

serious['si(ə)rɪəs] *a***1. серьёзный; глубокомысленный**

serious worker - серьёзный работник

serious mind - глубокий ум

serious reading - серьёзная литература

serious range - **воен.** действительная дальность

to be serious about smth. - серьёзно относиться к чему-л.

to become serious - стать серьёзным

to be in a serious mood - быть серьёзно настроенным

to look serious - иметь серьёзный вид

to give smth. a serious thought - а) серьёзно о чём-л. подумать; б) принять что-л. всерьёз

you can't be serious - вы, наверное, шутите

I'm serious - я не шучу, я говорю серьёзно

he's never serious - он ко всему относится легко

2. важный

serious thought [matter] - важная /серьёзная/ мысль [-ый вопрос]

serious objections - существенные /серьёзные/ возражения

3. внушающий опасения, опасный

serious illness [mistake] - опасная болезнь [ошибка]

serious wound - тяжёлое ранение

things are becoming serious - положение становится угрожающим; положение осложняется

serious

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

ser-ious *BrE* ['sɪəriəs] ^{*} *NAmE* ['sɪriəs] ^{*} *adjective***BAD****1. bad or dangerous**• a **serious illness/problem/offence**• to cause **serious injury/damage**

• They pose a serious threat to security.

• The consequences could be serious.

NEEDING THOUGHT**2. needing to be thought about carefully; not only for pleasure**

• a serious article

• a serious newspaper

• It's time to give serious consideration to this matter.

IMPORTANT**3. that must be treated as important**

• We need to get down to the serious business of working out costs.

• The team is a serious contender for the title this year.

NOT SILLY**4. thinking about things in a careful and sensible way; not silly**• **Be serious** for a moment; this is important.

• I'm afraid I'm not a very serious person.

NOT JOKING**5. sincere about sth; not joking or meant as a joke**• Believe me, I'm **deadly** (= extremely) **serious**.

• Don't laugh, it's a serious suggestion.

• ~ **(about doing sth)** Is she serious about wanting to sell the house?• ~ **(about sb/sth)** He's really serious about Penny and wants to get engaged.

• She doesn't have a serious boyfriend.

• *(informal)* **You can't be serious!** (= you must be joking)• You think I did it? **Be serious!** (= what you suggest is ridiculous)**LARGE AMOUNT****6. (informal) used to emphasize that there is a large amount of sth**

• You can earn serious money doing that.

• I'm ready to do some serious eating (= I am very hungry).

Word Origin:late Middle English: from Old French **serieux** or late Latin **seriosus**, from Latin **serius** 'earnest, serious'.Thesaurus:

serious [serious] adj.

1.

- These explosives pose a serious threat to security.

severe • **critical** • **acute** • **extreme** • **drastic** • **desperate** • **life-threatening** • |formal **grave** • |especially BrE, formal **dire** • |especially spoken **bad** •

Opp: minor

a/an serious/severe/critical/acute/desperate/life-threatening/grave/bad **problem**

a/an severe/serious/acute/extreme/desperate/dire **shortage**

a/an severe/serious/critical/acute/life-threatening/grave **illness**

serious/severe/acute/extreme/grave **danger**

Serious or severe? **Serious** is not used to describe weather conditions:

- a severe winter

✗ a serious winter **Serious** is used to describe medical conditions in everyday English; in medical English **severe** is used.

2.

- Please give this matter some serious thought.

deep • **profound** •

Opp: trivial, **Opp:** superficial

a serious/deep/profound **question/issue/analysis**

a serious/deep **conversation/discussion**

3.

- She looked at him with a serious expression.

solemn • **earnest** • |written **sober** • **grave** • |BrE, written **sombre** • |AmE, written **somber** • |BrE, disapproving **humourless**

• |AmE, disapproving **humorless** •

Opp: light-hearted

a/an serious/solemn/earnest/sober/grave/sombre **expression**

a serious/solemn/sober/sombre **mood/atmosphere**

on a serious/sober/sombre note

Synonyms:

serious

grave • earnest • solemn

These words all describe sb who thinks and behaves carefully and sensibly, but often without much joy or laughter.

serious • thinking about things in a careful and sensible way; not laughing about sth: ▪ He's not really a very serious person. ◇▪

Be serious ▪ for a moment; this is important.

grave • (rather formal) (of a person) serious in manner, as if sth sad, important, or worrying has just happened: ▪ He looked very grave as he entered the room.

earnest • serious and sincere: ▪ The earnest young doctor answered all our questions.

solemn • looking or sounding very serious, without smiling; done or said in a very serious and sincere way: ▪ Her expression grew solemn. ◇▪ I made a ▪ solemn promise ▪ that I would return.

a(n) serious/grave/earnest/solemn **expression/face**

a serious/solemn **mood/atmosphere**

Example Bank:

- Are you serious about resigning?
- By this time the riots were getting serious.
- Come on, be serious!
- He became serious all of a sudden.
- Joe is deadly serious in his beliefs.
- Please try to stay serious!
- The crime is considered serious enough to warrant a jail term.
- These are terribly serious allegations.
- This situation could be very serious for her.
- Be serious for a moment; this is important.
- He admitted to having made a serious error of judgement.
- He died after suffering from a serious illness.
- He used to write somewhat serious articles for the university newspaper.
- He's not really a very serious person.
- It's time for a serious debate about the issue.
- Please give this matter some serious thought.
- She was looking at him with a serious expression on her face.
- Suddenly the conversation turned serious.
- The speech was interesting, if a little serious for such a young audience.
- The storm caused serious damage to farm buildings.
- This book is the first serious study of the subject.
- Why do you waste your time reading that? It's hardly a serious newspaper, is it?

