

# be-tween S1 W1

/bi'twi:n/

adverb, preposition

- 1 (also in **between**)<sup>BETWEEN</sup> in or through the space that separates two things, people, or places:

*I sat down between Sue and Jane.*

*a house and stables, with a yard in between*

*The ball rolled between his feet.*

- 2 <sup>BETWEEN</sup> (also in **between**) in the time that separates two times or events:

*Are there any public holidays between Christmas and Easter?*

*You shouldn't eat between meals.*

*The team have a lot of work to do between now and Sunday.*

*A lot of students spend a year abroad in between school and university.*

*I've had a few jobs, with long periods of unemployment in between.*

- 3 within a range of amounts, numbers, distances etc:

*The project will cost between eight and ten million dollars.*

*Most of the victims were young men between the ages of 16 and 21.*

- 4 <sup>BETWEEN</sup> used to say which two places are joined or connected by something:

*They're building a new road between Manchester and Sheffield.*

- 5 <sup>RELATIONSHIP</sup> used to say which people or things are involved in something together or are connected:

*the long-standing friendship between Bob and Bryan*

*co-operation between the two countries*

*She had overheard a private conversation between two MPs.*

*the link between serious sunburn and deadly skin cancer*

- 6** SHARE used to say which people or things get, have, or are involved in something that is shared:

*Tom divided his money between his children.*

*Between the four of them they managed to lift her into the ambulance.*

*We collected £17 between us.*

- 7** used to say which two things or people you are comparing:

*the contrast between town and country life*

*In her book she makes a comparison between Russian and British ballet.*

*the difference between good music and really great music*

- 8** **between you and me** (also **between ourselves**) (spoken) SECRET

used before telling someone something that you do not want them to tell anyone else:

*Between you and me, I think Schmidt's about to resign.*

- 9** **come between somebody** ARGUE

if something comes between two people, it causes an argument or problems between them:

*I let my stupid pride come between us.*

- 10** EXACT used when it is difficult to give an exact description of something and you therefore have to compare it to two things that are similar to it:

*He uttered a sound that was something between a sigh and a groan.*

**Word origin**

**Language:** Old English

**Origin:** *betweonum*

