

**brief**1. [bri:f] *n*

1. краткое изложение; сводка, резюме  
in brief - вкратце, в немногих словах

2. *юр.*

1) краткое письменное изложение дела (*составленное солиситором для барристера*)

2) *разг.* дело, клиент

to take a brief - а) принимать ведение дела в суде; б) выступать в защиту (*кого-л.*)

to hold a brief - а) вести дело в суде в качестве барристера; б) выступать в защиту (*кого-л.*)

to have plenty of briefs - иметь большую практику (*об адвокате*)

3. *юр.* предложение суда ответчику удовлетворить предъявленный ему иск

4. папское бревно

5. *воен.* инструкция, даваемая лётчику перед боевым вылетом

◇ to hold no brief (for) - не отстаивать, не защищать; быть не в восторге от, не восхищаться

I hold no /little/ brief for that - я отнюдь не являюсь сторонником этого

2. [bri:f] *a*

1. короткий, недолгий

brief experience - небольшой опыт

brief review - краткий обзор

brief remarks - краткие замечания

2. лаконичный, краткий, сжатый (*о слове*)

to be brief - короче говоря

3. *редк.* резкий, грубый (*о манерах*)

4. *диал.* распространённый, обычный (*о болезни*)

3. [bri:f] *adv*

1. *уст.* короче говоря

2. *поэт.* вскоре, тотчас

4. [bri:f] *v*

1. кратко излагать; резюмировать

2. *юр.*

1) давать инструкции адвокату

2) поручать ведение дела

3. 1) подробно осведомлять

2) устраивать брифинг

3) инструктировать (*лётчика перед боевым вылетом*)

4. *разг.* рассказывать

**brief**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**brief** **AW** [brief briefs briefed briefing briefer briefest] **adjective, noun, verb** **BrE**

[briːf] **NAme** [briːf]

**adjective** (**brief-er**, **brief-est**)

**1.** lasting only a short time; short

- a brief visit/meeting/conversation
- a brief pause/silence
- Mozart's life was brief.

**2.** using few words

- a brief description/summary/account
- Please **be brief** (= say what you want to say quickly) .

**3.** (*of clothes*) short and not covering much of the body

- a brief skirt

**see also** ↑brevity, ↑briefly

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French **brief**, from Latin **brevis** 'short'. The noun is via late Latin **breve** 'note, dispatch', hence 'an official letter'.

Thesaurus:

**brief** **adj.**

**1.**

- It was only a brief visit.

**short** • **quick** • **momentary** • **passing** • **temporary** • **short-lived** • **hasty** • **hurried** • **written** **fleeting** •

**Opp:** long

a brief/short/temporary **stay**

a brief/short/passing/fleeting **moment**

a brief/quick/momentary/passing **glance** /**glimpse**

**Brief or short?** **Brief** is used more frequently than **short** to describe a **look, glance, glimpse, smile** or **sigh**. **Short** is used to describe books, lists, projects, etc. that take only a short while to complete, and is used more often in informal and spoken English.

**2.**

• Please be brief.

**short** • **concise** • **economical** • |**approving** **succinct** • **pithy** • |**sometimes disapproving** **terse** • |**usually disapproving** **curt** • • **brusque** •

**Opp:** long-winded

a brief/short/concise/succinct/terse/curt **answer/statement**

a brief/short/concise/succinct/terse **summary/account**

a brief/short/concise **version**

**Brief or short?** A **mention** is usually **brief**; an **answer** is more likely to be **short**. **Brief** is often used when talking about speech: ✗ **Please be short.**

#### Example Bank:

- Could you make it brief? I've got a meeting in ten minutes.
- I promised to be brief.
- The diary entries were tantalizingly brief.
- The wait was mercifully brief, little more than an hour.
- This necessarily brief account concentrates on two main areas.
- David gave me a brief summary of what was said at the meeting.
- He began with a brief introduction.
- Mozart's life was brief.
- Please be brief.
- Saunders's lawyer made a brief statement to the press outside the court.
- Sean gave a brief glance at the screen.
- The author makes only a brief mention of the role of Japan in this period.
- The leaflet provides a brief description of the changes to the benefits system.
- The prime minister is due to make a brief visit to South Korea.
- There was a brief silence after I made my announcement.

