

## riddle

I

1. ['rɪdl] *n*
  1. загадка  
to solve a riddle - отгадать загадку  
to talk in riddles - говорить загадками
  2. тайна, загадка  
riddles of the universe - тайны вселенной /мироздания/
  3. загадочный человек  
he is a riddle to me - он для меня загадка
2. ['rɪdl] *v*
  1. 1) говорить загадками, говорить загадочно  
2) загадывать загадки
  2. отгадывать, разгадывать загадки  
riddle me a riddle, riddle my riddle - разгадай мою загадку  
riddle me why ... - отгадай, почему ...

II

1. ['rɪdl] *n*
  1. решето, грохот, сито
  2. щит, экран  
◇ to make a riddle of smth., smb. - изрешетить что-л., кого-л.
2. ['rɪdl] *v*
  1. просеивать, грохотить  
to riddle soil [coal] - просеивать землю [уголь]  
to riddle wheat - грохотить/просеивать/ пшеницу
  2. решетить, дырявить  
to riddle a wall [a person] with shots - изрешетить стену [человека] пулями
  3. подвергать суровой критике; показывать несостоятельность (чего-л.); не оставлять камня на камне (от чего-л.)  
to riddle smb.'s argument - разбить чьи-л. доводы /аргументы/  
to riddle a theory - опровергнуть теорию по всем пунктам /статьям/  
to riddle smb.'s reputation - погубить чью-л. репутацию, подорвать чьё-л. доброе имя
  4. пронизывать  
a murder riddled with puzzles - убийство, состоящее из сплошных загадок /где загадка на загадке/  
the report is riddled with elementary errors - доклад пестрит элементарными ошибками

## riddle

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

rid·dle [riddle riddles riddled riddling] *noun, verb* *BrE* ['rɪdl] <sup>ˈ</sup> *NAmE* ['rɪdl] <sup>ˈ</sup>

*noun*

1. a question that is difficult to understand, and that has a surprising answer, that you ask sb as a game
  - Stop **talking in riddles** (= saying things that are confusing) — say what you mean.
  - to solve the riddle of the Sphinx
2. a mysterious event or situation that you cannot explain

**Syn:** ↑mystery

- the riddle of how the baby died

Word Origin:

*n.* Old English *ræddels* *ræddelse* 'opinion, conjecture, riddle' Dutch *raadsel* German *Rätsel* ↑read

*v.* late Old English *hriddel* Indo-European Latin *cribrum* 'sieve' *cernere* 'separate' Greek *krinein* 'decide'

Example Bank:

- The riddle of his identity was only solved when his brother saw him on TV.

Idiom: ↑riddled with something*verb usually passive* ~ **sb/sth (with sth)**

to make a lot of holes in sb/sth

- The car was **riddled with bullets** .
- a bullet-riddled car

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	riddle
	BrE / 'rɪdl/
	NAme / 'rɪdl/
he / she / it	riddles
	BrE / 'rɪdlz/
	NAme / 'rɪdlz/
past simple, past participle	riddled
	BrE / 'rɪdlɪd/
	NAme / 'rɪdlɪd/
-ing form	riddling
	BrE / 'rɪdlɪŋ/
	NAme / 'rɪdlɪŋ/

Word Origin:

- n. Old English *ræðels* *ræðelse* 'opinion, conjecture, riddle' Dutch *raadsel* German *Rätsel* ↑read
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riddle

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **riddle**<sup>1</sup> /'rɪdl/ BrE " AmE " noun [countable]

[Language: Old English; Origin: *ræðelse* 'opinion, guess, riddle']

- a question that is deliberately very confusing and has a humorous or clever answer ⇒ **puzzle**:  
" See if you can *solve* this *riddle*.
- something that you do not understand and cannot explain **SYN puzzle**, **mystery**  
**riddle of**  
" The police have been unable to *solve* the *riddle* of her disappearance.
- talk/speak in riddles** to say things in a mysterious way that other people cannot understand:  
" Stop *talking in riddles* and explain what's going on!
- a wire container with holes in it that is used to separate earth from stones

II. **riddle**<sup>2</sup> BrE " AmE " verb [transitive]

[Date: 1200-1300; Origin: *riddle* 'sieve' (11-21 centuries), from Old English *hriddel*]

- to make a lot of small holes in something:  
" Two gunmen *riddled* the bus with gunfire.
- to shake the coal or wood in a fire, in order to remove ↑ashes

riddle

Freakuency Pack

12500 **9447**<sup>MCW</sup>  
15000 **5926**<sup>COCA</sup>  
RANGE: **7k** RIDDLE 2418  
riddle 1063  
riddles 469  
riddled 817  
riddling 69  
COCA 500k Unlemmatized  
480 **25150**<sup>750</sup> *nn1*  
99 **53156**<sup>199</sup> *np1*  
72 **80159**<sup>90</sup> *vv0*  
18 **186887**<sup>18</sup> *vvi*  
5 **355033**<sup>6</sup> *nnu*