

answer

1. [ˈɑːnsə] *n*

1. 1) ответ, возражение

favourable [ready, evasive] answer - положительный [быстрый, уклончивый] ответ
 in answer to smth. - в ответ на что-л.; возражая на что-л.
 an answer in the affirmative [in the negative] - положительный [отрицательный] ответ
 to give an answer - отвечать
 to have / to receive, to get / an answer - получать ответ
 to vouchsafe no answer - не удостоить ответом
 to teach foreign languages through questions and answers - преподавать иностранные языки вопросно-ответным методом

2) ответное действие, (ответная) реакция

the answer was a volley of fire - в ответ раздался залп
 his only answer was to walk out - вместо ответа он вышел из комнаты

2. 1) решение (вопроса и т. п.); ответ, объяснение

to find the answer to smth. - решить проблему чего-л., справиться с чем-л., победить что-л.
 prohibition might not be the answer - запрещение спиртных напитков ещё не решение проблемы
 the system is not necessarily the answer for these states - данная система может оказаться неподходящей для этих стран

2) решение (задачи)

the answer to 3 17 is 51 - 3×17 равно 51
 answer to a chess problem - решение шахматной задачи

3) ответ, разгадка

3. равноценная, достойная замена

this fictional spy is a French answer to James Bond - шпион в этом французском романе вполне достоин своего коллеги Джеймса Бонда
 he has the reputation of being the American answer to Caruso - у него репутация американского Карузо

4. юр. письменное объяснение ответчика по делу

5. муз. ответ (в фуге)

◇ he knows all the answers - ≅ он за словом в карман не полезет
 a soft answer turns /turneth/ away wrath - *библ.* кроткий ответ отвращает гнев; ≅ повинную голову меч не сечёт
 the answer's a /the/ lemon - *сл.* дудки!, номер не пройдёт!
 answer to the maiden's prayer - *сл.* а) красавец-мужчина; б) популярный киноактёр

2. [ˈɑːnsə] *v*

1. 1) отвечать

to answer questions [letters] - отвечать на вопросы [на письма]
 to answer a charge [a remark] - возражать на обвинение [на замечание]
 to answer smb. - отвечать кому-л.
 not to answer a word - не вымолвить в ответ ни слова

2) откликаться, реагировать

to answer a call - а) откликнуться на зов; б) ответить по телефону
 to answer the bell /the door/ - отворить дверь (на звонок, на стук)
 to answer to a name of - откликаться на (какое-л.) имя
 to answer blows with blows - отвечать ударом на удар
 to answer to a treatment - поддаваться лечению (о болезни)
 to answer the whip - повиноваться удару хлыста (о лошади)
 to answer the helm - *мор.* слушаться руля (о корабле)
 when I call you, you should answer at once - когда я тебя зову, ты должен сразу откликнуться

2. соответствовать, отвечать, удовлетворять (чему-л.)

to answer the description [the purpose] - соответствовать описанию [цели]
 to answer hopes [expectations] - оправдывать надежды [ожидания]

3. удаваться, иметь успех

the plan [the experiment] has not answered - план [эксперимент] не удался /оказался неудачным/

4. 1) исполнять

to answer orders [demands] - исполнять приказания [требования]
 to answer obligations - выполнять обязательства

2) удовлетворять (что-л.)

to answer claims - удовлетворять жалобы
 to answer debts - уплачивать долги

5. 1) (for) отвечать, ручаться, нести ответственность (за кого-л., за что-л.)

to answer for smb. - ручаться за кого-л.
 to answer for smb.'s honesty - ручаться за чью-л. честность
 to answer for one's wrong-doings - отвечать /нести ответственность/ за свои проступки

2) (to) отвечать, нести ответственность перед кем-л.

you'll have to answer to me if any harm comes to this child - если с ребёнком что-нибудь случится, вы мне за него ответите

6. (for) заменять (что-л.); служить (чем-л.)

on the picnic a newspaper answered for a tablecloth - на пикнике газета заменяла нам скатерть

answer

an·swer [answer answers answered answering] noun, verb *BrE* [ˈɑːnsə(ɹ)]^m

NAmE [ˈænsəɹ]^m

noun

1. something that you say, write or do to react to a question or situation

- I rang the bell, but there was no answer.
- a question and answer session
- ~ **to sth** I can't easily **give an answer** to your question.
- Have you had an answer to your letter?
- As if **in answer to** our prayers, she offered to lend us £10 000.
- She had no answer to the accusations.

