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From Middle English difference, from Old French difference, from Latin differentia (“difference”), from differēns (“different”), present participle of differre. Doublet of differentia. Morphologically differ + -ence. difference (countable and uncountable, plural differences) (uncountable) The quality of being different. Antonyms: identity, sameness You need to learn to be more tolerant of difference. (countable) A characteristic of something that makes it different from something else. There are three differences between these two pictures. 2013 June 1, “Towards the end of poverty”, in The Economist[1], volume 407, number 8838, page 11:But poverty’s scourge is fiercest below $1.25 (the average of the 15 poorest countries’ own poverty lines, measured in 2005 dollars and adjusted for differences in purchasing power): people below that level live lives that are poor, nasty, brutish and short. (countable) A disagreement or argument. We have our little differences, but we are firm friends. 1611 April (first recorded performance), William Shakespeare, “The Tragedie of Cymbeline”, in Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, & Tragedies […] (First Folio), London: […] Isaac Iaggard, and Ed[ward] Blount, published 1623, →OCLC, [Act I, scene v]:What was the difference? It was a contention in public. 1714, Thomas Ellwood, The History of the Life of Thomas Ellwood: written by his own hand:Away therefore went I with the constable, leaving the old warden and the young constable to compose their difference as they could. (countable, uncountable) Significant change in or effect on a situation or state. It just won't make much difference to me. It just won't make much of a difference to anyone. 1908 October, Kenneth Grahame, The Wind in the Willows, New York, N.Y.: Charles Scribner’s Sons, →OCLC:The line of the horizon was clear and hard against the sky, and in one particular quarter it showed black against a silvery climbing phosphorescence that grew and grew. At last, over the rim of the waiting earth the moon lifted with slow majesty till it swung clear of the horizon and rode off, free of moorings; and once more they began to see surfaces—meadows wide-spread, and quiet gardens, and the river itself from bank to bank, all softly disclosed, all washed clean of mystery and terror, all radiant again as by day, but with a difference that was tremendous. 1967, Barbara Sleigh, Jessamy, Sevenoaks, Kent: Bloomsbury, published 1993, →ISBN, page 105:As she did so Fanny put down her book , stood up and stretched her arms, and at once Jessamy noticed a difference. It was the same Fanny but not the Fanny who climbed trees and tore her frock playing in the garden. It was as though a young lady film had settled over her, neatening her unruly hair, which was tied back with a large black bow, and primly composing her small mouth. (countable) The result of a subtraction; sometimes the absolute value of this result. The difference between 3 and 21 is 18. (obsolete) Choice; preference. (heraldry) An addition to a coat of arms to distinguish two people's bearings which would otherwise be the same. See augmentation and cadency. (logic) The quality or attribute which is added to those of the genus to constitute a species; a differentia. (logic circuits) A Boolean operation which is true when the two input variables are different but is otherwise false; the XOR operation (A B ¯ + A ¯ B {\displaystyle \scriptstyle A{\overline {B}}+{\overline {A}}B}). (relational algebra) The set of elements that are in one set but not another (A B ¯ {\displaystyle \scriptstyle A{\overline {B}}}). Other terms used in arithmetic operations: Advanced hyperoperations: tetration, pentation, hexation difference (third-person singular simple present differences, present participle differencing, simple past and past participle differenced) (obsolete, transitive) To distinguish or differentiate. 1672, Gideon Harvey, Morbus Anglicus, Or, The Anatomy of Consumptions:This simple spectation of the lungs is differenced from that which concomitates a pleurisy. 1901 [1839], Philip James Bailey, Festus: A Poem, London: George Routledge & Sons, page 10:[…] and souls, like in the mass, but differenced in themselves, with special gifts, duties and joys […] 1904, Arthur Charles Fox-Davies, The Art of Heraldry: An Encyclopædia of Armory, London: T.C. & E.C. Jack, page 344:In the Calais Roll the arms of William de Warren […] are differenced by the addition of a canton said to be that of Fitzalan […] (to distinguish or differentiate): differentiate, distinguish differdifferentdifferentialdifferentiatedifferentiation “difference”, in Webster’s Revised Unabridged Dictionary, Springfield, Mass.: G. & C. Merriam, 1913, →OCLC. William Dwight Whitney, Benjamin E[li] Smith, editors (1911), “difference”, in The Century Dictionary […], New