

al·ter·na·tive¹ S2 W2 AC

/ɔ:l'tɜ:nətɪv \$ ɒ:l'tɜ:r-, æl-/

adjective

1 [only before noun] CHOOSE an alternative idea, plan etc is different from the one you have and can be used instead:

alternative ways/approach/methods etc

alternative approaches to learning

*Have you any **alternative suggestions**?*

*An **alternative route** is along the ViaUnione.*

2 CONVENTIONAL deliberately different from what is usual, expected, or traditional:

alternative music/theatre etc

*Tucson's **alternative radio station***

*sources of **alternative energy** (= energy produced by the sun, wind etc rather than by gas, coal etc)*

*tolerance of **alternative lifestyles***

alternative medicine/therapies (= medical treatment that is not based on the usual western methods)

*Acupuncture is widely used by practitioners of **alternative medicine**.*

— **alternatively** adv:

*You can relax on the beach **or alternatively** try the bustling town centre.*

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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