2. something that you write or say in reply to a question in a test, an exam, an exercise, etc; the correct reply to a question in a test, etc

- Write your answers on the sheet provided
- Do you know the answer (= the right one) to question 12?
- The answers are at the back of the book.
- The sender of the first correct answer to be drawn will receive £100.

3. a solution to a problem

- There is no easy answer.
- This could be the answer to all our problems.
- The obvious answer would be to cancel the party.

4. a person or thing from one place that may be thought to be as good as a famous person or thing from another place

- The new theme park will be Britain's answer to Disneyland.

more at not take no for an answer **at** ↑**no** exclam.

Word Origin:

Old English andswaru (noun), andswarian (verb), of Germanic origin; from a base shared by ↑**swear**.

Thesaurus:

answer noun

1.

- Have you had an answer to your letter?

reply • • **response** • • **acknowledgement** • |written **retort** •

a/an answer/reply/response/retort **to** sb/sth

a/an answer/reply/response/acknowledgement **from** sb

in answer/reply/response **to** sb/sth

a/an **sharp/angry/curt** reply/response/retort

give/write/elicited/produce/wait for a/an answer/reply/response

Answer, reply or response? **Response** is slightly more formal than **answer** and **reply**. It is used especially in written or business English.

2.

- It's the answer to all our problems.

solution • • **key** • • **resolution** • • **remedy** • • **way out** • |informal **fix** •

the answer/solution/key/resolution/remedy/fix **to** sth

the answer/solution/remedy/fix **for** sth

find/provide an answer/a solution/the key/a resolution/a remedy

Which Word?:

answer / reply

Verbs

Answer and reply are the most common verbs used for speaking or writing as a reaction to a question, letter, etc.

Note that you answer a person, question or letter, not answer to them, but you reply to somebody or something: ▫ I'm writing to answer your questions ◊ ▫ I'm writing to reply to your questions. ◊ ▫ I'm writing to answer to your questions.

Answer can be used with or without an object: ▫ I haven't answered her email yet. ◊ ▫ I knocked on the door but nobody answered.

Reply is often used with the actual words spoken: ▫ 'I won't let you down,' he replied.

Respond is less common and more formal: ▫ The directors were unwilling to ▫ respond to ▫ questions.

You can only answer a door or a phone.

see also ↑**rejoin**, ↑**retort**, ↑**get back to somebody** Nouns

Note the phrases in answer to and in reply to: ▫ I'm writing in answer to your letter.

see also ↑**response**, ↑**rejoinder**, ↑**retort**

Example Bank:

- Did you ever get an answer to your letter?
- Do you know the answer to the question?
- He left without waiting to hear her answer.
- He was clearly expecting a different answer.
- He's so arrogant, he thinks he knows all the answers.
- I cannot give you a definite answer just yet.
- I complained to the water company and received a very dusty answer.
- I expect a straight answer to a straight question.
- I struggled to formulate an answer.
- I think you can guess the answer— they won't lend us the money.

- I want some answers before I agree to anything.
- If you really want to save time, this machine will provide the answer.
- In answer to your enquiries, I can only say that we did not find her work of a satisfactory standard.
- It's not worth guessing the answer, as you may lose marks.
- Please give her your answer, so she can make the necessary arrangements.
- Please print the answers to questions 1 and 2.
- She pounded on the door, but no answer came.
- She repeated her question, but he offered no answer.
- The answer came in a postcard she sent from Devon.
- The answer came to him in a flash.
- The answer lies in a combination of factors.
- The question deserves a proper answer.
- The short answer to your query is that he has acted completely illegally.
- The students are allowed to use textbooks to find the right answer.
- There are no easy, pat answers.
- There is no easy answer to the problem.
- This part of the exam requires a written answer.
- We are aware of this problem, but we do not have the answer.
- We can provide answers to any questions you may have about the system.
- We have arrived at an answer which we hope will satisfy everyone.
- her answer to his question
- the short-answer section of the test
- As if in answer to our prayers, she offered to lend us the money.
- I can't easily give an answer to your question.
- In answer to your question— yes, I have seen him before.

