

1. [kætʃ] *n*

1. поимка; захват

her catch was quick enough to keep the plate from hitting the floor - она успела быстро схватить падающую на пол тарелку

2. улов; добыча

a fine catch of fish - хороший улов рыбы

that bachelor is a good catch - этот холостяк - завидный жених

3. *разг.* хитрость, ловушка; подвох

catch question - каверзный вопрос

there must be a catch somewhere - здесь что-то не так; здесь есть какой-то подвох

what's the catch in his offer? - что скрывается за его предложением?

that's the catch - в этом-то вся хитрость

4. выгодное приобретение

no catch, not much of a catch - незавидное приобретение; грош цена; не бог весть какое сокровище

5. 1) задвижка, засов; шпингалет

2) *тех.* захватывающее, запирающее приспособление3) *тех.* стяжной болт4) *тех.* тормоз; стопор; арретир6. приостановка на мгновение (*дыхания*); потеря на мгновение (*голоса*)

with a catch in her voice - прерывающимся голосом

7. отрывки, обрывки, кусочки

catches of old tunes - обрывки старых мелодий /напевов/

8. игра в мяч (*детская и т. п.*); перебрасывание мяча

to play catch - играть в мяч

9. поимка мяча (*до того, как он коснулся грунта - крикет*)10. *спорт.* кетч (*борьба, допускающая запрещённые приёмы*)11. *с.-х.* самосев хлебных злаков12. *муз. исст.* качча (*жанр светских вокальных пьес XIV - XVI вв.*)2. [kætʃ] *v* (*caught*)

I

1. 1) поймать, схватить; ловить (*мяч, рыбу, беглеца и т. п.*)2) поймать, застигнуть (*мж. catch out*); застать, захватить

to catch smb. red-handed /in the act/ - застать кого-л. на месте преступления

to catch smb. napping /off guard/ - застать кого-л. врасплох

to catch in a lie - изобличить во лжи

to catch in a word - а) поймать на слове; б) *библ.* уловить в слове

to be caught in the rain - попасть под дождь

we were caught in a snowstorm - мы были застигнуты метелью

to be caught cheating - быть уличённым в мошенничестве

to be caught in the turmoil - быть вовлечённым в водоворот (*событий*)

a rat was caught in the trap - крыса попала в крысоловку

I caught him out - я поймал его на лжи

I caught him at it - я его поймал на этом /захватил с поличным/

3) схватить, задержать

the policeman caught the thief - полицейский задержал вора

2. (*at*)

1) ухватиться, схватить

he caught at the rope - он уцепился за верёвку

2) прицепляться, придирааться к

he catches at everything - он ко всему придирается

3. 1) уловить, поймать

to catch a likeness - схватить /уловить (и передать)/ сходство (*в портрете*)

to catch (at) an opportunity - воспользоваться случаем, ухватиться за представившуюся возможность

2) *разг.* уловить смысл, понять (*мж. catch on*)

I don't catch your meaning - не понимаю, что вы хотите сказать

he's not very quick at catching on, is he? - ведь он тугодум /до него не скоро доходит/

4. 1) зацепить; задеть; защемить

to catch one's finger in the door - прищемить себе палец дверью

2) зацепиться (*мж. catch up*)

her dress caught on a nail - она зацепилась платьем за гвоздь

the boat was caught in the reeds - лодка застряла в камышах

5. поддеть; провести; поймать в ловушку

you've caught me this time! - ну и поддели вы меня!

6. попасть, ударить

the blow caught him on the head - удар пришёлся ему по голове

I caught him one in the eye - *прост.* я поставил ему синяк под глазом

II A

1. заболеть, заразиться; схватить (*болезнь и т. п.*)

to catch scarlet fever - заразиться скарлатиной

to catch a chill / (a) cold/ - простудиться

to catch one's death of cold - простудиться и умереть

2. захватывать; перехватывать (*сообщения и т. п.*)

3. успеть, поспеть (*на поезд, самолёт и т. п.*)

to catch the train - поспеть на поезд

I wonder whether I can catch the post - не опоздаю ли я к почте?