York, N.Y.: The Century Co., →OCLC. differens, defference, defferense, dyfferens From Old French difference, from Latin differēntia; equivalent to differren (“to postpone”) + -ence. IPA(key): /ˈdifɛrɛns(ə)/, /diˈfɛrɛns(ə)/ difference (plural differences or difference) English: difference Scots: difference From Latin differentia. difference oblique singular, f (oblique plural differences, nominative singular difference, nominative plural differences) differenced, differences, differencing Meanings Synonyms Sentences Condition, quality, fact, or instance of being different. An instance of disparity or unlikeness. There is a big difference in sound between a clarinet and an oboe. The way in which people or things are different; esp., a determining point or factor that makes for a distinct change or contrast. The state of holding a differing opinion; disagreement. A degree or amount by which things differ. A difference in height of three inches. More Noun Definitions (9) To distinguish as or make different. (it's the) same difference to have an effect; matter to change the outlook or situation to have no effect; not matter to share the remainder equally to make a compromise WordReference Random House Learner's Dictionary of American English © 2025dif•fer•ence /ˈdɪfərəns, ˈdɪfrəns/USA pronunciation   n. [uncountable] the state or relation of being different; dissimilarity. an instance or point of unlikeness or dissimilarity:[countable]the differences in their behavior. a significant change in a situation:[uncountable]It made no difference what I said. a distinguishing characteristic; distinctive quality, feature, etc.:[countable]There was a difference in her face after the ordeal. the degree to which one person or thing differs from another: [countable; usually singular]The difference in their ages is about six months.[uncountable]There isn't much difference between one politician and another. a disagreement in opinion; dispute; quarrel:[countable]a strong difference of opinion. WordReference Random House Unabridged Dictionary of American English © 2025dif•fer•ence (difˊər əns, difˊrəns),USA pronunciation n., v., -enced, -enc•ing. n. the state or relation of being different; dissimilarity:There is a great difference between the two. an instance or point of unlikeness or dissimilarity:What accounts for the differences in their behavior? a significant change in or effect on a situation:His tact makes a difference in the way people accept his suggestions. a distinguishing characteristic; distinctive quality, feature, etc.:The difference in the two products is quality. the degree to which one person or thing differs from another. the act of distinguishing; discrimination; distinction. a disagreement in opinion. a dispute or quarrel. MathematicsAlso called finite distance. the amount by which one quantity is greater or less than another. See relative complement. (of a function f) an expression of the form f(x + h) - f(x). a differentia. Idioms split the difference: to compromise, esp. to make equal concessions. to divide the remainder equally:Let's take half of the cake and let the three of them split the difference. v.t. to cause or constitute a difference in or between; make different. to perceive the difference in or between; discriminate. Latin differentia, equivalent. to different- carrying different ways (see different) + -ia -ia; see -ence Anglo-French) Middle English (1300–50 1. inconsistency, variation, diversity, imbalance, inequality, divergence, contrast, contrariety. Difference, discrepancy, disparity, dissimilarity imply perceivable unlikeness, variation, or diversity. Difference refers to a lack of identity or a degree of unlikeness:a difference of opinion; a difference of six inches.Discrepancy usually refers to an inconsistency between things that should agree, balance, or harmonize:a discrepancy between the statements of two witnesses.Disparity implies inequality, often where a greater equality might reasonably be expected:a great disparity between the ages of husband and wife.Dissimilarity indicates an essential lack of resemblance between things in some respect comparable:a dissimilarity between social customs in Asia and America. 6. See distinction. 