Idioms: ↑answer to the name of something ▪ ↑have all the answers

Derived ↑answer back ▪ ↑answer for somebody ▪ ↑answer for something ▪ ↑answer somebody back ▪ ↑answer to somebody

verb

1. **intransitive, transitive** to say, write or do sth as a reaction to a question or situation

Syn: ↑reply

- I repeated the question, but she didn't answer.
- He answered as truthfully as he could.
- ~ **sth** You haven't **answered my question**.
- to **answer a letter/an advertisement**
- to **answer the phone** (= to pick up the phone when it rings)
- to **answer the door** (= to open the door when sb knocks/rings)
- My **prayers have been answered** (= I have got what I wanted).
- He refused to answer the charges against him.
- We are grateful to all those people who answered our call for help with fund-raising.
- ~ **(sb)** Come on, answer me! Where were you?
- He answered me with a smile.
- + **speech** 'I'd prefer to walk,' she answered.
- ~ **sb + speech** 'I'd prefer to walk,' she answered him.
- ~ **(sb) that...** She answered that she would prefer to walk.
- ~ **sb sth** Answer me this: how did they know we were here?

2. **transitive ~ sth (formal)** to be suitable for sth; to match sth

- Does this answer your requirements?

more at answer/fit a description (of sb/sth) **at** ↑description

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	answer
	BrE / 'ɑːnsə(r)/
	NAme / 'ænsər/
he / she / it	answers
	BrE / 'ɑːnsəz/
	NAme / 'ænsəz/
past simple, past participle	answered
	BrE / 'ɑːnsəd/
	NAme / 'ænsəd/
-ing form	answering
	BrE / 'ɑːnsərɪŋ/
	NAme / 'ænsərɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Old English andswaru (noun), andswarian (verb), of Germanic origin; from a base shared by ↑swear.

Thesaurus:

answer verb I, T

- You haven't answered my question.

reply • • respond • • write back • • acknowledge sth/get back to sb • |informal get back to sb • |written retort •

reply/respond/write back/get back to sb/sth

answer/reply/respond/acknowledge sth/get back to sb/retort with sth

answer/reply/respond/write back/retort that...

answer/reply to/respond to/acknowledge a/an question/letter/email

Answer, response or reply? You can **answer sb/sth** or just **answer**, but not 'answer to sb/sth'; you can **reply/respond to sb/sth** or just **reply/respond**, but not 'reply/respond sb/sth'. The words share many uses, but you can only **answer the phone/door/sb's prayers**, not: ✗ **reply/respond to the phone/the door/sb's prayers**; you can **answer/respond to a call** but not: ✗ **reply to a call**

Which Word?:

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Note that you answer a person, question or letter, not answer to them, but you reply to somebody or something: ▫ I'm writing to answer your questions ◊ I'm writing to reply to your questions. ◊ I'm writing to answer to your questions.

Answer can be used with or without an object: ▫ I haven't answered her email yet. ◊ I knocked on the door but nobody answered.

Reply is often used with the actual words spoken: ▫ 'I won't let you down,' he replied.

Respond is less common and more formal: ▫ The directors were unwilling to ▫ respond to ▫ questions.

You can only answer a door or a phone.

see also ↑rejoin, ↑retort, ↑get back to somebody Nouns

Note the phrases in answer to and in reply to: ▫ I'm writing in answer to your letter.

see also ↑response, ↑rejoinder, ↑retort

Example Bank:

- He tried to answer as honestly as he could.
- She answered in the affirmative
- She answered simply, 'No.'
- What he told me does not fully answer the question of what his motives were.
- 'I'd prefer to walk,' she answered.
- Could somebody answer the phone?
- Does this document answer your requirements?
- He never answered my letters.
- I repeated the question, but she didn't answer.
- My prayers have been answered.
- They never bother to answer the door.
- Volunteer teachers definitely answer a need in the region.
- You haven't answered my question.

answer

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **answer**¹ **S1 W1** /'ɑːnsə/\$ 'ænsə/ **BrE** " **AmE** " **noun**

[Language: Old English; Origin: andswaru]

1. REPLY [uncountable and countable] something you say when you reply to a question that someone has asked you **SYN**

response:

- " You don't have to give them an answer now.
- " Every time I ask him about it, I get a different answer.

answer to

- " These are important questions, and we want answers to them.
- " She's still waiting for an answer from the school.
- " The honest answer was that I didn't know.
- " He was never able to get a straight answer about why it happened.
- " It's impossible for me to give you a definite answer at this time.
- " The short answer is that it can't be done.
- " In answer to your question, yes, you can go.
- " If it's money you want, the answer is no!