4. схватить, уловить (*слова, звуки*)

to catch a melody - схватить мелодию

didn't quite catch what you said - я не расслышал, что вы сказали

5. увидеть (*мельком*)

to catch sight / a glimpse, a glance/ of smth. - увидеть что-л. (на мгновение)

I caught sight / a glimpse/ of her in the crowd - я видел, как она мелькнула в толпе

6. привлечь (*внимание и т. п.*); поразить (*воображение*); увлечь

bright colours catch a baby's eye - яркие цвета привлекают ребёнка

the fact caught her attention - её внимание было привлечено этим фактом

to catch the imagination - поразить воображение

7. запирается (*о замке, засове*)

the lock won't catch - замок не запирается /неисправен/

8. прерывать (*оратора*); сбивать (*выступающего*) вопросами и выкриками

◇

to catch it - получить нагоняй

I caught it - мне досталось /попало/

you will catch it! - ≅ будет тебе на орехи!

to catch one's foot - споткнуться

to catch the trick (of doing smth.) - наловчиться (делать что-л.); приноровиться (к чему-л.); схватить (как что-л. делается)

to catch a crab - *спорт. жарг.* «поймать леща»

catch me doing that! - чтоб я это сделал? Никогда!

catch me ever telling him anything again! - чёрта с два я ему теперь что-нибудь расскажу!

to catch the Speaker's eye - *парл.* получить слово в палате общин

to catch fire - а) загореться, воспламениться; б) вспылать; вспыхнуть; зажечься (*энтузиазмом и т. п.*)

to catch hold of smth. - ухватиться за что-л.

to catch one's breath - а) затаить дыхание; б) перевести дух, отдышаться

catch as catch can - лови, хватай (*счастье и т. п.*)

on a catch-as-catch-can basis - *слец.* без определённой очередности

you don't catch old birds with chaff - *посл.* ≅ старого воробья на мякине не проведёшь

a drowning man will catch at a straw - *посл.* утопающий за соломинку хватается

catch

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

catch [catch catches caught catching] verb, noun BrE [kætʃ] ^m NAmE [kæʃ]

verb (caught, caught BrE [kɔːt] ^m ; NAmE [kɔːt] ^m)

HOLD

1. **transitive** ~ **sth** to stop and hold a moving object, especially in your hands

- She managed to catch the keys as they fell.
- 'Throw me over that towel, will you?' 'OK. Catch!'
- The dog caught the stick in its mouth.

2. **transitive** ~ **sth** to hold a liquid when it falls

- The roof was leaking and I had to use a bucket to catch the drips.

3. **transitive** ~ **sb/sth (+ adv./prep.)** to take hold of sb/sth

- He **caught hold of** her arm as she tried to push past him.

CAPTURE

4. **transitive** ~ **sb/sth** to capture a person or an animal that tries or would try to escape

- The murderer was never caught.
- Our cat is hopeless at catching mice.
- How many fish did you catch?

SB DOING STH

5. **transitive** to find or discover sb doing sth, especially sth wrong

- ~ **sb doing sth** I caught her smoking in the bathroom.
- **You wouldn't catch me** working (= I would never work) on a Sunday!
- ~ **yourself doing sth** She caught herself wondering whether she had made a mistake.
- ~ **sb + adv./prep.** He was caught with bomb-making equipment in his home.
- Mark walked in and **caught them at it** (= in the act of doing sth wrong) .
- thieves **caught in the act**
- You've caught me at a bad time (= at a time when I am busy) .

BUS/TRAIN/PLANE

6. **transitive** ~ **sth** to be in time for a bus, train, plane, etc. and get on it

- We caught the 12.15 from Oxford.
- I must go— I have a train to catch.

BE IN TIME

7. **transitive** ~ **sb/sth** to be in time to do sth, talk to sb, etc

- I caught him just as he was leaving the building.
- I was hoping to catch you at home (= to telephone you at home when you were there) .
- The illness can be treated provided it's caught (= discovered) early enough.
- (BrE) to **catch the post** (= post letters before the box is emptied)
- (BrE, informal) Bye for now! I'll **catch you later** (= speak to you again later) .

