

# ac·cept

S1 W1

/ək'sept/

verb

- 1 **gift/offer/invitation** [intransitive and transitive] to take something that someone offers you, or to agree to do something that someone asks you to do

OPP

*Rick **accepted** her **offer** of coffee.*

*He **accepted** the **invitation** to stay with us.*

*His school reports said that he is always ready to **accept** a **challenge** (= agree to do something difficult) .*

*Please accept this small gift.*

*They offered me a job and I **accepted**.*

**accept something from somebody**

*He **accepted** a glass of water from Helen.*

*He **readily accepted** her invitation (= accepted it quickly) .*

In everyday English, when talking about accepting a job, accepting responsibility or blame, or accepting a method of payment, people usually use **take**:

*They offered me the job and I **accepted**.*

→ They offered me the job and I **took it**.

When talking about accepting an offer, people often say **take** someone **up on their offer**:

*He decided to **take her up on her offer**.*

- 2 **situation/problem etc** [transitive] to decide that there is nothing you can do to change a difficult and unpleasant situation or fact and continue with your normal life:

*He's not going to change, and you just have to **accept it**.*

**accept that**

*We have to accept that this is not an ideal world.*

*You need to **accept the fact that** most of your problems are caused by jealousy.*

- 3 | think somebody/something is good enough** [transitive] to decide that someone has the necessary skill or intelligence for a particular job, course etc or that a piece of work is good enough

**OPP**

*Students accepted by Stanford Law School had very high scores on the LSAT.*

**accept somebody/something as something**

*They have accepted him as the representative of the company.*

**accept somebody/something for something**

*Random House accepted the book for publication.*

- 4 | become part of a group** [transitive] to allow someone to become part of a group, society, or organization, and to treat them in the same way as the other members

**OPP**

**accept somebody as something**

*The children gradually began to accept her as one of the family.*

**accept somebody into something**

*It often takes years for immigrants to be accepted into the host community.*

- 5 | agree to take/deal with something** [transitive] FORGIVE to agree to take or deal with something that someone gives you, or to say that it is suitable or good enough:

*The government has **accepted the resignation** of a senior army commander.*

*Please **accept** my sincere **apologies**.*

*Sorry, we don't accept traveller's cheques.*

- 6 | suggestion/advice** [transitive] to decide to do what someone suggests or advises you should do:

*Be prepared to accept the advice of members of staff.*

- 7 | believe an explanation/statement** [transitive] to agree that what someone says is right or true

OPP

*She has accepted your explanation as to why you didn't attend the meeting.*

- 8 accept responsibility/blame for something** RESPONSIBLE

to admit that you were responsible for something bad that happened:

*The University will not accept responsibility for items lost or stolen.*

## COLLOCATIONSense 1

### nouns

accept an offer *In the end I had to accept his offer of £4,500.*

accept an invitation *Are you going to accept their invitation to the wedding?*

accept help *Don't be afraid to accept help if you need it.*

accept aid *Egypt gratefully accepted American economic aid.*

accept assistance *They were ready to accept French military assistance.*

accept a challenge *To protect the environment we must accept some difficult challenges.*

accept an award *Miller accepted the award for best comedy show.*

accept an opportunity *I wish that I'd accepted the opportunity to retire when it was offered.*

accept a gift/present *Accepting presents from him made her feel uncomfortable.*

accept a job *She was desperate for money so she accepted the job.*

accept a lift (BrE),

accept a ride (AmE)

*I had been taught not to accept lifts from strangers.*

accept a bribe *The president's family and friends accepted massive bribes in exchange for official favours.*

## adverbs

gladly/ willingly/ readily accept *She invited him for a drink and he gladly accepted.*

gratefully accept *He gratefully accepted Athena's help.*

graciously accept *She accepted her gift graciously.*

## Word origin

**Date:** 1300–1400

**Language:** French

**Origin:** *accepter*, from Latin *acceptare*, from *accipere* 'to receive', from *ad-* 'to' + *capere* 'to take'