

# be-long S2 W2

/bi'lon \$ bi'lɒŋ/

**verb** [intransitive not in progressive]

- 1 [always + adverb/preposition] PLACE if something belongs somewhere, that is the right place or situation for it:

*Put the chair back where it belongs.*

## belong in

*an attitude that doesn't belong in modern society*

- 2 DIFFERENT if you feel you belong in a place or situation, you feel happy and comfortable in it, because you have the same interests and ideas as other people:

*I worked there for five years but never really felt I belonged.*

— **belonging** **noun** [uncountable] :

*It's important to have a **sense of belonging** (= a feeling that you are happy and comfortable somewhere) .*

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## belong to somebody/ something

**phrasal verb**

- 1 if something belongs to someone, they own it:

*The book belongs to Dan.*

*Who does this scarf belong to?*

- 2 to be a member of a group or organization:

*He belongs to the golf club.*

- 3 to be related to something or form part of it:

*cars that belong to a different era*

- 4 to be related to or produced by a particular person:

*She recognized the voice as belonging to the man who had attacked her.*

**5** if a competition or period of time belongs to someone, they are the most important or successful person in it:

*All the acts were good, but the evening belonged to a dance group from Moscow.*

**Word origin**

**Date:** 1300–1400

**Origin:** *long* 'to be suitable' (12–19 centuries), from Old English *gelang* 'dependent on'

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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