

at·tend

S2 W2

/ə'tend/

verb (formal)

- 1** [intransitive and transitive] GO TO/ATTEND to go to an event such as a meeting or a class:

Only 12 people attended the meeting.

Please let us know if you are unable to attend.

In everyday English, people usually say **go (to)** or **come (to)** instead of **attend**:

*I didn't **go to** the parents' meeting.*

*Please let us know if you can't **come**.*

- 2** [intransitive and transitive] GO TO/ATTEND to go regularly to a school, church etc:

I am the first child in my family to attend college.

- 3** [transitive] (formal) EXIST to happen or exist at the same time as something:

the peculiar atmosphere which attends such an event

- 4** [transitive usually passive] LOOK AFTER SOMEBODY to look after someone, especially because they are ill:

On his deathbed the General was attended by several doctors.

attend to somebody/something

phrasal verb

- 1** DEAL WITH to deal with business or personal matters:

I may be late – I have got one or two things to attend to.

- 2** LOOK AFTER SOMEBODY to help a customer in a shop or a restaurant

Word origin

Date: 1300–1400

Language: Old French

Origin: *atendre*, from Latin *attendere*, from *ad-* 'to' + *tendere* 'to stretch'

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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