</sup> *jj*

1991 **12584**<sup>2226</sup> *rr*

1305 **16361**<sup>1489</sup> *nn1*

547 **22696**<sup>889</sup> *np1*

41 **117441**<sup>43</sup> *vv0*

<sup>32</sup>134959<sup>33</sup> *nnu*  
<sup>9</sup>259872<sup>10</sup> *at*  
<sup>7</sup>312744<sup>7</sup> *cc*

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