Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

sometimes

some times BrE ['sʌmtaɪmz] NAmE ['sʌmtaɪmz]

- occasionally rather than all of the time
 - Sometimes I go by car.
 - He sometimes writes to me.
 - I like to be on my own sometimes.

Thesaurus:

sometimes [sometimes] adv.

• the cafe where he sometimes has lunch

occasionally $\cdot \cdot$ at times $\cdot \cdot$ from time to time $\cdot \cdot$ now and again/then $\cdot \cdot$ on occasion(s) $\cdot \cdot$ once in a while $\cdot \cdot$ every so often $\cdot \cdot$ off and on/on and off \cdot

adverb

appear /wonder sometimes/occasionally/at times/from time to time **happen** sometimes/occasionally/at times/from time to time/now and again **think** sometimes/at times/from time to time that...

Example Bank:

• It is sometimes difficult to know where to begin.

- It was the cafe where he sometimes had lunch.
- National boundaries have changed, sometimes dramatically, over the last hundred years.
- She sometimes goes away at weekends.
- Sometimes I look at him and wonder what is going on in his mind.
- Sometimes I think we'll neversee each other again.
- They played tennis and golf and sometimes went swimming.

sometimes

some times S1 W1 /'sʌmtaɪmz/ BrE * AmE * adverb

- on some occasions but not always \Rightarrow occasionally:
 - I sometimes have to work late.
 - Sometimes, Grandma would tell us stories about her childhood in Italy.
 - * 'Do you ever wish you were back in Japan?' 'Sometimes. Not very often.'
 - The journey takes an hour, sometimes even longer.

••• THESAURUS

• sometimes on some occasions but not always: Sometimes, I wish I was still living in Tokyo. | He sometimes plays football with my brother.

• occasionally (also on occasion written) used about something that only happens a few times. Occasionally is used when something happens more rarely than sometimes: I prefer trousers but I do wear skirts occasionally. | Occasionally, operations have to be cancelled. | On occasion, prisoners were allowed visits from their families.

• (every) now and then/again (also from time to time) sometimes but not often or regularly: We still call each other every now and then. | Every now and again, an invention comes along which changes people's lives completely. | Even experienced doctors make mistakes from time to time.

• every so often sometimes at fairly regular periods: He looked up from his book every so often. | Every so often, a train whizzed past.

• at times if something happens at times, it happens sometimes but is not what usually happens: The job can be frustrating at times. | At times I'vewondered whether I made the right decision in moving here.

• (every) once in a while sometimes but very rarely: We only see each other every once in a while.

sometimes

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