1. similarity, agreement. Collins Concise English Dictionary © HarperCollins Publishers:: difference /ˈdɪfərəns; ˈdɪfrəns/ n the state or quality of being unlike a specific instance of being unlike a distinguishing mark or feature a significant change in a situation a disagreement or argument a degree of distinctness, as between two people or things the result of the subtraction of one number, quantity, etc, from another another name for differentiasymmetric difference ⇒ (of two sets) the set of members of the first that are not members of the second an addition to the arms of a family to represent a younger branchmake a difference ⇒ to have an effect to treat differentlysplit the difference ⇒ to settle a dispute by a compromise to divide a remainder equallywith a difference ⇒ with some peculiarly distinguishing quality, good or bad The Percentage Difference Calculator (% difference calculator) will find the percent difference between two positive numbers greater than 0. Percentage difference is usually calculated when you want to know the difference in percentage between two numbers. For this calculator, the order of the numbers does not matter as we are simply dividing the difference between two numbers by the average of the two numbers. To calculate the difference relatively, from an old number to a new number, you would calculate percentage change. Related calculations can be done with Percentage Calculator, Percentage Change Calculator and conversions can be solved with Decimal to Percent, Percent to Decimal, Fraction to Percent, or Percent to Fraction. Percentage Difference Formula: Percentage difference equals the absolute value of the change in value, divided by the average of the 2 numbers, all multiplied by 100. We then append the percent sign, %, to designate the % difference. \(\text{Percentage Difference} \) \(= \dfrac{|\Delta V|}{\left[\dfrac{\Sigma V}{2}\right]} \times 100 \) \(= \dfrac{|V_1-V_2|}{\left[\dfrac{(V_1+V_2)}{2}\right]}\times100 \) For example, how to calculate the percentage difference: What is the percentage difference between 5 and 7? Let V1 = 5 and V2 = 7 and plug numbers into our formula \(\dfrac{|V_1-V_2|}{\left[\dfrac{(V_1+V_2)}{2}\right]}\times100 \) \(= \dfrac{|5-7|}{\left[\dfrac{(5+7)}{2}\right]}\times100 \) \(= \dfrac{|-2|}{\left[\dfrac{12}{2}\right]}\times100 \) \(= \dfrac{2}{6}\times100 \) \(= 0.333 \times 100 = 33.33\% \; \text{difference} \) Note that if we let V1 = 7 and V2 = 5 we would still have a difference of 33.33% because we are calculating a difference between two numbers and not a change from one number to another, percentage change. References Percent Difference Equations Formulas Calculator from AJ Design Software, last visited 22, Feb. 2011. Wikipedia contributors. "Percent difference" Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, last visited 18 Feb. 2011. nounIdioms jump to other results [countable, uncountable] the way in which two people or things are not like each other; the way in which somebody/something has changedAmericans and Brits speak the same language, but there are big cultural differences. difference between A and B There are no significant differences between the education systems of the two countries.He was studying the similarities and differences between humans and animals.I can never tell the difference (= distinguish) between the twins. difference in something There's no difference in the results.There is a fundamental difference in approach to conservation in Japan.She noticed a marked difference in the children on her second visit.Her work questions notions of gender difference.What a difference! You look great with your hair like that. difference among something Differences among beetle species may prove to be a key factor. despite differences Despite their differences, the two are great friends. opposite similarityLanguage Bank contrastcontrastHighlighting differencesThis survey highlights a number of differences in the way that teenage boys and girls in the UK spend their free time.One of the main differences between the girls and the boys who took part in the research was the way in which they use the internet.Unlike the girls, who use the internet mainly to keep in touch with friends, the boys questioned in this survey tend to use the internet for playing computer games.The girls differ from the boys in that they tend to spend more time keeping in touch with friends on the phone or on social networking websites.Compared to the boys, the girls spend much more time chatting to friends on the phone.On average the girls spend four hours a week chatting to friends on the phone. In contrast, very few of the boys spend more than five minutes a day talking to their friends in this way.The boys prefer competitive sports and computer games, whereas/while the girls seem to enjoy more cooperative activities, such as shopping with friends.When the girls go shopping, they mainly buy clothes and cosmetics. The boys, on the other hand, tend to purchase computer games or gadgets.Extra ExamplesCan you spot the difference between these two photos?Customers can see the difference in quality.He was very aware of his difference from the other children.I noticed a real difference in his attitude.It's difficult to tell the difference between butterflies and moths.One tiny mistake when you're climbing could mean the difference between life and death.Only an expert would know the difference between the male and the female.Our different attitudes to life reflect the differences in our backgrounds.The