

bring

S1 W1

/brɪŋ/

verb [transitive]

(past tense and past participle **brought** /brɔ:t \$ brɔ:t/)

1

a)

to take something or someone with you to the place where you are now, or to the place you are talking about

→ take:

Did you bring an umbrella?

*It was the first time Joey had ever **brought** a girl **home**.*

*They **brought news** of further fighting along the border.*

bring somebody/something to somebody/something

Is it OK if I bring some friends to the party?

bring somebody/something with you

For some reason, Jesse had brought a tape recorder with him.

b)

to get something for someone and take it to them:

bring somebody something

Can you bring me another beer?

Robert asked the waiter to bring him the check.

While she was in prison, friends used to bring her books.

bring somebody/something to somebody/something

He expects me to bring everything to him.

2 CAUSE

a)

to make a particular situation exist, or cause a particular feeling:

*efforts to **bring peace** to the region*

The strikes are expected to bring chaos.

The senator's speech brought an angry response from Civil Rights groups.

b)

to cause someone or something to reach a particular state or condition:

bring something to an end/a close/a halt/a conclusion

(= make something stop)

The trial was swiftly brought to an end.

*It was the war that first **brought him to power** (= made him have power over a country) .*

*So far the US has been unable to **bring him to justice** (= make him be punished for his actions) .*

***Bring the sauce to the boil** (= heat it until it boils) .*

*The country had been **brought to its knees** (= caused to be in such a bad condition that it is almost impossible to continue) .*

3 [always + adverb/preposition] to make something move in a particular direction:

bring something up/down/round etc

Bring your arm up slowly until it's level with your shoulder.

The storm brought the old oak tree crashing down.

4 go [always + adverb/preposition] if something brings people to a place, it makes them go there:

The discovery of gold brought thousands of people to the Transvaal.

what brings you here? (= used to ask why someone is in a particular place)

What brings you here on a night like this?

5 to make something available for people to use, have, enjoy etc:

The expansion of state education brought new and wider opportunities for working class children.

bring something to somebody/something

The government is launching a new initiative to bring jobs to deprived areas.

bring somebody something

It's a good sign – let's hope it will bring us some luck.

6 if a period of time brings a particular event or situation, the event or

situation happens during that time:

The 1930s brought unemployment and economic recession.

Who knows what the future will bring?

7 bring charges/a lawsuit/a court case/a prosecution/a claim (against somebody)

to begin a court case in order to try to prove that someone has done something wrong or is legally responsible for something wrong:

Survivors of the fire later brought a billion-dollar lawsuit against the company.

The police say they are planning to bring charges against him.

8 bring a smile to somebody's lips/face

to make someone smile:

Her words brought a sudden smile to his lips.

9 bring tears to somebody's eyes

to make someone start to cry:

The pain brought tears to his eyes.

10 bring the total/number/score etc to something

used when saying what the new total etc is:

This brings the total to 46.

11 cannot/could not bring yourself to do something CAN'T

to feel unable to do something because it would upset you or someone else too much:

She still can't bring herself to talk about it.

12 (spoken) used when saying that something is the next thing that you want to talk about:

that/this/which brings me to...

This brings me to the main point of today's meeting.

13 if a programme is brought to you by a particular television or radio company, they broadcast it or make it:

something is brought to you by somebody

This programme is brought to you by the BBC.

14 bring something to bear (on/upon something) (formal)

to use something, for example your power, authority, or your knowledge,

in a way that will have a big effect on something or someone:

The full force of the law was brought to bear on anyone who criticized the government.

15 bring home the bacon (informal)

to earn the money that your family needs to live

COLLOCATIONS – Meaning 2

nouns

bring peace/ war *The treaty brought peace to both England and France.*

bring chaos *A bomb scare brought chaos to the town centre yesterday.*

bring somebody pleasure/joy/ pain/ grief etc *The decision brought him great relief.*

phrases

bring something to an end/ halt (= especially something bad) *It is our responsibility to discuss how this conflict can be brought to an end.*

bring something to a close (= especially a meeting) *At last the meeting was brought to a close.*

bring something to a conclusion (= used especially in law) *Juvenile cases need to be brought to a conclusion quickly.*

bring somebody to power (= make someone have power over a country) *The revolution brought to power a communist government.*

bring somebody to justice (= catch and punish someone for their actions) *The authorities swore that the killers would be brought to justice.*

bring somebody into contact with somebody/ something *The people of the island were suddenly brought into contact with the outside world.*

bring something/ somebody to their knees (= make it almost impossible for somebody/ something to continue) *A severe drought brought the country to its knees.*

