

**prey****1. [preɪ] n****1. жертва**

prey to fear [to disease, to passion, to circumstances] - жертва страха [болезни, страсти, обстоятельств]  
to be [to become /to fall/] a prey to smth. - быть [сделаться] жертвой чего-л.  
she is a prey to anxiety - её терзает/мучает, одолевает/ беспокоит

**2. 1) добыча**

bird [beast] of prey - хищная птица [-ое животное]

**2) редк. нагребленное, добыча****2. [preɪ] v (обыкн. on, upon)****1. охотиться, ловить**

cats prey upon mice - кошки ловят мышей

**2. 1) грабить**

the village was preyed upon - деревня была разграблена

**2) вымогать, жить на чужой счёт**

he lives by preying on his relations - он сидит на шее у своих родственников

**3) обманывать**

to prey upon the credulous - обманывать доверчивых людей

**3. терзать, мучить, угнетать**

remorse preyed upon his mind - его мучили угрызения совести

**prey**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**prey** [preɪ preys preyed preying] **noun, verb** BrE [preɪ] <sup>ˈ</sup> NAmE [preɪ] <sup>ˈ</sup>

**noun uncountable, singular**

**1. an animal, a bird, etc. that is hunted, killed and eaten by another**

- The lion will often stalk its prey for hours.
- **birds of prey** (= birds that kill for food)

**2. a person who is harmed or tricked by sb, especially for dishonest purposes**

- Elderly people are **easy prey** for dishonest salesmen.

Word Origin:

Middle English (also denoting plunder taken in war): the noun from Old French **preie**, from Latin **praeda** 'booty', the verb from Old French **preier**, based on Latin **praedari** 'seize as plunder', from **praeda**.

Collocations:**The living world***Animals*

animals **mate/breed/reproduce/feed (on sth)**

fish/amphibians **swim/spawn** (= lay eggs)

birds **fly/migrate/nest/sing**

insects **crawl/fly/bite/sting**

insects/bees/locusts **swarm**

bees **collect/gather** nectar/pollen

spiders **spin/weave** a web

snakes/lizards **shed their skins**

bears/hedgehogs/frogs **hibernate**

insect larvae **grow/develop/pupate**

an egg/a chick/a larva **hatches**

**attract/find/choose** a mate

**produce/release** eggs/sperm

**lay/fertilize/incubate/hatch** eggs

**inhabit** a forest/a reef/the coast

**mark/enter/defend** (a) territory

**stalk/hunt/capture/catch/kill** prey

*Plants and fungi*

trees/plants **grow/bloom/blossom/flower**

a seed **germinates/sprouts**

leaves/buds/roots/shoots **appear/develop/form**

flower buds **swell/open**

a fungus **grows/spreads/colonizes sth**

**pollinate/fertilize** a flower/plant

**produce/release/spread/disperse** pollen/seeds/spores

**produce/bear** fruit

**develop/grow/form** roots/shoots/leaves

**provide/supply/absorb/extract/release** nutrients

**perform/increase/reduce** photosynthesis

*Bacteria and viruses*

bacteria/microbes/viruses **grow/spread/multiply**

bacteria/microbes **live/thrive** in/on sth

bacteria/microbes/viruses evolve/colonize sth/cause disease  
 bacteria break sth down/convert sth (into sth)  
 a virus enters/invades sth/the body  
 a virus mutates/evolves/replicates (itself)  
 be infected with/contaminated with/exposed to a new strain of a virus/drug-resistant bacteria  
 contain/carry/harbour (especially US) harbor bacteria/a virus  
 kill/destroy/eliminate harmful/deadly bacteria

Example Bank:

- Teenagers are easy prey for unscrupulous drug dealers.
- The new government has fallen prey to corruption and fraud.
- The young deer are ideal prey for the leopard.
- They watched a hawk swoop down on its unsuspecting prey.
- a cat pouncing on its prey

Idioms: ↑prey on somebody's mind ▪ prey to something

Derived ↑prey on somebody

verb

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	prey
	BrE /preɪ/
	NAme /preɪ/
he / she / it	preys
	BrE /preɪz/
	NAme /preɪz/
past simple, past participle	preyed
	BrE /preɪd/
	NAme /preɪd/
-ing form	preying
	BrE /preɪɪŋ/
	NAme /preɪɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English (also denoting plunder taken in war): the noun from Old French *preie*, from Latin *praeda* 'booty', the verb from Old French *preier*, based on Latin *praedari* 'seize as plunder', from *praeda*.

**prey**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **prey**<sup>1</sup> /preɪ/ BrE <sup>ˈ</sup> AmE <sup>ˈ</sup> noun

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: *preie*, from Latin *praeda* 'something seized']

1. [singular, uncountable] an animal, bird etc that is hunted and eaten by another animal **OPP predator**:  
 a tiger stalking its prey
2. **bird/beast of prey** a bird or animal which lives by killing and eating other animals
3. **be/fall prey to somebody/something** if someone falls prey to someone or something bad, they are harmed or affected by them:  
 Street children in this part of the world often fall prey to drug dealers.  
 They are prey to nameless fears.
4. **easy prey**
  - a) someone who can easily be deceived or harmed:  
 He was easy prey for the two conmen who called at his house.
  - b) an animal which is easily caught by another:  
 Fish at the surface of the water are easy prey for eagles.

II. **prey**<sup>2</sup> BrE <sup>ˈ</sup> AmE <sup>ˈ</sup> verb

**prey on somebody/something** phrasal verb

1. if an animal or bird preys on another animal or bird, it hunts and eats it ⇒ **predator**:  
 Cats prey on birds and mice.
2. to try to deceive or harm weaker people:  
 religious cults that specialize in preying on young people
3. **prey on sb's mind** to make someone worry continuously:  
 The accident has been preying on my mind all week.

**prey**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **4219**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **4009**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **5k** PREY 4889

prey 4804

preys 85

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2509 **7843**<sup>4327</sup> nn1

230 **47265**<sup>247</sup> vv0

<sup>206</sup>50937<sup>215</sup> *vvi*  
<sup>3</sup>268642<sup>10</sup> *jj*  
<sup>2</sup>415594<sup>5</sup> *np1*

---