

pretext1. [ˈpriːteksɪ] *n*

предлог, отговорка

on some pretext or other - под тем или иным предлогом

on /upon, under/ the pretext of /that/ - под предлогом того, что

to find a pretext for delay /for delaying/ - найти оправдание для задержки

2. [ˌpriːˈteksɪ] *v*приводить в качестве отговорки *или* оправдания; отговариваться**pretext**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

pre-text [pretext pretexts] *BrE* [ˈpriːteksɪ] *NAme* [ˈpriːteksɪ] *noun* ~ (for**sth/for doing sth) | ~ (to do sth)**

a false reason that you give for doing sth, usually sth bad, in order to hide the real reason; an excuse

- The incident was used as a pretext for intervention in the area.
- He left the party early **on the pretext of** having work to do.
- Be careful not to give him a pretext to report you.
- People were being arrested on the flimsiest of pretexts.

Word Origin:early 16th cent.: from Latin **praetextus** 'outward display', from the verb **praetexere** 'to disguise', from **prae** 'before' + **texere** 'weave' .Synonyms:**reason**

explanation • grounds • basis • excuse • motive • justification • pretext

These are all words for a cause or an explanation for sth that has happened or that sb has done.

reason • a cause or an explanation for sth that has happened or that sb has done; a fact that makes it right or fair to do sth: ▫ He said no but he didn't give a reason.**explanation** • a statement, fact or situation that tells you why sth has happened; a reason given for sth: ▫ The most likely explanation is that his plane was delayed. ◊ ▫ She left the room abruptly without explanation.**grounds** • (rather formal) a good or true reason for saying, doing or believing sth: ▫ You have no grounds for complaint.**basis** • (rather formal) the reason why people take a particular action: ▫ On what basis will this decision be made?**excuse** • a reason, either true or invented, that you give to explain or defend your behaviour; a good reason that you give for doing sth that you want to do for other reasons: ▫ Late again! What's your excuse this time? ◊ ▫ It gave me an excuse to take the car.**motive** • a reason that explains sb's behaviour: ▫ There seemed to be no motive for the murder.**justification** • (rather formal) a good reason why sth exists or is done: ▫ I can see no possible justification for any further tax increases.**grounds or justification?****Justification** is used to talk about finding or understanding reasons for actions, or trying to explain why it is a good idea to do sth.It is often used with words like **little**, **no**, **some**, **every**, **without**, and **not any**. **Grounds** is used more for talking about reasons that already exist, or that have already been decided, for example by law: **moral/economic grounds**.**pretext** • (rather formal) a false reason that you give for doing sth, usually sth bad, in order to hide the real reason: ▫ He left the party early on the pretext of having to work.(a/an) reason/explanation/grounds/basis/excuse/motive/justification/pretext **for** sththe reason/motive **behind** sth**on the** grounds/basis/pretext **of/that...**(a) **good/valid** reason/explanation/grounds/excuse/motive/justificationExample Bank:

- He disappeared into his study on the pretext that he had work to do there.
- He keeps popping into my office on the slightest pretext.
- He used his research as a pretext for going to Hungary.
- Several schools banned the game on flimsy pretexts.
- This was a false pretext to attack another country.
- Under the pretext of checking her identity, the man had copied down her credit card details.

pretext

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

pre-text /ˈpriːteksɪ *BrE* *AmE* *noun* [countable]

[Date: 1500-1600; Language: Latin; Origin: praetextus, from praetexere 'to weave in front, make an excuse']

a false reason given for an action, in order to hide the real reason

pretext for" The incident provided the pretext for war.**on/under the pretext of doing something**

" Tom called at her apartment on the pretext of asking for a book.

on/under the pretext that

" He left immediately on the pretext that he had a train to catch.

" He'll phone on some pretext or other.

• • •

THESAURUS

■ a reason that does not seem believable

- **excuse** a reason that you give to explain why you have done something bad, or not done something that you should have done – especially one that is not completely true: She said she couldn't come because she had to work late, but it was just an excuse. | a feeble excuse (=one that is hard to believe)
- **pretext** *especially written* an untrue reason that you give for doing or not doing something, in order to hide the real reason: He would often find some pretext to go out in the evening alone. | They used this as a pretext for taking military action.

pretext

Freakuency Pack

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15000 **9068**^{COCA}

RANGE: **11k** PRETEXT⁸⁷⁵

pretext⁸¹³

pretexts⁶²

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

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