

doubt

1. [daʊt] n

сомнение; нерешительность, колебание; неясность:

- no doubt - а) без сомнения; no doubt he will come - он, конечно, придёт; б) *разг.* очень может быть
- without /beyond/ (a) doubt, beyond /past/ (all) doubt - вне /без/ сомнения
- beyond a shadow /without a shadow/ of (a) doubt - вне всяких сомнений
- to be in doubt - а) сомневаться; I am in doubt (as to) how to proceed - я не знаю, как мне быть дальше; б) быть неясным; the issue of the battle is still in doubt - исход битвы всё ещё не ясен
- make no doubt about it - не сомневайтесь в этом; можете быть уверены в этом
- to have doubts of /as to/ smb.'s honesty - сомневаться в чьей-л. честности
- I have my doubts whether he will come - я не уверен /сомневаюсь/, что он придёт
- to have /to entertain/ grave doubts about /as to/ smth. - иметь серьёзные опасения по поводу чего-л.
- to throw /to cast/ doubt upon smth. - подвергать что-л. сомнению, брать, что-л. под сомнение
- to raise doubts - возбуждать /вызывать/ сомнения
- to resolve smb.'s doubts - разрешить чьи-л. сомнения
- it's a matter of doubt whether ... - можно усомниться в том, что ...
- there is no doubt of his honesty - в его честности сомневаться не приходится, его честность вне подозрений
- ◇ to give smth. the benefit of the doubt - принять на веру чьи-л. слова *и т. п.* ввиду отсутствия доказательств обратного

2. [daʊt] v

1. сомневаться; подвергать (*что-л.*) сомнению, быть неуверенным (*в чём-л.*)

- to doubt smb.'s honesty - сомневаться в чьей-л. честности
- to doubt one's own eyes - не верить собственным глазам
- there was no doubting his sincerity - не приходилось сомневаться в его искренности
- I doubt if this is true - не думаю, чтобы это было так
- I don't doubt (but) that he will win - я уверен /не сомневаюсь/ в его победе

2. *уст.*, *диал.*

1) бояться, испытывать страх

2) подозревать

- ◇ nothing doubting - ничтоже сумняшеся /сумняся/

doubt

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

doubt [doubt doubts doubted doubting] noun, verb *BrE* [daʊt] ^u *NAmE* [daʊt]

noun uncountable, countable

a feeling of being uncertain about sth or not believing sth

- a feeling of doubt and uncertainty
- ~ **(about sth) There is some doubt** about the best way to do it.
- The article **raised doubts** about how effective the new drug really was.
- ~ **(that...)** **There is no doubt** at all that we did the right thing.
- ~ **(as to sth)** If you are **in any doubt as to whether** you should be doing these exercises, consult your doctor.
- New evidence has **cast doubt on** the guilt of the man jailed for the crime.
- She knew **without a shadow of a doubt** that he was lying to her.
- Whether he will continue to be successful in future is **open to doubt**.

more at give sb the benefit of the doubt **at** ↑benefit _n.

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French *doute* (noun), *douter* (verb), from Latin *dubitare* 'hesitate', from *dubius* 'doubtful'.

Thesaurus:

doubt noun

1. U

- If you're in doubt, wear a suit.

uncertainty • **question** • **a question mark over sth** • **confusion** • **indecision** •

Opp: certainty

doubt/uncertainty/a question mark/confusion/indecision **over** sth

doubt/uncertainty/confusion/indecision **about/as to** sth

in doubt/uncertainty/question

beyond/without doubt/question

come into/be open to doubt/question

Doubt or uncertainty? **Doubt** often refers to a more active state of mind that questions sb/sth; **uncertainty** refers to a less forceful and more passive lack of certainty about sth.

2. C

- I have my doubts about his suitability for the job.

second thoughts • **qualm** • **suspicion** • **scruple** • **misgiving** • |formal **compunction** •

doubts/second thoughts/qualms/suspicions/scruples/misgivings/compunction **about** sth

without (a) doubt/second thought/qualm/scruples/misgivings/compunction

have doubts/second thoughts/qualms/suspicions/scruples/misgivings

impersonal

Giving opinions using impersonal language

It is vital that ▪ more is done to prevent the illegal trade in wild animals. ◇▪ (Compare: *We have to do more to stop people trading wild animals illegally.* ▪)

It is clear that ▪ more needs to be done to protect biodiversity. ◇▪ (Compare: *We clearly need to do more to protect biodiversity.* ▪)

It is unfortunate that ▪ the practice of keeping monkeys as pets still continues. ◇▪ (Compare: *It's absolutely terrible that people still keep monkeys as pets.* ▪)

It is difficult ▪ for many people **to** ▪ understand the reasons why certain individuals choose to hunt animals for sport. ◇▪

(Compare: *I can't understand why anyone would want to kill animals for fun.* ▪)

