

distinguish

[dis'tɪŋgwɪ]v

- отличать, различать
to distinguish one thing from another - отличать одну вещь от другой
to distinguish between two things - проводить различие между двумя вещами
- разглядеть, различить; распознавать, узнавать
to distinguish a light in the distance - увидеть вдали огонёк
to distinguish the sound of a drum - различить /узнать/ звук барабана
I could not distinguish him among the crowd - я не мог разглядеть его в толпе
- 1) отделять, разделять, обособлять
to distinguish sounds into high and low - делить звуки на высокие и низкие
2) отличать, характеризовать; служить различительным признаком
my opinion as distinguished from my wife's - моё мнение в отличие от мнения моей жены
man is distinguished from the animals by the gift of speech - человек отличается от животных даром речи
- выделять, делать заметным
to distinguish oneself - отличиться (*тж. ирон.*)
he will distinguish himself - он далеко пойдёт
you have distinguished yourself! - хорош, ничего не скажешь /ничего сказать/!

distinguish

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

dis·tin·guish [distinguish distinguishes distinguished distinguishing] *BrE*

[dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪ] *NAmE* [dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪ] **verb**

- intransitive, transitive** to recognize the difference between two people or things
Syn: ↑differentiate
 - ~ **between A and B** At what age are children able to distinguish between right and wrong?
 - English law clearly distinguishes between murder and manslaughter.
 - ~ **A from B** It was hard to distinguish one twin from the other.
 - ~ **A and B** Sometimes reality and fantasy are hard to distinguish.
 - We can distinguish five meanings of the word 'mad'.
- transitive** (not used in the progressive tenses) ~ **A (from B)** to be a characteristic that makes two people, animals or things different
 - What was it that distinguished her from her classmates?
 - The male bird is distinguished from the female by its red beak.
 - Does your cat have any distinguishing marks?
 - The power of speech distinguishes human beings from animals.
- transitive** (not used in the progressive tenses) ~ **sth** to be able to see or hear sth
Syn: ↑differentiate **Syn:** ↑make out
 - I could not distinguish her words, but she sounded agitated.
 - She could not distinguish the make and colour of the car in the fading light.
- transitive ~ yourself (as sth)** to do sth so well that people notice and admire you
 - She has already distinguished herself as an athlete.

Derived Word ↑distinguishable

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	distinguish
	BrE /dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪ/
	NAmE /dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪ/
he / she / it	distinguishes
	BrE /dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪfɪz/
	NAmE /dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪfɪz/
past simple, past participle	distinguished
	BrE /dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪʃt/
	NAmE /dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪʃt/
-ing form	distinguishing
	BrE /dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪʃɪŋ/
	NAmE /dɪ'stɪŋɡwɪʃɪŋ/

Word Origin:

late 16th cent.: formed irregularly from French **distinguer** or Latin **distinguere**, from **dis-** 'apart' + **stingere** 'put out' (from a base meaning 'prick').

Thesaurus:

distinguish *verb*

1. I, T

- It was hard to distinguish one twin from the other.

tell • |especially written **differentiate** •

distinguish/differentiate/tell **A from B**

distinguish/differentiate **between** A and B

clearly/sharply/carefully distinguish/differentiate sb/sth

Distinguish or differentiate ? Differentiate is more formal, used more in scientific matters than in matters of human judgement:

- At what age are children able to distinguish between right and wrong?

✗ differentiate between right and wrong

2. T

• What is it that distinguishes her from her classmates?

set sb/sth apart • especially written differentiate •

distinguish/set apart/differentiate A from B

a feature distinguishes/sets apart/differentiates A from B

a factor distinguishes/differentiates A from B

Example Bank:

- It is often difficult to distinguish clearly between fact and fiction in this book.
- She could not distinguish one child from another.
- Small children have difficulty distinguishing fiction from reality.
- The adult bird can be readily distinguished by its orange bill.
- Troops cannot always reliably distinguish between combatants and civilians.
- Retailers should distinguish clearly between full-price and sale items.

distinguish

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

distinguish S3 W3 /dɪ'stɪŋɪʃwɪʃ BrE AmE verb

[Date: 1500-1600; Language: French; Origin: distinguer, from Latin distinguere 'to separate using a sharp pointed object']

1. [intransitive and transitive] to recognize and understand the difference between two or more things or people SYN differentiate

distinguish between

His attorney argued that Cope could not distinguish between right and wrong.

distinguish somebody/something from

a method of distinguishing cancer cells from normal tissue

REGISTER

In everyday English, people usually use the phrases tell the difference between somebody/something or tell somebody/something from somebody/something, rather than distinguish:

- He can't tell the difference between right and wrong.
- How do you tell cancer cells from healthy cells?

2. [transitive not in progressive] to be the thing that makes someone or something different or special

distinguish somebody/something from

The factor that distinguishes this company from the competition is customer service.

distinguishing feature/mark/characteristic

The main distinguishing feature of this species is the leaf shape.

3. [transitive not in progressive] written to be able to see the shape of something or hear a particular sound:

The light was too dim for me to distinguish anything clearly.

4. distinguish yourself to do something so well that people notice and remember you:

He distinguished himself on several occasions in the civil war.

• • •

THESAURUS

- recognize to know who someone is or what something is, especially because you have seen or heard them before: I hadn't seen her for ten years, but I recognized her immediately. | Do you recognize this song?
- identify to recognize someone or something and say who or what they are: As they came closer, I was able to identify two of the group. | It's delicious but I can't quite identify the taste.
- distinguish to recognize and understand the difference between two or more things or people: By this age, kids can usually distinguish between right and wrong. | It's often difficult to distinguish identical twins from each other.
- make something/somebody out to be able to see or hear something or someone – used when it is very difficult to do this: In the distance, I could just make out the outline of an island. | He whispered something but I couldn't make out what it was.
- discern /dɪ'sɜːn(r) formal to notice or understand something by looking carefully or thinking about it carefully: I thought I discerned a faint gleam of hope in his eyes. | A number of differences can be discerned in the data for the three countries.

distinguish

Freakuency Pack

12500 2226 MCW

15000 2076 COCA

RANGE: 4k DISTINGUISH 16533

distinguish 5320

distinguished 6467

undistinguished 233

distinguishes 1394

distinguishing 1695

distinguishable 371

indistinguishable 1053

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

3757 7665 4471 vvi

772 23353 849 vv0