THESAURUS

bring to take something or someone to the place where you are now, or the place where you are going: *Have you brought your ticket with you?* | *He asked his father if he could bring a friend to stay.*

take to move something to another place, or help someone go to another place: *I took a book with me to read on the train.* | *He was taken to hospital by ambulance.*

get (also **fetch** (especially BrE)) to go to another place and come back with something or someone: *I went upstairs to get my jacket.* | *Joseph told me to fetch the doctor, so I ran to the village.*

bring something ↔ about phrasal verb

HAPPEN to make something happen

SYN cause

How can we bring about a change in attitudes?

A huge amount of environmental damage has been brought about by the destruction of the rain forests.

bring somebody/ something ↔ along phrasal verb

to take someone or something with you when you go somewhere:

You're welcome to bring along a friend.

I've brought some pictures along to show you.

bring somebody/ something around/ round phrasal verb

1 **bring the conversation around/round to something** INTRODUCE

to deliberately and gradually introduce a new subject into a conversation:

I'll try to bring the conversation around to the subject of money.

2 CONSCIOUS to make someone become conscious again:

I slapped his face a couple of times to try to bring him round.

3 PERSUADE to manage to persuade someone to do something or to agree with you:

She won't listen to me. Let's see if Sue can bring her round.

bring somebody around to

I'm sure I can bring him around to our point of view.

4 TAKE/BRING to bring someone or something to someone's house:

I'll bring the books around tomorrow.

bring back

phrasal verb

1 bring something ↔ back START SOMETHING/MAKE SOMETHING START

to start to use something again that was used in the past

SYN reintroduce

The city council has decided to bring back the old electric trams.

Bringing back the death penalty has done absolutely nothing to reduce crime.

2 bring something ↔ back REMEMBER

to make you remember something:

*The trip **brought back** a lot of happy **memories**.*

*Seeing those pictures on TV **brought it all back** to me.*

3 bring something ↔ back TAKE/BRING

to take something or someone with you when you come back from somewhere:

bring something back for somebody

Don't forget to bring something back for the kids.

bring somebody back something

If you're going to the store, could you bring me back a six-pack?

4 bring somebody ↔ back

to return someone to their previous job or position of authority

SYN reinstate

Following their latest defeat, soccer fans are urging the club to bring back the former manager.

5 bring somebody back to something INTRODUCE

if something that is said brings you back to a particular subject, it is

connected with that subject, so you will start talking about it again:

This brings us back to the question of funding.

bring somebody/ something ↔ down

phrasal verb

1 to reduce something to a lower level:

The government hopes these measures will help to bring down inflation.

2 DOWN to fly a plane down to the ground

SYN land

The pilot managed to bring the plane down safely.

3 DOWN to make a plane, bird, or animal fall to the ground by shooting at it:

A bomber had been brought down by anti-aircraft fire.

4 GET RID OF to force a government or ruler to stop ruling a country:

a crisis that could bring down the government

5 FALL to make someone fall over:

He was brought down by the goalkeeper and awarded a penalty.

bring something ↔ down on/ upon somebody

phrasal verb

HAPPEN to make something bad happen to someone, especially to yourself or to people connected with you:

His recklessness brought down disaster on the whole family.

bring something ↔ forth

phrasal verb

(literary)

CAUSE to produce something or make it appear:

a tragic love affair that brought forth only pain

bring something ↔ forward

phrasal verb

1 SOON to change an arrangement so that something happens sooner:

bring something ↔ forward to

The meeting's been brought forward to Thursday.

2 bring forward legislation/plans/policies etc PLAN

to officially introduce plans etc for people to discuss:

The government has brought forward new proposals to tackle the problem of increasing crime.

3 COUNT/CALCULATE to record the result of a calculation so that it can be used in a further calculation:

The balance brought forward is £21,765.

bring somebody/ something ↔ in
phrasal verb**1** to introduce a new law:

Harsh anti-Trade Union laws were brought in in the early 1980s.

