

## rare

I

## 1. [reə] a

## 1. редкий, разрежённый; негустой, неплотный

rare atmosphere - разрежённая атмосфера

rare mixture - *авт.* бедная (рабочая) смесь

a few rare trees here and there - несколько разбросанных там и сям деревьев

## 2. редко встречающийся, редкий; малораспространённый

rare postage stamps [books, metals, gems] - редкие почтовые марки [книги, металлы, драгоценные камни]

rare object - редкость, раритет

a rare occurrence - редкий случай; малораспространённое явление

it is rare /a rare thing/ for him to do that - он редко так поступает

3. *разг.* редкостный, исключительный, необычайный

rare courage - редкостное /исключительное/ мужество

rare scholar - учёный каких мало, выдающийся учёный

a person of rare charm - человек, обладающий необычайным обаянием; на редкость обаятельный человек

to have a rare time [fun] - на редкость хорошо /на славу/ провести время [повеселиться]

she is a rare beauty - она на редкость /необычайно/ красива

you gave me a rare fright - вы меня перепугали насмерть

he is a rare one to do the job - он самый подходящий человек для этого дела; ≅ таких поискать

2. [reə] *adv* *эмоц.-усил.*

исключительно, на редкость

a rare fine view - на редкость красивый вид

II

## [reə] a

недожаренный; полусырой (*особ. о мясе*)

rare roast beef - ростбифс кровью

## rare

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**rare** [rare rarer rarest] *BrE* [reə(r)]<sup>u</sup> *NAmE* [rer]<sup>u</sup> adjective (rarer, rar-est)

## 1. not done, seen, happening, etc. very often

• a rare disease/occurrence/sight

• This weekend, visitors will get a rare chance to visit the private apartments.

• ~ (for sb/sth to do sth) It's extremely rare for it to be this hot in April.

• ~ (to do sth) It is rare to find such loyalty these days.

• On the rare occasions when they met he hardly even dared speak to her.

• It was a rare (= very great) honour to be made a fellow of the college.

## 2. existing only in small numbers and therefore valuable or interesting

• a rare book/coin/stamp

• a rare breed/plant

• This species is extremely rare.

## 3. (of meat) cooked for only a short time so that the inside is still red

• 'How would you like your steak?' 'Rare.'

**compare** ↑well done**see also** ↑rarityWord Origin:senses 1 to 2 late Middle English 'widely spaced, infrequent' Latin *rarus*

sense 3 late 18th cent. rear 'half-cooked'

Thesaurus:**rare** adj.

• He suffers from a rare bone disease.

**uncommon** • • **infrequent** •**Opp:** common, **Opp:** frequentrare/uncommon/infrequent **words**a rare/an uncommon **experience /feature/occurrence**rare/infrequent **occasions/use**Example Bank:

• The stamps were not rare enough to be interesting.

• He suffers from a rare bone disease.

• It is rare for a prison sentence to be imposed for a first offence.

• On the rare occasions when they met he hardly even dared speak to her.

• The case provides a rare glimpse into police practice.

• The farm specializes in rare breeds.

• The hatching of a baby tortoise is a rare event in captivity.

• The jade vase was extremely rare and very valuable.

• The library has a collection of rare books and manuscripts.

- The marshes contain many rare species of plants.
- Then I had one of my rare good ideas.
- There are rare cases of human beings bursting into flames.
- This is a rare sight: badgers are normally active only at night.
- This specimen is very rare indeed.
- Visitors will get a rare chance to see inside the palace.

**rare**

**rare** **S3 W2** /rɪə \$ rer/ *BrE* " *AmE* " *adjective* (comparative **rarer**, superlative **rarest**)

[Word Family: noun: ↑rarity; adverb ↑rarely; adjective: ↑rare]

[Sense 1,3: Date: 1400-1500; Language: Latin; Origin: rarus]

[Sense 2: Date: 1600-1700; Origin: rear 'lightly cooked' (15-19 centuries), from Old English hreaf]

1. not seen or found very often, or not happening very often **OPP common** ⇒ **unusual**:

- " This species of plant is becoming increasingly rare.
- " I only saw Helen on the rare occasions when I went into her shop.

**it is rare (for somebody/something) to do something**

- " It is rare to find such an interesting group of people.
- " It is very rare for her to miss a day at school.

2. meat that is rare has only been cooked for a short time and is still red ⇒ **underdone**, **well-done** :

- " I like my steak rare.

3. [only before noun] *British English old-fashioned* very good or surprising:

- " We had a rare old time at the party.

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**THESAURUS**

- **rare** not existing in large numbers or in large amounts: The law prevents the export of rare birds. | The plates are quite rare. Only about a hundred were made.
- **scarce** not available in large enough numbers or amounts at a particular time – used especially about things people need: After the war, food and clothing were scarce. | People are having to compete for scarce resources.
- **not common** [not before noun] fairly rare: Silver coins of this period are not common, and could be very valuable.
- **infrequent** *formal* not happening often: As time went on, her visits became more and more infrequent.
- **be few and far between** to not be common – especially much less common than you might expect: Luckily, accidents such as these are few and far between. | Bargains are, unfortunately, few and far between.
- **be (something of) a rarity** if something or someone is a rarity, it is surprising to find one, because very few exist: Women are still something of a rarity in senior management positions.
- **be like hen's teeth** *informal* to be extremely rare: Good Greek restaurants are like hen's teeth around here.

**rare**

12500 **1880**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **1211**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **2k RARE** 37380

rare 19229

rarest 403

rarer 414

rareness 6

rarely 15629

rarity 959

rarefied 740

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

14724 **2231**<sup>19200</sup> *jj*

29 **144405**<sup>29</sup> *nnu*