

vain1. [veɪn] *n* *усл.*

тщета; тщеславие

2. [veɪn] *a*

1. тщетный, напрасный, бесполезный

vain regrets - напрасные сожаления

vain attempt - тщетная /безуспешная/ попытка

vain discussion - бесплодный спор

our hopes were vain - наши надежды не сбылись

all resistance is vain, to resist is vain, it is vain to resist - сопротивление бесполезно

it is vain for you to try - вы напрасно стараетесь

2. пустой; суетный; поверхностный

vain pleasures - пустые развлечения

vain promise [boasts] - пустое обещание [-ая похвальба]

vain pomp - показное великолепие

under a vain pretext - под надуманным предлогом

3. тщеславный; самодовольный, самовлюблённый, полный самомнения

to be vain of smth. - кичиться чем-л.

as vain as a peacock - ≅ надутый как индюк

4. *усл.* пустой, глупый (о человеке)

◇ in vain - а) напрасно, безрезультатно, тщетно; зря; we protested in vain, it was in vain that we protested - мы безуспешно

протестовали; all our work was in vain - вся наша работа пошла прахом /оказалась напрасной/; б) **возвыш.** всуе; напрасно; to take the name of the Lord in vain - **блбл.** всуе употреблять имя господне; to take smb.'s name in vain - без всяких оснований

ссылаться на кого-л.; спекулировать чьим-л. именем [авторитетом]

vain

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

vain [vain vainer vainest] *BrE* [veɪn] ^ˈ *NAmE* [veɪn] ^ˈ adjective

1. that does not produce the result you want

Syn: ↑useless• She closed her eyes tightly **in a vain attempt** to hold back the tears.• I knocked loudly **in the vain hope** that someone might answer.

2. (disapproving) too proud of your own appearance, abilities or achievements

Syn: ↑conceited

• She's too vain to wear glasses.

see also ↑vanity**more at** take sb's name in vain **at** ↑name *n.***Idiom:** ↑in vainWord Origin:Middle English (in the sense 'without real worth'): via Old French from Latin *vanus* 'empty, without substance'.Example Bank:

- Their flattery made him vain.
- very vain about his looks
- He's so vain!
- I don't think it's vain to care about how you look.
- She's too vain to wear glasses.
- The government spent billions in a vain bid to prop up the currency.

vain

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

vain /veɪn/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ adjective[**Date:** 1300-1400; **Language:** Old French; **Origin:** Latin *vanus* 'empty, vain']1. someone who is vain is too proud of their good looks, abilities, or position – used to show disapproval **SYN** **conceited**:

• Men can be just as vain as women.

2. **in vain**

a) without success in spite of your efforts:

• Police searched in vain for the missing gunman.

b) without purpose or without positive results:

• Altman swore that his son's death would not be in vain. ⇒ **take sb's name in vain** at ↑name¹(12)

3. a vain attempt, hope, or search fails to achieve the result you wanted

vain attempt/effort/bid• The young mother died **in a vain attempt** to save her drowning son.4. **vain threat/promise etc** *literary* a threat, promise etc that is not worrying because the person cannot do what they say they will**—vainly** *adverb*:

• The instructor struggled vainly to open his parachute.

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COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 3)

■ nouns

- **a vain attempt/bid/effort** People close their windows at night in a vain attempt to shut out the sound of gunfire.
- **a vain hope** Young men moved south in the vain hope of finding work.
- **a vain search** Mothers have been to every shop in town in a vain search for the toy.

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THESAURUS

- **proud** very pleased with what you, your family, or your country have achieved, or of something you own: I felt so proud when my son graduated from college. | Judith's very proud of her new Ferrari.
- **pleased with yourself** feeling pleased because something good has happened, especially because you think you have been very clever, skilful etc: He was smoking a big cigar and was obviously pleased with himself. | I'd made a big profit and was feeling pretty pleased with myself.
- **arrogant** *disapproving* behaving in an unpleasant and annoying way, because you think you are better or know more than other people, and that your opinions are always right: He was arrogant and regarded people who disagreed with him as fools. | his arrogant attitude to women
- **vain** *disapproving* too proud of your appearance, in a way that annoys other people: He's so vain – he thinks all the girls fancy him.
- **conceited/big-headed** *disapproving* proud of yourself because you think you are very intelligent, skilful, beautiful etc, especially without good reason and in a way that annoys people: Stewart's the most arrogant conceited person I've ever known. | She was offered a brilliant job and became incredibly big-headed overnight.
- **pompous** *disapproving* thinking that you are much more important than you really are, and using very long and formal words to try to sound important: The clerk was a pompous little man with glasses. | a pompous speech
- **smug** *disapproving* pleased with yourself in a quiet but annoying way because you think you are in a better position than other people: Milly was looking very smug about coming top of the class. | a smug expression
- **self-satisfied** *disapproving* pleased with what you have achieved and showing it clearly in an annoying way: She glared angrily into his self-satisfied face. | a self-satisfied grin

vain

Freakuency Pack

12500 **6761**^{MCW}

15000 **5355**^{COCA}

RANGE: **6k** **VAIN** 2731

vain 2482

vainer 5

vainest 5

vainly 239

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

1354 **16273**¹⁵⁰² *rr22*

845 **21349**⁹⁸⁰ *jj*