

**cruelty**['kru:əlti] *n*

1. 1) жестокость, безжалостность; бессердечие  
cruelty to animals - жестокое обращение с животными
- 2) жестокий поступок  
cruelties of war - тяжкие военные испытания
2. суровость, жестокость  
the cruelty of fate - жестокость /суровости/ судьбы

**cruelty**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**cruelty** [cruelty cruelties] *BrE* ['kru:əlti] *AmE* ['kru:əlti] *noun* (pl. **cruelties**)

1. **uncountable** ~ (to sb/sth) behaviour that causes pain or suffering to others, especially deliberately
  - cruelty to animals
  - The deliberate cruelty of his words cut her like a knife.
- Opp:** ↑kindness
2. **countable, usually plural** a cruel action
  - Frightening cruelties were inflicted on child factory workers well into the 19th century.
3. **countable, uncountable** something that happens that seems unfair
  - the cruelties of life

Word Origin:Middle English: from Old French *crualte*, based on Latin *crudelitas*, from *crudelis*, related to *crudus* 'raw, rough'.Example Bank:

- Her stepmother showed her nothing but cruelty.
- How can you inflict such cruelty on a child?
- She was shocked to see such cruelty.
- The children suffered mental cruelty and neglect.
- an act of extreme cruelty
- the depths of human cruelty

**cruelty**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**cruel ty** /'kru:əlti/ *BrE* *AmE* *noun* (plural **cruelties**)[Word Family: **noun:** ↑cruelty; **adverb:** ↑cruelly; **adjective:** ↑cruel]

1. [**uncountable and countable**] behaviour or actions that deliberately cause pain to people or animals **OPP kindness:**
  - The children had suffered cruelty and neglect.
  - There was a hint of cruelty in Brian's smile.

**cruelty to**

- cruelty to animals

**cruelty of**

- the cruelty of the slave trade
- The deliberate cruelty of his words cut her like a knife.
- the cruelties of war

2. [**uncountable**] the unfairness of something that happens:
  - the cruelty of life

**cruelty**

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