[Date: 1400-1500; Language: French; Origin: sérieux, from Late Latin *seriosus*, from Latin *serius*]

1. **SITUATION/PROBLEM** a serious situation, problem, accident etc is extremely bad or dangerous:

- the serious problem of unemployment
- Luckily, the damage was not serious.
- Serious crimes have increased dramatically.

serious injury/illness/accident etc

- a serious accident on the freeway
- Oil spills pose a serious threat to marine life.
- The president was in serious trouble. ⇒ see *Thesaurus box on P. 1590*

2. **IMPORTANT** important and needing a lot of thought or attention:

- This is a very serious matter.
- the serious business of earning a living
- Be quiet, Jim. This is serious.

3. **NOT JOKING OR PRETENDING** if someone is serious about something they say or plan to do, they really mean it and are not joking or pretending:

- His voice suddenly became more serious.
- a serious article

serious about

- Is she serious about giving up her job?

deadly/dead serious (=definitely not joking)

- She sounded dead serious.
- Marry Frank? You can't be serious!

4. **CAREFUL serious attention/consideration/thought** careful and thorough attention etc:

- I'll give your suggestion serious consideration.

5. **QUIET/SENSIBLE** someone who is serious is very quiet and sensible, and does not laugh and joke much:

- a serious student

6. **WORRIED/UNHAPPY** slightly worried or unhappy:

- You look serious. What's wrong?

7. **ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP** a serious romantic relationship is likely to continue for a long time:

- It's serious – they've been seeing each other for six months.

serious about

- Are you really serious about her?

serious boyfriend/girlfriend

8. **SPORT/ACTIVITY [only before noun]** very interested in an activity or subject, and spending a lot of time doing it:

- He's become a serious golfer since he retired.
- Chris is a serious photographer.

9. **VERY GOOD [only before noun] informal** very good and often expensive:

- He's got a serious car!

10. **LARGE AMOUNT [only before noun] informal** used to emphasize that you are talking about a large amount of something:

- In industry, you can earn serious money.

• • •

COLLOCATIONS

nouns

- a serious problem** Vandalism is a serious problem in the area.
- a serious injury/illness** The driver was taken to hospital with serious injuries.
- a serious accident** He is recovering from a serious accident.
- serious damage** The explosion sparked a fire which caused serious damage to their flat.
- a serious threat** In the developed world, over-consumption is now a serious threat to health.
- a serious crime/offence** Kidnapping is a serious crime.
- serious trouble** The economy was in serious trouble.
- serious consequences** Neglecting to make a proper will can have serious consequences.

• • •

THESAURUS

very bad

- serious** very bad – used about problems, accidents, illnesses, or crimes: Violent crime is a serious problem in and around the capital. | The boy was taken to hospital with serious head injuries. | Fortunately, the damage to the car was not serious.
- severe** very serious – used about problems, injuries, and illnesses: He suffered severe injuries in a car crash. | The problem became so severe that they had to bring water in from other countries. | severe epilepsy
- grave** used about a situation that is very serious and worrying, especially because it is dangerous or seems likely to get worse: A thick fog descended and I knew that we were in grave danger. | The situation is grave – war now seems inevitable.
- acute** used about an illness, problem, or situation that has become very serious or dangerous, and needs to be dealt with quickly: She was taken to the hospital suffering from acute appendicitis. | In San Diego, the shortage of skilled workers is acute.
- desperate** used about a situation or problem that is very serious or dangerous, especially because a lot of people need urgent help: The situation is desperate – people here need aid before the harsh winter sets in. | The hospital is full of people in desperate need of medical attention.
- critical** used about a situation that is very serious and dangerous and might get worse suddenly: In 1991, the food supply situation became critical. | Eight people were killed and four are still in a critical condition.
- life-threatening** used about a situation, illness, or condition in which someone could die: Her child had a potentially life-threatening illness. | The situation was not life-threatening, but it was very worrying.

▪ **be a matter of life and death** *spoken* to be extremely serious – used when a situation is very urgent or important: For people living with HIV, getting the right treatment is literally a matter of life and death.

■ **not joking**

- **serious** not joking or laughing, or not pretending: His voice sounded serious. | They seem to be serious about their relationship.
- **solemn** very serious because of an important or sad occasion or ceremony: My father looked solemn, the way grown-ups look at funerals. | The judge read the verdict in a solemn voice.
- **grave** *written* quiet and very serious – used especially about the way people look when something important or worrying happens: She consulted Doctor Staples and returned looking grave. | He listened with a grave expression on his face.
- **sombre** *British English* (also **somber** *American English*) /'sʌmbə \$ 'sɑːmbə/ *written* sad, quiet, or serious because something unpleasant or worrying has happened or is going to happen: They sat in sombre silence. | The meeting began in a sombre mood.
- **earnest** very serious and sincere – often used about someone who is young and not very experienced: He was a rather earnest-looking young man. | 'That's wrong,' she said, her voice sounding very earnest.

serious

Freakuency Pack

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15000 **640**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k** **SERIOUS** 73648

serious 52407

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COCA 500k Unlemmatized

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