SEE/HEAR

8. **transitive** ~ **sth** (informal, especially NAmE) to see or hear sth; to attend sth

- Let's eat now and maybe we could catch a movie later.

HAPPEN UNEXPECTEDLY

9. **transitive** ~ **sb** to happen unexpectedly and put sb in a difficult situation

- His arrival **caught me by surprise** .
- She **got caught in** a thunderstorm.

ILLNESS

10. **transitive** to get an illness

- ~ **sth** to catch measles
- ~ **sth from sb** I think I must have caught this cold from you.

BECOME STUCK

11. **intransitive, transitive** to become stuck in or on sth; to make sth become stuck

- ~ **(in/on sth)** Her dress caught on a nail.
- ~ **sth (in/on sth)** He caught his thumb in the door.

HIT

12. **transitive** to hit sb/sth

- ~ **sb/sth + adv./prep.** The stone caught him on the side of the head.
- ~ **sb sth + adv./prep.** She caught him a blow on the chin.

NOTICE

13. **transitive** ~ **sth** to notice sth only for a moment

- She **caught sight** of a car in the distance.
- He **caught a glimpse** of himself in the mirror.
- I caught a look of surprise on her face.
- He **caught a whiff** of her perfume.

HEAR/UNDERSTAND

14. **transitive** ~ **sth** to hear or understand sth

- Sorry, I didn't quite catch what you said.

INTEREST

15. **transitive** ~ **sb's interest, imagination, attention, etc.** if sth catches your interest, etc, you notice it and feel interested in it

SHOW ACCURATELY

16. **transitive** ~ **sth** to show or describe sth accurately

Syn: ↑capture

- The artist has caught her smile perfectly.

LIGHT

17. **transitive** ~ **sth** if sth catches the light or the light catches it, the light shines on it and makes it shine too

- The knife gleamed as it **caught the light** .

THE SUN

18. **transitive** ~ **the sun** (informal) if you catch the sun, you become red or brown because of spending time in the sun

BURN

19. **transitive, intransitive** ~ **(fire)** to begin to burn

- The wooden rafters caught fire.
- These logs are wet: they won't catch.

IN CRICKET

20. **transitive** ~ **sb** to make a player unable to continue **batting** by **catching** the ball they have hit before it touches the ground

more at (catch/throw sb) off balance **at** ↑**balance** *n.*, be (caught) in a cleft stick **at** ↑**cleft** *adj.*, *n.*, the early bird catches the worm **at** ↑**early** *adj.*, catch/take sb's fancy **at** ↑**fancy** *n.*, catch/touch sb on the raw **at** ↑**raw** *n.*, (caught/stuck) between a rock and a hard place **at** ↑**rock** *n.*, be caught short **at** ↑**short** *adj.*

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	catch
	BrE /kætʃ/
	NAmE /kæʃ/
he / she / it	catches
	BrE /'kætʃɪz/
	NAmE /'kæʃɪz/
past simple, past participle	caught
	BrE /kɔ:t/
	NAmE /kɔ:t/
-ing form	catching
	BrE /'kætʃɪŋ/
	NAmE /'kæʃɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English (also in the sense 'chase'): from Anglo-Norman French and Old Northern French **cachier**, variant of Old French **chacier**, based on Latin **captare** 'try to catch', from **capere** 'take'.