Idioms: ↑**hold no brief for somebody** ▪ ↑**in brief**

#### noun

**see also** ↑**briefs**

1. (BrE) the instructions that a person is given explaining what their job is and what their duties are
  - It wasn't part of his brief to speak to the press.
  - I was **given the brief** of reorganizing the department.
  - **to stick to your brief** (= to only do what you are asked to do)
  - to **prepare/produce a brief** for sb
2. (BrE, law) a legal case that is given to a lawyer to argue in court; a piece of work for a ↑**barrister**
  - Will you accept this brief?
3. (NAmE, law) a written summary of the facts that support one side of a legal case, that will be presented to a court
4. (BrE, informal) a ↑**solicitor** or a defence lawyer
  - I want to see my brief.
5. (especially NAmE) = ↑**briefing** (2)
  - Officials are pushing for this target to be included in the next presidential brief.

#### Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French **brief**, from Latin **brevis** 'short'. The noun is via late Latin **breve** 'note, dispatch', hence 'an official letter'.

#### Example Bank:

- He told me to stick to my brief.
- How the new policy is to be implemented is outside his brief.
- I hold no brief for either side in this conflict.
- It's not part of my brief to advise on financial matters.
- She makes all these points in her brief.
- We were given daily briefs by the commander.
- a technical brief on food hygiene

#### verb

1. to give sb information about sth so that they are prepared to deal with it
  - ~ **sb** I expect to be kept fully briefed at all times.
  - ~ **sb on/about sth** The officer briefed her on what to expect.

**compare** ↑**debrief**

2. ~ **sb (to do sth)** (BrE, law) to give a lawyer, especially a ↑**barrister**, the main facts of a legal case so that it can be argued in court

## Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	brief
	BrE /brɪ:f/
	NAme /brɪ:f/
he / she / it	briefs
	BrE /brɪ:fs/
	NAme /brɪ:fs/
past simple, past participle	briefed
	BrE /brɪ:ft/
	NAme /brɪ:ft/
-ing form	briefing
	BrE /brɪ:frɪŋ/
	NAme /brɪ:frɪŋ/

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## Example Bank:

- Each member of my crew took it in turn to brief me on his particular duties.
- The men have been fully briefed about the intended mission.

## brief

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

### I. **brief**<sup>1</sup> **S2 W2 AC** /brɪf BrE<sup>ˈ</sup> AmE<sup>ˈ</sup> **adjective**

[Word Family: **adverb** ↑**briefly**; **adjective**: ↑**brief**]

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: Latin *brevis*]

#### 1. continuing for a short time ⇒ **brevity**:

- We stopped by Alice's house for a brief visit.
- Let's keep this conversation brief; I have a plane to catch.

#### a **brief period/moment/spell** etc

- Greene spent a brief time at Cambridge.

#### 2. using very few words or including few details ⇒ **brevity**:

- The president read a brief statement to reporters before boarding his plane.
- a brief description of the film

#### 3. **be brief** to say or write something using only a few words, especially because there is little time:

- I'll be brief; a lot of changes are going to happen.

#### 4. clothes that are brief are short and cover only a small area of your body:

- a very brief bikini

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## COLLOCATIONS

### ■ nouns

- a **brief period/time** He lived there all his life, apart from a brief period during the war.
- a **brief spell** (=time) For a brief spell in early summer it is the most beautiful of all the trees.
- a **brief moment** The old lady's gaze rested on her for a brief moment.
- a **brief visit** The President flew to Argentina for a brief visit.
- a **brief look** He gave her a brief look.
- a **brief glimpse** (=a sight of something that lasts for a short time) From the train I had a brief glimpse of the city.
- a **brief pause** There was a brief pause before he replied.
- a **brief silence** After a brief silence, she made another suggestion.
- a **brief appearance** He made a brief appearance before reporters outside his Manhattan townhouse.

