

a·gain

S1 W1

/ə'gen, ə'geɪn \$ ə'gen/

adverb

- 1 AGAIN one more time – used when something has happened or been done before:

Can you say that again? I didn't hear.

I'll never go there again.

Mr Khan's busy. Can you try again later?

once again/yet again (= used to emphasize that something has happened several or many times before)

In 1997, the family moved house yet again.

Once again, Drew was under arrest.

- 2 AGAIN back to the same state or situation that you were in before:

She stayed and nursed him back to health again.

It's great to have you home again.

- 3 **all over again** AGAIN

if you do something all over again, you repeat it from the beginning:

I had to write the essay all over again.

- 4 **as much/as many/the same again** ADD

the same amount or number as you have just had, said etc:

What a fantastic lunch. I could eat the same again.

Nearly as many again died from pneumonia.

*The amount of crime is about **half as much again** (= the same in addition to half that amount) **as it was in 1973.***

*'Another drink?' 'Yes, **same again** (= the same drink again), please.'*

- 5 EXPLAIN (spoken) used to give a fact or opinion that explains or adds to

something you have just said:

And again, these workshops will benefit the community widely.

6 then/there again (spoken)

used to introduce an idea or fact that is different from something you have just said, or makes it seem less likely to be true:

*She says she's thirty-five. **But then again** she might be lying.*

7 again and again/time and (time) again/over and over again OFTEN

very often – used in order to show disapproval:

I've told you again and again, don't do that!

8 (spoken) REPEAT used when you want someone to repeat information that they have already given you:

What did you say your name was again?

→ **now and again** AT NOW¹ (5)

Word origin

Language: Old English

Origin: *ongean* 'opposite, back'

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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