Thesaurus:

catch *verb*

1. T

• She caught the ball.

grab • **seize** • **take** • **snatch** •

Opp: drop, **Opp:** throw

catch/grab/seize/take **hold of** sb/sth

2. T

• Police are trying to catch the culprits.

capture • **arrest** • **take** • |**formal apprehend** • |**informal bust** •

police catch/capture/arrest/take/apprehend/bust sb

3. T

• How many fish did you catch?

trap • **capture** •

catch/trap sth **in** sth

catch/trap a/an **bird/animal**

4. T

• I caught him smoking at work.

find • **discover** • **come across sb/sth** •

catch/find/discover/come across sb **doing** sth

5. T, **no passive**

• catch a train

get • **go by sth** • |**especially written take** •

Opp: miss

catch the/get the/go by/take the **bus/train/plane/boat**

catch/get a **flight**

get a/go by/take a **taxi**

6. T

• She caught my cold.

get • **come down with sth** • **develop** • **have** • **suffer from** • |**especially BrE, especially spoken have got** • |**formal contract** •

catch/get/develop/have/suffer from/have got/contract a/an **disease/illness**

catch/get/come down with/have/suffer from/have got a **bug/cold**

catch/get/come down with/have/suffer from/have got/contract the **flu**

catch/get/have/suffer from/contract a **virus/HIV/malaria**

Synonyms:

see

spot • **catch** • **glimpse**

These words all mean to become aware of sb/sth by using your eyes, especially suddenly or when it is not easy to see them/it.

see • to become aware of sb/sth by using your eyes: ▫ She looked for him but couldn't see him in the crowd. ▫ He could see (that) she had been crying.

spot • to see or notice sb/sth, especially suddenly or when they are not easy to see or notice: ▫ I've just spotted a mistake on the front cover.

catch • to see or notice sth for a moment, but not clearly or completely: ▫ She caught sight of a car in the distance. ▫ He caught a glimpse of himself in the mirror.

glimpse • (*literary*) to see sb/sth for a moment, but not clearly or completely: ▫ He'd glimpsed her through the window as he passed.

to see/spot **that/how/what/where/who...**
to **suddenly** see/spot/catch/glimpse sb/sth

Example Bank:

- A colourful glow appears as the light catches the glass.
- Did you catch that show on the radio?
- He was still hoping to catch the 8.30 ferry.
- He was thinking of catching a plane home.
- I threw the bag in the air and she caught it.
- If you want to catch that bus, you'd better hurry!
- It is unusual to catch measles more than once.
- Let's eat now and maybe we could catch a movie later.
- Mark walked in and caught them at it.
- Sorry, I didn't quite catch what you said.
- The knife gleamed as it caught the light.
- The police say they are doing all they can to catch the culprits.
- Then she had to leave to catch her plane.
- They caught the 12.15 from Kings Cross.
- You wouldn't catch me working on a Sunday.
- You've caught me at a bad time.
- thieves caught in the act

Idioms: ↑catch it ▪ ↑catch somebody napping ▪ ↑catch somebody on the hop ▪ ↑catch somebody red-handed ▪ ↑catch somebody with their pants down ▪ ↑catch somebody's eye ▪ ↑catch your breath ▪ ↑catch your death ▪ ↑catch-22 ▪ ↑catch-22 situation

Derived ↑catch at something ▪ ↑catch on ▪ ↑catch somebody out ▪ ↑catch up ▪ ↑catch up on something ▪ ↑catch up with somebody ▪ caught up in something

noun

OF BALL

1. **countable** an act of catching sth, for example a ball
 - to make a catch

AMOUNT CAUGHT

2. **countable** the total amount of things that are caught
 - a huge catch of fish

FASTENING

3. **countable** a device used for fastening sth
 - a catch on the door
 - safety catches for the windows
 - I can't open the catch on this bracelet.

DIFFICULTY

4. **countable, usually singular** (informal) a hidden difficulty or disadvantage
 - All that money for two hours' work— what's the catch?

CHILD'S GAME

5. **uncountable** a child's game in which two people throw a ball to each other

PERSON

6. **singular** (old-fashioned) a person that other people see as a good person to marry, employ, etc
 - He's a good catch.

Word Origin:

Middle English (also in the sense 'chase'): from Anglo-Norman French and Old Northern French **cachier**, variant of Old French **chacier**, based on Latin **captare** 'try to catch', from **capere** 'take'.