2 ASK FOR SOMETHING/ASK SOMEBODY TO DO SOMETHING to ask someone to become involved in a discussion or situation:

I'd like to bring in Doctor Hall here and ask him his views.

bring somebody in to do something

The police were brought in to investigate the matter.

3 EARN to earn a particular amount or produce a particular amount of profit:

The sale of the house only brought in about £45,000.

4 to attract customers to a shop or business:

We've got to bring in more business if we want the restaurant to survive.

5 bring in a verdict

to say officially in a law court whether someone is guilty or not guilty of a crime

SYN return a verdict

The jury brought in a verdict of not guilty.

bring somebody/ something into something
phrasal verb**1** to cause someone or something to be in a particular situation:

Most of the land has now been brought into cultivation.

The work brought me into contact with a lot of very interesting people.

2 to make someone become involved in a discussion or situation:

The government is trying to bring teachers into the debate on education.

There is a danger that this could bring other countries into the war.

bring something ↔ off

phrasal verb

SUCCEED IN DOING SOMETHING to succeed in doing something difficult

SYN pull off

They managed to bring off the most daring jewellery robbery in history.

bring something ↔ on

phrasal verb

1 CAUSE to make something bad or unpleasant happen

SYN cause

Stress can bring on an asthma attack.

What's brought this on? Have I upset you somehow?

2 to help someone to improve or make progress:

Teachers have to bring on the bright children and at the same time give extra help to those who need it.

3 GROW/GET BIGGER to make plants or crops grow faster:

Keeping the young plants in a greenhouse will help bring them on.

4 bring it on (informal)

used to say that you are prepared and willing to deal with something bad that is likely to happen

bring something on/ upon somebody

phrasal verb

CAUSE to make something unpleasant happen to someone:

You have brought disaster on the whole village!

bring something on/upon yourself

I've got no sympathy for him – he's brought this all on himself!

bring somebody onto something

phrasal verb

if something brings you onto a particular subject, it is a good time for you to start talking about it:

This brings me onto the question of pay rises.

bring something ↔ out

phrasal verb

1 IMPROVE to make something easier to see, taste, notice etc:

The spices really bring out the flavour of the meat.

Fatherhood seems to have brought out the caring side of him.

2 SELL to produce something that will be sold to the public:

He's bringing out a new album next month.

3 to take something out of a place:

Jenny opened the cupboard and brought out a couple of bottles.

4 bring out the best/worst in somebody BEHAVE

to make someone behave in the best or worst way that they can:

Alcohol just brings out the worst in her.

5 bring somebody out of himself/herself

to make someone feel more confident and able to talk to people:

Changing schools has really brought her out of herself.

bring somebody out in something

phrasal verb

CAUSE if something brings you out in spots, it makes them appear on your skin:

Any foods containing wheat bring him out in a rash.

bring somebody/something round

→ BRING AROUND**bring somebody through** (something)

phrasal verb

HELP to help someone to successfully deal with a very difficult event or period of time:

Both my children have brought me through extremely difficult times since my husband died.

bring somebody ↔ together

phrasal verb

1 UNITE to arrange for people to meet and do something together:

We brought together researchers from three different universities to work on the project.

2 to make people have a better relationship or feel closer to each other:

Any attack by a foreign power will inevitably bring the people of a country together.

bring somebody/something ↔ up

phrasal verb

1 MENTION to mention a subject or start to talk about it

SYN raise

Why did you have to bring up the subject of money?

2 TEACH to look after and influence a child until he or she is grown up

SYN raise

He was brought up by his grandparents.

bring somebody up to do something

In my day, children were brought up to respect the law.

be brought up (as) a Catholic/Muslim etc

I was brought up a Catholic.

→ UPBRINGING

3 to make something appear on a computer screen:

Can you bring up the list of candidates again?

4 **(BrE)** SICK/VOMIT if you bring food up, it comes back up from your stomach and out of your mouth:

I had a sandwich for lunch and promptly brought it up again.

5 ACCUSE to charge someone with a particular crime and make them go to a court to be judged:

bring somebody/something ↔ up before

He was brought up before a magistrate, charged with dangerous driving.

6 **bring somebody up short/with a start**

to surprise someone and make them suddenly stop talking or doing something:

Her question brought me up short.

Word origin

Language: Old English

Origin: *bringan*

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