

# a·pol·o·gy <sup>S3</sup>

/ə'pɒlədʒi \$ ə'pɒ:-/

noun

(plural **apologies**)

- 1** SORRY/APOLOGIZE[uncountable and countable] something that you say or write to show that you are sorry for doing something wrong:

## **apology for**

*The minister had to issue a formal public apology for his remarks.*

## **apology from**

*She finally received an apology from the company.*

## **apology to**

*an apology to passengers for any inconvenience caused*

- 2 apologies** [plural]

a message that you send to a meeting to say that you will not be able to come to the meeting:

*Edward can't be here today, but he **sends his apologies**.*

- 3 make your apologies**

to say that you are sorry but you have to leave:

*I quickly made my apologies and left.*

- 4 make no apology for something**

to not say that you are sorry for something, because you do not regret it and you think it is the right thing to do:

*We make no apology for defending our members' interests – that is our job.*

- 5** [countable] (literary) a statement in which you defend something you believe in after it has been criticized by other people:

## **apology for**

*an apology for Christianity*

## 6 an apology for something BAD AT

a very bad example of something:

*They served us up an apology for a meal.*

### COLLOCATIONSense 1

#### verbs

make an apology *I hope you are going to make an apology.*

issue an apology (= make an official public apology) *North Korea issued an official apology for the incident.*

get/receive an apology *He received a formal apology from the company.*

offer an apology *We would like to offer our sincere apologies for the delay.*

accept somebody's apology *Please accept my apologies for having to cancel our meeting.*

demand an apology *China continued to demand a full apology from the US.*

owe somebody an apology *I'm afraid I owe you an apology.*

publish an apology (= print it in a newspaper) *The newspaper group was forced to publish a full apology.*

mumble/mutter an apology (= say it quietly, especially because you are embarrassed) *He bumped into me and mumbled an apology.*

#### adjectives

my sincere/profound apologies (= used when you feel very sorry) *Firstly, my sincere apologies for not having contacted you earlier. |*

*'I have been guilty of making some insensitive remarks,' said Wright, who offered his profound apologies to everyone concerned.*

a public apology *The authorities published a public apology in the newspaper.*

a formal apology *Russia is demanding a formal apology.*

an official apology *The company has made an official apology and is offering compensation.*

a written apology *The police sent a written apology to the family.*

a full apology *The Prime Minister made a full apology in the House of Commons.*

an abject apology (formal) (= one that shows that you are very sorry) *The BBC issued an abject apology for insulting the Queen.*

profuse apologies (formal) (= when someone says that they are sorry several times) *Moirá telephoned with profuse apologies for the misunderstanding.*

## phrases

a letter of apology *We agreed to write a letter of apology.*

### Word origin

**Date:** 1500–1600

**Language:** Late Latin

**Origin:** *apologia* 'written or spoken defense', from Greek, from *apo-* ( → APOCALYPSE ) + *logos* 'speech'