### II. **brief**<sup>2</sup> **AC BrE<sup>ˈ</sup> AmE<sup>ˈ</sup> noun** [countable]

#### 1. [usually singular] official instructions that explain what someone's job is, what their duties are etc:

- The architect's brief is to design an extension that is modern but blends with the rest of the building.

#### 2. **law** a short spoken or written statement giving facts about a law case:

- The ACLU filed a brief (=gave one to the court) opposing the decision.

#### 3. **British English law** a law case that a lawyer will argue in a court

#### 4. a short report about something

#### 5. **in brief**

##### a) in as few words as possible:

- We should, in brief, invest heavily in digital systems.

##### b) without any details:

- Here again are today's headlines in brief.

#### 6. **briefs** [plural] men's or women's underwear worn on the lower part of the body

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## THESAURUS

- **lawyer** someone whose job is to advise people about laws, write formal agreements, or represent people in court: His lawyer told him to plead guilty.
- **attorney** *American English* a lawyer. **Attorney** sounds more formal than **lawyer**: 'The United States sees intellectual property rights as sacred,' said Thomas Klitgaard, an attorney specializing in international law. | Acting on the advice of his attorney, he

remained silent throughout the questioning.

- **solicitor** a type of lawyer in Britain who gives legal advice, prepares the documents when property is bought or sold, and defends people, especially in the lower courts of law: She works as a commercial property solicitor at Nabarro Nathanson in London. | He went to the family solicitor to make a will.
- **barrister** a lawyer in Britain who can argue cases in the higher law courts: McWalter's barrister, Hugh Vass, stressed his client's previous good character.
- **advocate** *formal* a formal word for a lawyer in American English, or a barrister in Scotland: The committee can put questions to the defendant or his advocate.
- **brief** *British English informal* the lawyer who represents someone in a court case: His brief asked for a fine rather than a prison sentence.
- **counsel** [*uncountable*] the lawyer or group of lawyers who are representing someone in court: counsel for the defence/prosecution

### III. **brief**<sup>3</sup> **AC** *BrE* <sup>°</sup> *AmE* <sup>°</sup> *verb* [transitive]

to give someone all the information about a situation that they will need ⇒ **briefing**

**brief somebody on something**

" The president has been fully briefed on the current situation in Haiti.

⇒ **↑debrief**

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### THESAURUS

- **tell** to give someone information by speaking or writing to them: She wrote to tell me she was getting married. | Can you tell us where the nearest garage is?
- **let somebody know** *especially spoken* to tell someone something when you know more about it: Let me know your new address as soon as you can. | Let us know what happens at the interview.
- **pass a message on to somebody** (*also pass it on informal*) to tell another person the information that has been told to you: She's with a client at the moment, but I'll pass the message on to her. | If I get any news, I'll pass it on.
- **brief** to give someone all the necessary information about a situation, so that they can do their work: Police officers were briefed before going out to arrest the suspects.
- **relate** *formal* to tell someone about something that happened to you or to someone else: One girl related a story about a friend who had accidentally become pregnant.
- **recount** *formal* to tell someone about a series of events: The guide recounted the history of the castle, from the 1300s onwards.
- **bring something to sb's attention** to tell someone about something that they did not know about, but which they need to know about: I wanted to bring the matter to your attention. | She was the first person to study the effects of pesticides, and to bring them to people's attention.
- **fill somebody in** *informal* to tell someone about things that have happened recently, especially at work: Can you fill Robert in on the progress we've made while he's been on holiday?

## brief

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1874**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **1258**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k** **BRIEF** 35250

brief 17823

briefed 1286

briefing 3135

briefings 905

briefly 10502

briefs 1111

briefest 279

briefer 209

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

12261 **2665**<sup>16013</sup> *jj*

448 **25809**<sup>719</sup> *nn1*

430 **32592**<sup>481</sup> *rr22*

401 **34064**<sup>446</sup> *vvi*

143 **59687**<sup>159</sup> *vv0*

4 **398280**<sup>5</sup> *nnu*