

ac·id¹

W3

/ˈæsɪd/

noun

1 [uncountable and countable] a chemical substance that has a pH of less than 7. Strong acids can burn holes in material or damage your skin:

sulphuric acid

2 [uncountable] (informal) the drug LSD

acid²

adjective

1 having a sharp sour taste

SYN bitter

a juicy apple with a slightly acid flavour

2 acid remark/comment/tone etc CRITICIZE

an acid remark uses humour in an unkind way to criticize someone:

I was expecting another of his acid remarks, but he remained silent.

3 the acid test PROVE

a way of finding out whether something is as good as people say it is, whether it works, or whether it is true:

People ask if the team is good enough. This match will be the acid test.

4 (technical) an acid soil does not contain much LIME¹ (3):

Blueberry bushes need a very acid soil.

— **acidity** /əˈsɪdɪti/ noun [uncountable]

Word origin

Date: 1600–1700

Language: French

Origin: *acide*, from Latin *acidus*, from *acere* 'to be sour'

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

© Pearson Education Limited 2009, 2011, 2015