2. TEST/COMPETITION ETC [countable] something that you write or say in reply to a question in a test or competition

answer to

- " What was the answer to question 4?

the right/wrong/correct/incorrect answer

- " Score two points for each correct answer.

3. INVITATION/LETTER ETC [countable] a written reply to a letter, invitation, advertisement etc

answer to

- " Did you ever get an answer to your letter?

4. PROBLEM [countable] a way of dealing with a problem **SYN solution**

simple/easy/obvious answer

- " There is no simple answer.

answer to

- " The police do not have an answer to rising crime.

Some people think cars should be banned from the city, but I don't think that's the answer.

be the answer to sb's problems/worries etc

" If he could get a job it'd be the answer to all his worries.

5. **ON THE PHONE** [singular, uncountable usually in negative] if you get an answer when you call someone on the phone, they pick up the phone and talk to you:

" I tried calling him all day but couldn't get an answer.

6. **AT THE DOOR** [singular, uncountable usually in negative] if you get an answer when you knock on a door, someone opens it and talks to you:

" I tried knocking on her door, but there was no answer.

7. **have/know all the answers** *informal* to be very sure that you know everything about a situation, especially when you do not:

" He acts like he has all the answers.

8. **sb's answer to something** *written* someone or something that is considered to be just as good as a more famous person or thing:

" The Space Needle is Seattle's answer to the Eiffel Tower.

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 1)

■ adjectives

- **an honest/straight answer** The honest answer is that I don't know.
- **a definite answer** (=that says yes or no definitely) Can you give me a definite answer tomorrow?
- **a satisfactory answer** I didn't get a satisfactory answer from the company.

■ verbs

- **give somebody an answer** I'll give you an answer tomorrow.
- **get/receive an answer** She wrote to him but she never got an answer.
- **wait for an answer** Kate was looking at me, waiting for an answer.
- **think of an answer** She couldn't think of a suitable answer to his question.

■ phrases

- **the short answer is ...** (=used when giving a simple, honest, or direct answer to a difficult question) 'How does homeopathy work?' 'The short answer to this question is that we do not know how homeopathic remedies work.'

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 2)

■ adjectives

- **the right/wrong answer** Do you know the right answer to this question?
- **the correct/incorrect answer** You get 5 points for each correct answer.

■ verbs

- **know the answer** Put up your hand if you know the answer.
- **guess the answer** If you don't know the answer, try guessing it.
- **write the answer** Do we write the answers in the exercise book, Sir?

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 3)

■ adjectives

- **the simple/easy answer** There are a lot of problems and no simple answers.
- **the obvious answer** The obvious answer is to raise taxes, but that would be unpopular.
- **the perfect answer** I think I have the perfect answer to the problem.
- **the complete answer** A loan, however, is not the complete answer to the company's problems.
- **the long-term answer** He believes hydrogen is the long-term answer to our growing energy crisis.
- **a short-term answer** Employing overseas nurses is only a short-term answer to the shortage.

■ verbs

- **have an answer** Doctors are supposed to have all the answers.
- **find an answer** The aim is to find a long-term answer to poverty.
- **come up with an answer** (=find a way of dealing with a problem) The government is struggling to come up with answers to our economic problems.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **answer** something you say when someone asks you a question or speaks to you: I asked if he wanted to come, but I didn't get an answer. | If you're asking me for money, the answer's no!
- **reply** an answer. Used especially in written English to report what someone said: She asked how he felt, and received the reply, 'Awful!' | 'Finished now?' 'No,' came the reply.
- **response** an answer that clearly shows your reaction to a question, suggestion etc: Wagner's responses showed that he had thought carefully about the issues. | 'Sure. Why not?' was his response to most of Billie's suggestions.
- **retort** *written* an angry answer given when someone has annoyed you or criticized you: Isabelle began an angry retort and then stopped herself.
- **comeback** a quick answer that is clever, funny, or rude: He walked out before I could think of a snappy comeback.
- **riposte** *formal* a quick and clever answer: Anna produced the perfect riposte.
- **rejoinder** *formal* a quick answer, especially a clever or rude one: If he confronts them, he'll run the risk of a sharp rejoinder.