▪ Unfortunately, **it would seem that** ▪ not enough is being done to support tiger conservation. ◇▪ (Compare: *Governments aren't doing enough to help tiger conservation.* ▪)

There is no doubt that ▪ the greatest threat to polar bears comes from global warming. ◇▪ (Compare: *I believe that the greatest threat... .* ▪)

Language Banks at ↑[opinion](#), ↑[perhaps](#), ↑[vital](#)

Example Bank:

- Doubts have arisen over the viability of the schedule.
- From the start, doubts surrounded her claim to be the missing heiress.
- He made clear his own private doubts about it.
- Her record of dismissals casts doubt on her ability to hold down a job.
- His failure to appear raises serious doubts as to his reliability.
- If in doubt, consult your doctor.
- It is almost impossible to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.
- She is without a doubt the best player I know.
- She leaves no doubt as to her view of Picasso's work.
- She still felt the same nagging doubt: was he really telling the truth?
- Some committee members still had doubts about the plans.
- The announcement dispelled any doubts as to the prince's intentions.
- The arrangements for the event still seemed to be in doubt.
- The evidence proves beyond doubt that he is innocent.
- The proposed development has been thrown into doubt by the decision.
- Their honesty is open to doubt.
- There is little doubt the documents are fake.
- There is no doubt in my mind that this man is Tom.
- They say they'll be here on time, but I have my doubts about that.
- This proves without a shadow of doubt that we were right.
- We have established beyond all reasonable doubt that the painting was indeed by Rembrandt.
- Without the slightest doubt this is a remarkable exhibition.
- He's made some great movies. There's no doubt about it.
- I had been aware of a nagging doubt growing in my mind.
- Some managers have expressed doubts about the wisdom of such a move.
- There is no doubt at all that we did the right thing.
- There is some doubt about the best way to do it.
- We live in an age of doubt and uncertainty.
- Whether he will continue to be successful in future is open to doubt.

Idioms: ↑[beyond doubt](#) ▪ ↑[have your doubts](#) ▪ ↑[if in doubt](#) ▪ ↑[in doubt](#) ▪ ↑[no doubt](#)

Derived Word ↑[doubter](#)

verb

1. to feel uncertain about sth; to feel that sth is not true, will probably not happen, etc

- ~ **sth** There seems no reason to doubt her story.
- 'Do you think England will win?'—' **I doubt it** .'
- ~ **(that)**... I never doubted (that) she would come.
- ~ **whether, if, etc...** I **doubt whether/if** the new one will be any better.

2. ~ **sb/sth** to not trust sb/sth; to not believe sb

- I had no reason to doubt him.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	doubt
	BrE /dɔːt/
	NAmE /daɪt/
he / she / it	doubts
	BrE /dɔːts/
	NAmE /daɪts/
past simple, past participle	doubted
	BrE /dɔːtɪd/
	NAmE /daɪtɪd/
-ing form	doubting
	BrE /dɔːtɪŋ/
	NAmE /daɪtɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French **doute** (noun), **douter** (verb), from Latin **dubitare** 'hesitate', from **dubius** 'doubtful'.

Thesaurus:

doubt verb T

• There's no reason to doubt her story.

question • **challenge** • **dispute** • **contest** • **query** •

doubt/question/challenge/dispute/contest/query **whether...**

doubt/dispute **that...**

doubt/question/challenge/dispute/contest the **validity** of sth

doubt/question/challenge a **story**

Example Bank:

- I didn't doubt for a second that she was telling the truth.
- I never seriously doubted his story.
- Lee privately doubted the truth of this statement.
- 'Do you think England will win?'—'I doubt it.'
- I doubt if the new one will be any better.

doubt

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **doubt**¹ **S1 W1** /daʊt/ BrE [□] AmE [□] *noun*

[Word Family: adjective: ↑doubtful, doubtless, ↑indubitable, ↑undoubted; adverb: ↑doubtfully, ↑indubitably, ↑undoubtedly; noun: ↑doubt, ↑doubter; verb: ↑doubt]

1. [uncountable and countable] a feeling of being not sure whether something is true or right

doubt about

□ The incident raises doubts about the safety of nuclear power.

doubt as to

□ Some government ministers had serious doubts as to whether the policy would work.

□ There was still one little nagging doubt at the back of his mind.

□ There's no doubt that he was a major artist.

2. **no doubt** used when you are saying that you think something is probably true:

□ No doubt you'll have your own ideas.

□ She was a top student, no doubt about it (=it is *certainly true*).

3. **if/when (you're) in doubt** used when advising someone what to do if they are uncertain about something:

□ If in doubt, consult your doctor.

4. **be in doubt** if something is in doubt, it may not happen, continue, exist, or be true:

□ The future of the peace talks is in doubt.

