

taunt

I

1. [tɔ:nt] *n*
 1. ядовитая насмешка; колкость
 2. горький упрёк
 3. *уст.* предмет насмешек
2. [tɔ:nt] *v*
 1. насмехаться; говорить колкости; поддевать
to taunt smb. into doing smth. - насмешками довести человека до чего-л., спровоцировать кого-л. на что-л. своими насмешками
at last he taunted me beyond endurance - в конце концов я не выдержал его издёвок
 2. (with) зло упрекать, бросать обидные упрёки
to taunt smb. with cowardice - обвинять кого-л. в трусости
 3. дразнить, поддразнивать

II

[tɔ:nt] *а мор.*
очень высокий (о *мачте*)

taunt

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

taunt [taunt taunts taunted taunting] *verb, noun* *BrE* [tɔːnt] ^ˈ *NAme* [tɔːnt] ^ˈ

verb ~ sb

to try to make sb angry or upset by saying unkind things about them, laughing at their failures, etc

- The other kids continually taunted him about his size.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	taunt
	BrE /b:nt/
	NAme /b:nt/
he / she / it	taunts
	BrE /b:nts/
	NAme /b:nts/
past simple, past participle	taunted
	BrE /b:ntɪd/
	NAme /b:ntɪd/
-ing form	taunting
	BrE /b:ntɪŋ/
	NAme /b:ntɪŋ/

Word Origin:

early 16th cent.: from French **tant pour tant** 'like for like, tit for tat', from **tant** 'so much', from Latin **tantum**, neuter of **tantus**. An early use of the verb was 'exchange banter'.

Example Bank:

- 'Running away?' he taunted softly.
- Some of the girls taunted her about her weight.
- The other children taunted him with nicknames.

noun

an insulting or unkind remark that is intended to make sb angry or upset

- Black players often had to endure racist taunts.
- She ignored his taunt.

Word Origin:

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Example Bank:

- Their taunts stung him into his best performance for the team yet.

taunt

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **taunt**¹ /tɔːnt/\$ tɔːnt *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *verb* [transitive]

[Date: 1500-1600; Origin: Perhaps from Old French *tenter* 'to try, tempt']

to try to make someone angry or upset by saying unkind things to them ⇔ **tease**

taunt somebody about something

- The other children taunted him about his weight.

taunt somebody with something

- They taunted him with the nickname 'Fatso'.
- 'And he'll believe you, will he?' Maria taunted.

—**tauntingly** *adverb*

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THESAURUS

- **tease** to laugh at someone and make jokes in order to have fun by embarrassing them, either in a friendly way or in an unkind way. In everyday English, people often say **make fun of** rather than **tease**: At work, we all tease her because she's always late. | Sam's sisters used to tease him because he was overweight.
- **make fun of somebody/something** to tease someone, especially in an unkind way, by laughing at something they do and making them seem stupid: The boys at school used to make fun of me and call me names. | Everyone made fun of the way our Maths teacher walked.
- **taunt** /tɔːnt/ to tease someone in a very unpleasant way that shows you do not respect them, in order to make them angry or upset: In the end he hit the man for taunting him about his wife. | The other prisoners taunted him until he couldn't bear it any more.
- **pull sb's leg** *informal* to tease someone in a friendly way, by trying to make them think something is true when it is not: I'm not really 18. I was only pulling your leg. | I don't believe you! You're pulling my leg!
- **wind somebody up** *British English informal* to deliberately say something to someone, in order to see if they become annoyed or worried: Are you trying to wind me up? | My friends are always winding me up about it.
- **take the mickey (out of somebody)** *British English informal* to make someone look silly, often in a friendly way, for example by copying them or saying something that you do not really mean about them: I don't speak like that – stop taking the mickey! | 'You're a genius, we all know that!' 'Are you taking the mickey out of me?'

II. taunt² *BrE* ² *AmE* ² noun [countable often plural]

a remark or joke intended to make someone angry or upset:

▪ racist taunts

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THESAURUS

- **comment** something that you say or write in order to give your opinion: Does anyone have any comments? | Readers are invited to send in their comments and suggestions.
- **remark** something that you say: Just ignore them if they start making rude remarks. | I'm not sure what he meant by that last remark.
- **point** something that someone mentions about a subject in a discussion, argument, article etc: That's an interesting point, Steve. | He raises (=mentions) a number of important points in his paper.
- **observation** a comment in which you say what you think or have noticed about something: Karl Marx made the observation that history repeats itself first as tragedy, second as farce.
- **aside** a comment made in a low voice, that you intend only certain people to hear: 'Is that true?', she whispered in an aside to Don.
- **quip** /kwɪp/ a clever and amusing comment: She knew she should reply with some light-hearted quip.
- **dig** *informal* a comment you make to annoy or criticize someone: I'm tired of her little digs at me.
- **taunt** /tɔːnt/ a comment intended to make someone angry or upset: The fans made racist taunts throughout the game.

taunt

Freakuency Pack

12500 **8783**^{MCW}

15000 **6262**^{COCA}

RANGE: **9k** TAUNT¹⁹⁷⁴

taunt⁴⁰¹

taunts⁴²⁴

taunted⁴⁹²

taunting⁶⁴⁹

taunter⁰

taunters⁸

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

178 **55665**¹⁸² *vvi*

135 **63755**¹⁴⁰ *nn1*

76 **85676**⁷⁹ *vv0*