Example Bank:

- Fishermen have been landing record catches this season.
- Fran slipped the catch on the door, then turned to say goodbye.
- Roger made some brilliant catches at today's game.
- a bumper catch of tuna
- a restaurant where you can sample the day's catch
- the safety catch on a gun
- All that money for two hours' work— what's the catch?
- I can't open the catch on this bracelet.
- It sounds too good. There must be a catch.

See also: ↑catch hell ▪ ↑catch somebody up ▪ ↑catch somebody with their trousers down ▪ ↑get it

catch

I. **catch**¹ **S1 W1** /kætʃ/ *BrE* ² *AmE* ³ *verb* (past tense and past participle **caught** /kɔːtʃt/

kpɔːtʃ)

[Date: 1100-1200; Language: Old North French; Origin: *catcher* 'to hunt', from Vulgar Latin *captiare*, from Latin *captare* 'to try to catch', from *capere* 'to take']

**1. TAKE AND HOLD**

a) [intransitive and transitive] to get hold of and stop an object such as a ball that is moving through the air ⇒ **throw**:

- Stephen leapt up and caught the ball in one hand.
- 'Pass me that pen, would you?' 'Here you are. Catch!'
- The kids were throwing and catching a frisbee down on the beach.

b) [transitive] to suddenly take hold of someone or something with your hand:

- He caught her elbow to steady her.
- Miss Perry caught hold of my sleeve and pulled me back.

2. FIND/STOP SOMEBODY [transitive]

a) to stop someone after you have been chasing them and not let them get away:

- 'You can't catch me!' she yelled, running away.

b) to find a criminal or enemy and stop them from escaping SYN capture:

- State police have launched a massive operation to catch the murderer.
- If you go back to the city, you're bound to get caught.

3. SEE SOMEBODY DOING SOMETHING [transitive] to see someone doing something that they did not want you to know they were doing

catch somebody doing something

- I caught him reading my private letters.
- Gemma turned around and caught the stranger looking at her intently.

catch somebody in the act (of doing something) (=catch someone while they are doing something illegal)

- The gang was caught in the act of unloading the cigarettes.
- He was caught red-handed (=as he was doing something wrong) taking money from the cash register.

catch somebody at it

- We knew he'd been cheating, but we'd never caught him at it before.

4. ILLNESS [transitive] to get an infectious disease:

- Anton caught malaria in Mali, and nearly died.
- Many young people are still ignorant about how HIV is caught.

catch something from/off somebody/something

- Typhoid and cholera are often caught from contaminated water supplies.
- I caught chicken pox off my friend at school.

catch your death (of cold) British English spoken (=get a very bad cold)

- Don't stand out in the rain. You'll catch your death.

5. catch somebody by surprise, catch somebody off guard, catch somebody napping/unawares (also catch somebody on the hop British English) to do something or to happen when someone is not expecting it or prepared for it:

- Her question caught him off guard.

6. catch somebody with their pants/trousers down to discover that someone is doing something that they should not be doing or has not done something that they should have done:

- He's not the first politician to be caught with his pants down, and he won't be the last.

7. ANIMAL/FISH [transitive] to trap an animal or fish by using a trap, net, or hook, or by hunting it:

- Did you catch any fish?
- Early settlers caught rabbits and squirrels and even rats in order to survive.

8. catch a train/plane/bus to get on a train, plane etc in order to travel on it, or to be in time to get on a train, plane etc before it leaves:

- I caught the 7.15 train to London.
- There's a train in now. If you run, you'll just catch it.
- I have to hurry – I have a bus to catch.

9. NOT MISS SOMEBODY/SOMETHING [transitive] to not be too late to do something, see something, talk to someone etc **OPP miss**:

- I managed to catch her just as she was leaving.
- I just caught the last few minutes of the documentary.
- Tumours like these can be treated quite easily if they're caught early enough.

catch the post British English (=post letters in time for them to be collected that day)

10. **GET STUCK** [intransitive and transitive] if your hand, finger, clothing etc catches or is caught in something, it gets stuck in it accidentally:

- His overalls caught in the engine.
- Her microphone was forever getting caught on her clothes.

