

# all 'right

S1 W2

adjective [not before noun] , adv , interjection

1 SATISFACTORYGOOD ENOUGH **good** satisfactory, but not excellent

**SYN** okay

*'What's the food like?' 'It's all right, but the place on campus is better.'*

*'How's school going, Steve?' 'Oh, all right, I guess.'*

2 GOOD/EXCELLENTUNHARMED/WITHOUT PROBLEMS **no problems** not ill, hurt, or upset or not having any problems

**SYN** okay

*Kate looks really unhappy – I'd better make sure she's all right.*

*Are you **feeling all right**?*

*The kids seem to be **getting on all right** at school.*

*Tony was worried about the meeting but it **went all right** (= happened with no problems) .*

*Don't worry, it'll **turn out all right**.*

3 **do all right (for yourself/herself etc)** SUCCESSFUL

to be successful in your job, life etc:

*She's **doing all right** – she's got a job with Microsoft.*

4 SUITABLECONVENIENT **suitable** used to say whether something is suitable or convenient

**SYN** okay:

**all right with/by/for**

*Is Thursday morning **all right with you**?*

*We'll eat at eight. Does that **sound all right to you**?*

5 **it's all right** COMFORT/MAKE SOMEBODY FEEL BETTER

used to make someone feel less afraid or worried:

*It's all right, Mommy's here.*

## 6 **it's/that's all right**

used to reply to someone who thanks you or says they are sorry about something:

*'Thanks for all your help!' 'That's **quite all right.**'*

## 7 **LET/ALLOW | permission** used to ask or give permission for something

**SYN** okay

*Would it be all right if I left early?*

**be all right to do something**

*Is it all right to bring my dog?*

## 8 **YES | agreement** used to agree with someone's suggestion, although you may be slightly unwilling

**SYN** okay

*'Why not come along?' 'Oh, all right.'*

## 9 **CHECK UNDERSTANDING | understanding** [sentence adverb] used to check that someone understands what you have said, or to show that you understand

**SYN** okay

*I'll leave a key with the neighbours, all right?*

*'The train leaves at 5.30.' 'All right, I'm coming!'*

## 10 **| threaten** used when asking in a threatening or angry way what someone's intentions are

**SYN** okay

*All right, you two. What are you doing in my room?*

## 11 **| change/end subject** used to introduce a new subject or to end a conversation

**SYN** okay

*All right, now I'd like to introduce our first speaker.*

**12 it's all right for somebody (BrE) (informal)** LUCKY

used to say that someone else does not have the problems that you have, or that you are jealous because someone else is luckier than you:

*'I get eight weeks' holiday a year.' 'Well, it's all right for some.'*

**13 emphasize (informal)** used to emphasize that you are certain about something:

*'Are you sure it was Bill?' 'Oh, yes, it was him all right.'*

**14 happy (AmE) (informal)** used to say you are happy about something you have just been told:

*You passed? All right!*

**15 LIKE SOMEBODY OR SOMETHING like (BrE)** used to describe someone you like or approve of:

*'The new boss isn't too bad, is she?' 'No, she's all right.'*

**16 greeting (informal) (especially BrE)** used as a greeting when you meet someone you know well, or reply to a greeting:

*'How are you, John?' 'Oh, all right – can't complain.'*

**17 I'm all right Jack (BrE) (informal)**

used to describe someone's attitude when they do not care about other people as long as they themselves are happy, comfortable etc

**18 it'll be all right on the night (BrE) (informal)**

used to say that something will be successful, even though there have been lots of problems:

*Workmen have yet to finish the new complex, but the organisers are confident it will be all right on the night.*

→ **a bit of all right** [AT BIT<sup>1</sup>](#) (12)