II. **answer**² *S1 W2 BrE* *AmE* *verb*

1. **REPLY** [intransitive and transitive] to say something to someone as a reply when they have asked you a question, made a suggestion etc:

" She thought for a moment before answering.

" He still hadn't answered my question.

" 'Why don't you just leave?' 'I'd like to,' she answered, 'but I have nowhere else to go.'

answer (that)

" When questioned, Hughes answered that he knew nothing about the robbery.

" How much was it? Come on, answer me.

2. **TEST** [intransitive and transitive] to write or say the answer to a question in a test or competition:

" Answer as many questions as possible in the time provided.

3. **answer the phone/a call/the door** to pick up the telephone and speak when it rings or open the door when someone knocks or rings the bell

4. **LETTER** [transitive] if you answer a letter or advertisement, you write a letter to the person who has written it:

" Simon got the job by answering an advert in the paper.

5. **answer criticism/charges/accusations etc** to explain why you did something when people are criticizing you – used in news reports:

" How do you answer the criticism that your government has done nothing to help the homeless?

6. **REACT TO SOMETHING** [intransitive and transitive] to do something as a reaction to criticism or an attack **SYN respond**:

" The army answered by firing into the crowd.

7. **DEAL WITH A PROBLEM** [transitive] to be a way of dealing with or solving a problem:

" 'You can borrow my car if you like.' 'Well, that answers one problem.'

8. **answer a need** to provide something that is needed:

" Our transportation system is designed to answer the needs of the city's commuters.

9. **answer a description** if someone answers a description, they match that description:

" A man answering the police's description was seen entering the building.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **answer** to say something to someone when they have asked you a question or spoken to you: You don't have to answer the question if you don't want to. | I said hello to her, but she didn't answer.
- **reply** to answer someone. Used especially in written English to report what someone said: 'I'm so sorry,' he replied. | We asked Jane to help, but she replied that she was too busy.
- **respond** *formal* to answer someone: How do you respond to the allegation that you deliberately deceived your employers?
- **give somebody an answer** to answer someone by telling them what you have decided or giving them a piece of information they asked for: He asked me to marry him, but I didn't give him an answer straight away.
- **get back to somebody** to answer someone at a later time especially by telephoning them, usually because you need to think about their question or find out more information: She's promised to get back to me as soon as she hears any more news from the hospital.
- **retort** *written* to answer someone angrily, especially because they have annoyed you or criticized you: 'You're not afraid?' Brenda asked. 'Of course not,' he retorted angrily.

answer back *phrasal verb*

to reply in a rude way to someone that you are supposed to obey

answer somebody back

" Don't answer me back young man!

answer for somebody/something *phrasal verb*

1. to explain to people in authority why you did something wrong or why something happened, and be punished if necessary:

" Their coach must answer for the team's poor performance.

2. **have a lot to answer for** *informal* to be responsible for causing a lot of trouble

3. **can't answer for somebody** *spoken* used to say that you cannot make a decision for someone who is not there, or give their opinion:

" I'm sure John will help us – I can't really answer for the others.

answer to somebody/something *phrasal verb*

1. to give an explanation to someone, especially about something that you have done wrong:

" Phipps answers to me and me alone.

2. **answer to the name of something** to be called a particular name – used humorously:

" a well-dressed young woman answering to the name of Suzanne

answer

Freakuency Pack

12500 **780**^{MCW}

15000 **457**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k ANSWER** 107595

answer 63485

answered 16919

unanswered 1527

answering 6355

answers 18913

answerable 196

unanswerable 200

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

23821 **1100**³⁷²⁶⁹ *nn1*

14150 **2089**²⁰⁶⁸³ *vvi*

3711 **6990**⁵⁰⁸⁷ *vv0*

361 37855³⁷⁰ *ii32*
45 113257⁴⁶ *nnu*
29 141917³⁰ *jj*