11. **catch sb's attention/interest/imagination etc** to make you notice something and feel interested in it:

- Lucie whistled sharply to catch the other girl's attention.
- This is a story that will catch the imagination of every child.

12. **not catch something spoken** to not hear or understand what someone says:

- I'm afraid I didn't catch your name.

13. **HEAR** [transitive] to manage to hear a sound:

- I caught the muffled thud of a car door slamming in the street.

14. **catch you later spoken** used to say goodbye:

- 'I'll give you a call in a couple of days.' 'Okay. Catch you later.'

15. **DO/SEE SOMETHING** [transitive] *especially American English spoken* to go somewhere in order to do or see something:

- We could catch a movie (=go to a movie).
- M Records caught his act and signed him immediately.

16. **catch a ride American English spoken** to go somewhere in someone else's car:

- I caught a ride as far as Columbus.

17. **you won't catch me doing something (also you won't catch me somewhere) spoken** used to say that you would never do something:

- I love dancing but you won't catch me being the first on the dance floor!

18. **catch it informal** to be punished by someone such as a parent or teacher because you have done something wrong:

- You'll catch it if Dad finds out.

19. **catch a glimpse of somebody/something** to see someone or something for a very short time:

- Fans waited for hours at the airport to catch a glimpse of their idol.

20. **catch sight of somebody/something** to suddenly see someone or something that you have been looking for or have been hoping to see:

- I caught sight of her in the crowd.

21. **DESCRIBE WELL** [transitive] to show or describe the character or quality of something well in a picture, piece of writing etc **SYN capture**:

- a novel that catches the mood of post-war Britain

22. **BURN**

a) **catch fire** if something catches fire, it starts to burn accidentally:

- Two farm workers died when a barn caught fire.

b) [intransitive] if a fire catches, it starts to burn:

- For some reason the charcoal wasn't catching.

23. **catch sb's eye**

a) to attract someone's attention and make them look at something:

- Out on the freeway, a billboard caught his eye.

b) to look at someone at the same moment that they are looking at you:

- Every time she caught his eye, she would glance away embarrassed.

24. **catch yourself doing something** to suddenly realize you are doing something:

- Standing there listening to the song, he caught himself smiling from ear to ear.

25. **HIT** [transitive] to hit someone in or on a particular part of their body:

- The punch caught him right in the face.

26. **be/get caught in/without etc something** to be in a situation that you cannot easily get out of or in which you do not have something you need:

- We got caught in a rainstorm on the way here.
- Here's a useful tip if you're caught without a mirror.

27. **catch your breath**

a) to pause for a moment after a lot of physical effort in order to breathe normally again:

- Hang on a minute – let me catch my breath!

b) to stop breathing for a moment because something has surprised, frightened, or shocked you

c) to take some time to stop and think about what you will do next after having been very busy or active:

- It was an enforced absence from work, but at least it gave me a little time to catch my breath before the final push.

28. **CONTAINER** [transitive] if a container catches liquid, it is in a position where the liquid falls into it:

- Place the baking sheet under the muffin pan to catch the drips.

29. **SHINE** [transitive] if the light catches something or if something catches the light, the light shines on it:

- The sunlight caught her hair and turned it to gold.

30. **catch the sun informal** if you catch the sun, your skin becomes red and sometimes sore because of the effects of sunlight:

- You've caught the sun on the back of your neck.

31. **WIND** [transitive] if something catches the wind or the wind catches something, it blows on it:

- Gary swung the sail round to catch the light wind.

32. **SPORT**

a) [transitive] to end a player's [↑]innings in [↑]cricket by catching the ball that is hit off their [↑]bat before it touches the ground

b) [intransitive] to be the [↑]catcher in a game of baseball

• • •

THESAURUS (for Meaning 2)

- catch** to stop someone who is trying to escape, especially by running after them and then holding them: He raced after her, but

he couldn't catch her. | The police caught the bank robbers after a car chase through the city.

