

as·sist¹

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/ə'sist/

verb (formal)

1 [intransitive and transitive] HELP to help someone to do something:

assist (somebody) with/in something

You will be employed to assist in the development of new equipment.

⚠ Do not say 'assist someone to do something'. Say **assist someone with something** or **assist someone in doing something**: *The teacher assists the children with their tasks. | someone who can assist them in planning their careers*

2 [transitive] HELP to make it easier for someone to do something:

They had no maps to assist them.

In everyday English, people usually say **help** rather than **assist**:

*We'll **help** in any way we can.*

*They have special software to **help** them process invoices.*

Word origin

Date: 1400–1500

Language: French

Origin: *assister* 'to be present, help', from Latin *assistere*, from *ad-* 'to' + *sistere* 'to cause to stand'

assist²

noun

[countable]

an action that helps another player on your sports team to make a point