difference lies in the way the fruit is prepared.The difference with this information service is that it's free.The differences in size arise from the amount of sunshine each plant gets.The questionnaire showed vast differences in what kind of product people want.The study explores the differences between the way girls and boys talk.There are few important policy differences among the main parties.There is a striking difference between eastern and western Europe.There is one key difference with the earlier version of the software.There's a big difference between reading about skiing and doing it yourself.There's all the difference in the world between choosing to do something and being forced to do it.There's not much difference between baseball and softball.We found no significant difference between the two groups.We should be focusing on what we have in common rather than emphasizing our differences.a crucial difference of emphasisTopics Opinion and argumenta1 see also limb differenceOxford Collocations Dictionaryadjectiveverb + differencedifference + verbbeliearise (from something)…prepositiondifference amongdifference betweendifference from… phrasesa… with a differenceall the difference in the worlda great deal of difference…See full entry [singular, uncountable] the amount that something is greater or smaller than something else difference in something We measured the difference in temperature. difference between A and B The difference between the two numbers gives you the profit.There's an age difference of six years between the boys (= one is six years older than the other). difference in something between A and B There is not much difference in price between the two brands.I'll lend you £500 and you'll have to find the difference (= the rest of the money that you need). see also goal differenceExtra ExamplesHe didn't have enough money, but his aunt agreed to make up the difference.He sold the car for more than he'd paid and pocketed the difference.I found very little difference in size.If you decide on the more expensive model, you can bring this one back and pay the difference.The difference in price is not very significant.What's the time difference between London and Tokyo?People disapproved of their marriage because of the age difference.Oxford Collocations Dictionaryverb + differenceSee full entry [countable] a disagreement between peopleWe have our differences, but she's still my sister.Why don't you settle your differences and be friends again?There was a difference of opinion over who had won.Extra ExamplesWe're going to get the two sides together to see if they can't settle their differences.They have had some minor differences, but in general they get on well together.Differences may arise when the young people do not have the same expectations as their parents.She and Luke had a difference of opinion over how much money they should spend.Although the talks were generally successful, differences remain between the groups.Like any married couple, we have our differences.There were some differences as to how to deal with the crisis.These talks aim to resolve the outstanding differences between the two sides.Topics Opinion and argumentc1Oxford Collocations Dictionaryadjectiveirreconcilablemajorserious…verb + differencedifference + verbprepositiondifference as todifference overphrasesa difference of opinionhave your differencesSee full entry Word OriginMiddle English: via Old French from Latin differentia ‘difference’, from different- ‘carrying away’, from the verb differre, from dis- ‘from, away’ + ferre ‘bring, carry’.Idioms bury the hatchet | bury your differences to stop not being friendly and become friends againAfter not speaking to each other for years, the two brothers decided to bury the hatchet. a distinction without a difference a point that somebody wants to suggest is a difference when in fact it is not different at allHis government did not brand them terrorists, but rather ‘an entity that supports terrorism’. That may prove to be a distinction without a difference. make all the difference (to somebody/something) to have an important effect on somebody/something; to make somebody feel betterA few kind words at the right time make all the difference.Just five minutes' exercise a day could make all the difference. make a, no, some, etc. difference (to somebody/to something/in something) to have an effect/no effect on somebody/somethingThe rain didn't make much difference to the game.Your age shouldn't make any difference to whether you get the job or not.Changing schools made a big difference to my life.What difference will it make if he knows or not?I don't think it makes a lot of difference what colour it is (= it is not important).‘Shall we go on Friday or Saturday?’ ‘It makes no difference (to me).’Extra ExamplesThe extra money will make a lot of difference to us.What difference does it make if he doesn't have a car?A small number of additional jobs can make a crucial difference to economic conditions.The new central heating has made an enormous difference to the house. (informal) used to say that you think the differences between two things are not important‘That's not a xylophone, it's a glockenspiel.’ ‘Same difference.’ (when discussing a price, etc.) to agree on an amount that is at an equal distance between the two amounts that have been suggestedI offered €200 but he wanted €300. In the end, we split the difference and I paid him €250. (figurative) I wanted to leave early and Ian wanted to leave late, so we split the difference and left at noon. (informal) (after nouns) used to show that something is interesting or unusualThe traditional backpack with a difference—it's waterproof.If you want a holiday with a difference, come to Iceland. a/the world of difference (informal) used to emphasize how much difference there is between two thingsThere's a world of difference between liking someone and loving them. See difference in the Oxford Advanced American DictionarySee difference in the Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English noun (10)verb (used with object) (2)View synonyms for differencethe state or relation of being different; dissimilarity.There is a great difference between the two.Antonyms: agreement, similarityan instance or point of unlikeness or dissimilarity.What accounts for the differences in their behavior?a significant change in or effect on a situation.His tact makes a difference in the way people accept his suggestions.a distinguishing characteristic; distinctive quality, feature, etc..The difference in the two products is quality.the degree to which one person or thing differs from another.the act of distinguishing; discrimination; distinction.a disagreement in opinion.a dispute or quarrel.Also called finite distance. Mathematics.the amount by which one quantity is greater or less than another.relative complement.(of a functionf) an expression of the form f (x +h) − f (x).a differentia.differenced, differencing to cause or constitute a difference in or between; make different.to perceive the difference in or between; discriminate.the state or quality of being unlikea specific instance of being unlikea distinguishing mark or featurea significant change in a situationthe difference in her is amazinga disagreement or argumenthe had a difference with his wifea degree of distinctness, as between two people or thingsthe result of the subtraction of one number, quantity, etc, from anotherthe single number that when added to the subtrahend gives the minuend; remainderlogic another name for differentiamaths A – B. the set of members of the first that are not members of the secondOften symbolized: A + B. the set of members of one but not both of the given setsheraldry an addition to the arms of a family to represent a younger branchto have an effectto treat differentlyto settle a dispute by a compromiseto divide a remainder equallywith some peculiarly distinguishing quality, good or bad“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012rare, to distinguishheraldry to add a charge to (arms) to differentiate a branch of a family“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012Idiomssplit the difference, to compromise, especially to make equal concessions. to divide the remainder equally.Let's take half of the cake and let the three of them split the difference.see make a difference; split the difference. Also see under different.Difference, discrepancy, disparity, dissimilarity imply perceivable unlikeness, variation, or diversity. Difference refers to a lack of identity or a degree of unlikeness: a difference of opinion; a difference of six inches. Discrepancy usually refers to an inconsistency between things that should agree, balance, or harmonize: a discrepancy between the statements of two witnesses. Disparity implies inequality, often where a greater equality might reasonably be expected: a great disparity between the ages of husband and wife. Dissimilarity indicates an essential lack of resemblance between things in some respect comparable: a dissimilarity between social customs in Asia and America. See distinction.Examples are provided to illustrate real-world usage of words in context. Any opinions expressed do not reflect the views of Dictionary.com."Many neurodevelopmental, mental health and neurological conditions are linked to the way the brain is wired. Indeed, differences in brain wiring predict difficulties with attention, language, memory, and a whole host of different behaviors."Read more on Science Daily"We hope this new technique of visualizing synaptic membrane dynamics in live brain tissue samples can help us understand similarities and differences in nonheritable and heritable forms of the condition," Watanabe says.Read more