▪ **arrest** if the police arrest someone, they take him or her to a police station because they think that person has done something illegal: Wayne was arrested for dangerous driving. | The police arrested him and charged him with murder.

▪ **apprehend** *formal* if the police apprehend someone they think has done something illegal, they catch him or her: The two men were later apprehended after they robbed another store. | The killers were never apprehended. | All of the kidnappers were apprehended and convicted.

▪ **capture** to catch an enemy or a criminal in order to keep them as a prisoner: The French king was captured by the English at the battle of Poitiers in 1356. | The gunmen were finally captured after a shoot-out with the police.

▪ **take somebody prisoner** to catch someone, especially in a war, in order to keep them as a prisoner: 350 soldiers were killed and another 300 taken prisoner. | Ellison was taken prisoner by the Germans during the retreat to Dunkirk.

▪ **trap** to make someone go to a place from which they cannot escape, especially by using your skill and intelligence: Police trapped the man inside a bar on the city's southside.

▪ **corner** to force someone into a place from which they cannot escape: He was cornered outside the school by three gang members.

catch at something *phrasal verb*

to try to take hold of something:

▪ She caught at his arm, 'Hang on. I'm coming with you.'

catch on *phrasal verb*

1. to become popular and fashionable:

▪ The idea of glasses being a fashion item has been slow to catch on.

2. to begin to understand or realize something

catch on to

▪ It was a long time before the police caught on to what he was really doing.

catch somebody out *phrasal verb*

1. to make someone make a mistake, especially deliberately and in order to prove that they are lying:

▪ The interviewer may try to catch you out.

2. if something unexpected catches you out, it puts you in a difficult situation because you were not expecting it or not fully prepared for it:

▪ Even the best whitewater rafters get caught out by the fierce rapids here.

catch up *phrasal verb*

1. to improve and reach the same standard as other people in your class, group etc:

▪ If you miss a lot of classes, it's very difficult to catch up.

catch up with

▪ At the moment our technology is more advanced, but other countries are catching up with us.

2. to come from behind and reach someone in front of you by going faster

catch up with

▪ Drive faster – they're catching up with us.

catch somebody up *British English*:

▪ You go on ahead. I'll catch you up in a minute.

3. to do what needs to be done because you have not been able to do it until now

catch up on

▪ I have some work to catch up on.

▪ I need to catch up on some sleep (=after a period without enough sleep).

4. to spend time finding out what has been happening while you have been away or during the time you have not seen someone

catch up on

▪ When I got home I phoned Jo to catch up on all the gossip.

▪ I'll leave you two alone – I'm sure you've got a lot of catching up to do.

5. **be/get caught up in something** to be or get involved in something, especially something bad:

▪ I didn't want to get caught up in endless petty arguments.

catch up with somebody *phrasal verb*

1. to finally find someone who has been doing something illegal and punish them:

▪ It took six years for the law to catch up with them.

2. if something bad from the past catches up with you, you cannot avoid dealing with it any longer:

▪ At the end of the movie his murky past catches up with him.

II. **catch**² *BrE* *AmE* *noun*

1. **[countable]** an act of catching a ball that has been thrown or hit:

▪ Hey! Nice catch!

2. **[countable usually singular] informal** a hidden problem or difficulty:

▪ This deal looks too good to be true – there must be a catch somewhere.

the catch is (that)

▪ The catch is that you can't enter the competition unless you've spent \$100 in the store.

3. **[countable]** a hook or something similar for fastening a door or lid and keeping it shut

4. **[countable]** a quantity of fish that has been caught at one time

5. **[uncountable]** a simple game in which two or more people throw a ball to each other:

▪ Let's go outside and play catch.

6. **a catch in your voice/throat** a short pause that you make when you are speaking, because you feel upset or are beginning to cry:

▪ There was a catch in Anne's voice and she seemed close to tears.

7. **a (good) catch** someone who is a good person to have a relationship with or to marry because they are rich, attractive etc – often used humorously

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catch 27507

catches 5603

catching 6156

caught 39055

uncaught 6

catcher 2399

catchers 523

catchy 553

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