5. **beyond doubt** if something is beyond doubt, it is completely certain:

□ The prosecution must prove beyond reasonable doubt that the accused is guilty of the crime.

put the game/result/match beyond doubt (=do something which makes it certain that a particular player or team will win a match)

□ Ferdinand's second goal put the game beyond doubt.

6. **without doubt** used to emphasize an opinion:

□ Jo is without doubt one of the finest swimmers in the school.

7. **open to doubt** something that is open to doubt has not been proved to be definitely true or real:

□ The authenticity of the relics is open to doubt.

⇒ ↑self-doubt, ⇒ **give somebody/something the benefit of the doubt** at ↑benefit¹(4)

• • •

COLLOCATIONS

■ verbs

▪ **have doubts** Scientists still have some doubts about the theory.

▪ **have your doubts** (=have some doubts) Everyone else thinks it's a good idea, but I have my doubts.

▪ **have no/little doubt** I have no doubt that you are right.

▪ **be in no/any doubt about something** The government is in no doubt about the seriousness of the situation.

▪ **leave no/little doubt (that)** (=make people sure or almost sure about something) The evidence left no doubt that he was the

murderer.

- **cast/throw doubt on something** (=make people unsure about something) Research has cast doubt on the safety of mobile phones.
- **raise doubts about something** (=make people unsure about something) His handling of the matter has raised doubts about his competence.
- **call/throw something into doubt** (=make people unsure about something) The accuracy of his account was called into doubt.
- **express/voice doubts** (=say that you have doubts) Many people expressed doubts about the necessity of the war.

■ **adjectives**

- **serious/grave doubts** They have some serious doubts as to his honesty.
- **considerable doubts** I had considerable doubts about accepting the job.
- **a lingering/nagging doubt** (=one that does not go away) I still had a nagging doubt that there might be something seriously wrong.

■ **phrases**

- **there is no/little/some doubt** (=used to talk about how sure people are about something) There is little doubt that he will play for England one day.
- **without a shadow of a doubt** (=without any doubt) I knew without a shadow of a doubt that I was going to win.
- **an element of doubt** (=a slight doubt) There's an element of doubt about his true age as he doesn't have a birth certificate.
- **not the slightest doubt** (=no doubt) There's not the slightest doubt in my mind about it.

II. **doubt**² **S2** *BrE* ^{*} *AmE* ^{*} **verb** [transitive not in progressive]

[Word Family: adjective: ↑doubtful, doubtless, ↑indubitable, ↑undoubted; adverb: ↑doubtfully, ↑indubitably, ↑undoubtedly; noun: ↑doubt, ↑doubter; verb: ↑doubt]

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: French; Origin: douter, from Latin dubitare]

1. to think that something may not be true or that it is unlikely:

▪ Kim never doubted his story.

doubt (that)

▪ I doubt we'll ever see him again.

doubt if/whether

▪ You can complain, but I doubt if it'll make any difference.

▪ 'Do you think there'll be any tickets left?' 'I doubt it (=I don't think so).'

2. to not trust or have confidence in someone:

▪ I never doubted myself. I always knew I could play tennis at this level.

▪ She loved him, and had never doubted him.

▪ I have no reason to doubt his word (=think that he is lying).

—**doubter** *noun* [countable]

• • •

THESAURUS

- **doubt** to think that something may not be true or that it is unlikely: 'Do you think she really is eighteen?' 'I doubt it.' | There was so much noise that I doubt if anyone slept.
- **be doubtful/dubious** /'djuːbiəs/ 'duː- to doubt that something will happen, is true, or is a good idea: Economists are doubtful that the situation will improve this year. | 'You can eat the whole fish including the head.' Janey looked dubious. | When my husband suggested emigrating, I was dubious at first. | Mum looked doubtful when I suggested having a party for all my friends.
- **have reservations** to feel that a plan or idea may not be good because you think there may be some problems with it: Health care professionals had reservations about giving both vaccines together.
- **have misgivings** to feel worried about doing something, because it may have a bad result: Ralph had serious misgivings about changing his career at the age of 50.
- **have mixed feelings** to be unsure exactly how you feel about something or someone because there are both good and bad things about them: I have very mixed feelings about moving house – it's exciting but I'll miss this area.
- **have second thoughts** to start having doubts about whether a decision you have just made is the right one: I liked the dress in the shop, but when I got it home I had second thoughts.

doubt

Freakuency Pack

12500 **778**^{MCW}

15000 **1025**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k** **DOUBT** 45481

doubt 29245

doubted 2125

doubtful 1835

doubtfully 214

doubter 50

doubters 326

doubting 521

doubtless 1072

undoubted 82

undoubtedly 4241

doubts 5770

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

11160 **2930**¹⁴⁴²⁰ *nn1*

6044 **5190**⁷³⁶² *rr22*
4647 **6632**⁵⁴¹³ *vv0*
1809 **13379**²⁰²⁴ *vvi*
14 **214316**¹⁴ *nnu*
12 **232536**¹² *jj*