on Science DailyNo two fouls are ever the same and there are subtle differences between the two.Despite efforts, however, substantial differences remain between Moscow and Kyiv's positions.The other key difference is access to corporate executives.Definitions and idiom definitions from Dictionary.com Unabridged, based on the Random House Unabridged Dictionary, © Random House, Inc. 2023Idioms from The American Heritage® Idioms Dictionary copyright © 2002, 2001, 1995 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.differdifference thresholdBrowse#aabbccddeeffgghhiijjkkllmmnnooppqqrrssttuuvvwwxxyyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC Also found in: Thesaurus, Medical, Legal, Acronyms, Idioms, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia. disparity; unlikeness; distinction: made a differenceNot to be confused with:deference – courteous respect for another’s opinion, wishes, or judgment: treated with deferenceAbused, Confused, & Misused Words by Mary Embree Copyright © 2007, 2013 by Mary Embree (dĭfˊər-əns, dĭfˊrəns)n.1. The quality or condition of being unlike or dissimilar.2. a. An instance of disparity or unlikeness: There is a big difference in sound between a clarinet and an oboe.b. A degree or amount by which things differ: a difference in height of three inches.3. A noticeable change or effect: Exercise has made a difference in her health.4. A disagreement or controversy: Let's settle our differences.5. Discrimination in taste or choice; distinction: In this case, the law should make no difference between young and old.6. Mathematics a. The amount by which one quantity is greater or less than another.b. The amount that remains after one quantity is subtracted from another.tr.v. dif·fer·enced, dif·fer·enc·ing, dif·fer·enc·es To distinguish or differentiate.Synonyms: difference, dissimilarity, unlikeness, divergence, variation, distinction, discrepancy These nouns refer to a lack of correspondence or agreement. Difference is the most general: differences in color and size; a difference of degree but not of kind. Dissimilarity and unlikeness often suggest a wide or fundamental difference: the dissimilarity between human and computer language; attracted to each other by their very unlikeness. However, dissimilarity is also used to emphasize the points of difference between things that are otherwise alike or comparable: an analysis of the dissimilarities between the two sets of data. Divergence can denote a difference resulting from a branching or separation; alternatively, it can indicate a range of difference within a category: the growing divergence between British and American English; a large group with a divergence of opinions on the subject. Variation occurs between things of the same class or species; often it refers to a modification of something original, prescribed, or typical: variations in temperature; a variation of a familiar technique. Distinction often means a difference in detail determinable only by close inspection: the distinction between "good" and "excellent." A discrepancy is a difference between things that should correspond or match: a discrepancy between his words and his actions.American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright © 2016 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. (ˈdɪfərəns; ˈdɪfrəns) n1. the state or quality of being unlike2. a specific instance of being unlike3. a distinguishing mark or feature4. a significant change in a situation: the difference in her is amazing. 5. a disagreement or argument: he had a difference with his wife. 6. a degree of distinctness, as between two people or things7. (Mathematics) a. the result of the subtraction of one number, quantity, etc, from anotherb. the single number that when added to the subtrahend gives the minuend; remainder8. (Logic) logic another name for differentia9. (Mathematics) maths (of two sets)a. the set of members of the first that are not members of the second. Symbol: A – B b. symmetric difference the set of members of one but not both of the given sets. Often symbolized: A + B 10. (Heraldry) heraldry an addition to the arms of a family to represent a younger branch11. make a difference 12. split the difference a. to settle a dispute by a compromiseb. to divide a remainder equally13. with a difference with some peculiarly distinguishing quality, good or badvb (tr) 15. (Heraldry) heraldry to add a charge to (arms) to differentiate a branch of a familyCollins English Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition 2014 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014 (ˈdɪf ər əns, ˈdɪf rəns) n., v. -enced, -enc•ing. n. 1. the state or relation of being different; dissimilarity. 2. an instance or point of unlikeness or dissimilarity: the differences in their behavior. 