

af·fect

S2 W1 AC

/ə'fekt/

verb [transitive]

- 1 EFFECT/INFLUENCE to do something that produces an effect or change in something or in someone's situation:

the areas affected by the hurricane

a disease that affects the central nervous system

*decisions which **affect** our **lives***

*Trading has been **adversely affected** by the downturn in consumer spending.*

- 2 [usually passive] EMOTIONAL to make someone feel strong emotions:

*We were all **deeply affected** by her death.*

- 3 (formal) PRETEND to pretend to have a particular feeling, way of speaking etc:

As usual, Simon affected complete boredom.

He used to affect a foreign accent.

Word origin

Sense 1-2:

Date: 1300–1400

Language: Latin

Origin: past participle of *afficere* 'to influence', from *ad-* 'to' + *facere* 'to do'

Sense 3:

Date: 1400–1500

Language: French

Origin: *affecter*, from Latin *affectare*, from *afficere*