

# libel

## 1. ['laɪb(ə)] *n*

- 1) *юр.* (письменная) клевета, диффамация  
action for libel - судебное дело по обвинению в клевете /диффамации
  - 2) (устное) клеветническое заявление; утверждение, порочащее кого-л.
  - 3) что-л. дискредитирующее, позорящее, вредящее репутации  
the portrait is a libel upon /on/ him - такой портрет - карикатура на него  
the book [the play] is a libel on mankind - эта книга [эта пьеса] клеветает на человечество
2. *юр.* жалоба, исковое заявление (*обыкн. в церковном или морском суде*)

## 2. ['laɪb(ə)] *v*

1. *юр.* клеветать (*в печати и т. п.*); заниматься диффамацией писать пасквили (*на кого-л.*)
- 2) 1) дискредитировать, позорить (*кого-л.*)
- 2) *разг.* преуменьшать (*чью-л. заслуги или достоинства*)
3. *юр.* подавать жалобу, исковое заявление (*обыкн. в церковный или морской суд*)

# libel

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**libel** [libel libels libelled libeled libelling libeling] **noun, verb** *BrE* ['laɪbəl] <sup>1</sup>

*NAmE* ['laɪbəl] <sup>1</sup>

**noun** *uncountable, countable*

the act of printing a statement about sb that is not true and that gives people a bad opinion of them

- He sued the newspaper for libel.
- a libel action (= a case in a court of law)

**compare** ↑slander

## Word Origin:

Middle English (in the general sense 'a document, a written statement'): via Old French from Latin *libellus*, diminutive of *liber* 'book'.

## Example Bank:

- In a libel action a newspaper must prove that any comments it printed are true.

## verb (-ll-, especially US -l-) ~ sb

to publish a written statement about sb that is not true

- He claimed he had been libelled in an article the magazine had published.

**compare** ↑slander

## Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	libel
	BrE / 'laɪbəl/
	NAmE / 'laɪbəl/
he / she / it	libels
	BrE / 'laɪbəlz/
	NAmE / 'laɪbəlz/
past simple, past participle	libelled (especially US) libeled
	BrE / 'laɪbəlɪd/
	NAmE / 'laɪbəlɪd/
-ing form	libelling (especially US) libeling
	BrE / 'laɪbəlɪŋ/
	NAmE / 'laɪbəlɪŋ/

## Word Origin:

Middle English (in the general sense 'a document, a written statement'): via Old French from Latin *libellus*, diminutive of *liber* 'book'.

# libel

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**I. liˈbel** <sup>1</sup> /'laɪbəl/ *BrE* <sup>1</sup> *AmE* <sup>1</sup> **noun** [uncountable and countable]

[**Date:** 1300-1400; **Language:** Old French; **Origin:** Latin *libellus*, from *liber*; ⇒ ↑library]

when someone writes or prints untrue statements about someone so that other people could have a bad opinion of them ⇒ **slander**  
**for libel**

Holt sued the newspaper for libel.

**a libel action/case/trial** (=a court case against someone for libel)

restrictions on press freedom, such as libel laws

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## THESAURUS

- **lie** *noun* [countable] something you say or write that you know is untrue: Would you tell lies to protect a friend? | The allegation is a complete lie.
- **white lie** *noun* [countable] *informal* a lie that you tell to avoid upsetting someone: We all tell white lies sometimes.
- **fib** *noun* [countable] *informal* a lie, especially about something that is not very important – used especially by children: Have you been telling fibs?
- **porky** *noun* [countable usually plural] *British English informal* a lie – a very informal use: He's been telling porkies again.
- **falsehood** *noun* [countable] *formal* a statement that is not true, especially one that is intended to give people the wrong idea about someone or something: He described the allegations as malicious falsehoods.
- **untruth** *noun* [countable] *formal* a lie – used especially when you want to avoid saying the word **lie**: Some workers go off and

tell untruths about the organisations for which they are working.

▪ **fabrication** *noun* [uncountable and countable] *formal* a story or claim that someone has invented in order to deceive someone, or the act of doing this: The claim was described as a fabrication by the police prosecutor. | He dismissed the charges as pure fabrication.

▪ **libel** *noun* [uncountable] *law* the crime of writing lies that could make people have a bad opinion of someone, especially in a newspaper or magazine: She sued the newspaper for libel. | libel laws

▪ **slander** *noun* [uncountable and countable] *law* the crime of speaking lies that could make people have a bad opinion of someone, or an untrue statement which does this: He's threatening to sue them for slander. | a slander on the good name of the company | Linking his name to terrorism was a slander.

II. **libel** <sup>2</sup> *BrE* <sup>\*</sup> *AmE* <sup>\*</sup> *verb* (past tense and past participle **libelled** , present participle **libelling** *British English*, **libeled** , **libeling** *American English*) [transitive]

to write or print a libel against someone ⇒ **slander**

## libel

Freakuency Pack

12500 **9059**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **9655**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **8k** **LIBEL** <sup>750</sup>

libel <sup>659</sup>

libels <sup>22</sup>

libelous <sup>69</sup>

libelling <sup>0</sup>

libellings <sup>0</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

409 **27155**<sup>659</sup> *nn1*