3. a significant change in or effect on a situation: It made no difference what I said; nothing could persuade him. 4. a distinguishing characteristic; distinctive quality, feature, etc. 5. the degree to which one person or thing differs from another. 6. the act of distinguishing; discrimination; distinction. 7. a disagreement in opinion. 9. Math. a. the amount by which one quantity is greater or less than another. b. (of a function f) an expression of the form f(x + h) −f(x). v.t. 11. to cause or constitute a difference in or between; make different. 12. to perceive the difference in or between; discriminate. [1300–50; Middle English (< Anglo-French) < Latin] Random House Kernerman Webster's College Dictionary, © 2010 K Dictionaries Ltd. Copyright 2005, 1997, 1991 by Random House, Inc. All rights reserved. (dĭfˊər-əns)1. The amount by which one number or quantity is greater or less than another. The difference between 10 and 15, for example, is 5.2. The amount remaining after one number or quantity is subtracted from another. In the equation 15 - 10 = 5, 5 is the difference.The American Heritage® Student Science Dictionary, Second Edition. Copyright © 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. – distinction1. 'difference'The difference between things is the way or ways in which they are not the same.Is there much difference between British and European law?There are many differences between computers and humans.If something makes a difference to a situation, it affects it, usually in a positive way. If something makes no difference to a situation, it doesn't affect it.The training certainly made a difference to staff performance.The story about her past made no difference to his feelings for her.2. 'distinction'If someone points out that two things are different, don't say that they 'make a difference' between the things. You say that they make a distinction or draw a distinction between them.It is important to make a distinction between claimants who are over retirement age and those who are not.He draws a distinction between art and culture.Collins COBUILD English Usage © HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 2004, 2011, 2012Past participle: differencedGerund: differencingImperativePresentPreteritePresent ContinuousPresent PerfectPast ContinuousPast PerfectFutureFuture PerfectFuture ContinuousPresent Perfect ContinuousFuture Perfect ContinuousPast Perfect ContinuousConditionalPast ConditionalImperativedifferencedifferenceCollins English Verb Tables © HarperCollins Publishers 2011 Noun1.difference - the quality of being unlike or dissimilar; "there are many differences between jazz and rock"quality - an essential and distinguishing attribute of something or someone; "the quality of mercy is not strained"--Shakespearedifferential - a quality that differentiates between similar thingsdifferentia - distinguishing characteristics (especially in different species of a genus)distinction - a distinguishing difference; "he learned the distinction between gold and lead"dissimilarity, unsimilarity - the quality of being dissimilarvariety, change - a difference that is usually pleasant; "he goes to France for variety"; "it is a refreshing change to meet a woman mechanic"inequality - lack of equality; "the growing inequality between rich and poor"sameness - the quality of being alike; "sameness of purpose kept them together"2.difference - a variation that deviates from the standard or norm; "the deviation from the mean"deviation, divergence, departurevariance, variant, discrepancy - an event that departs from expectationsdriftage - the deviation (by a vessel or aircraft) from its intended course due to driftingflection, flexion, inflection - deviation from a straight or normal course3.difference - a disagreement or argument about something important; "he had a dispute with his wife"; "there were irreconcilable differences"; "the familiar conflict between Republicans and Democrats"difference of opinion, dispute, conflictdisagreement - the speech act of disagreeing or arguing or disputingcollision - a conflict of opposed ideas or attitudes or goals; "a collision of interests"gap - a difference (especially an unfortunate difference) between two opinions or two views or two situations4.difference - a significant change; "the difference in her is amazing"; "his support made a real difference"change - a relational difference between states; especially between states before and after some event; "he attributed the change to their marriage"5.difference - the number that remains after subtraction; the number that when added to the subtrahend gives the minuendbalance - the difference between the totals of the credit and debit sides of an accountnumber - a concept of quantity involving zero and units; "every number has a unique position in the sequence"Based on WordNet 3.0, Farlex clipart collection. © 2003-2012 Princeton University, Farlex Inc.noun1. dissimilarity, contrast, variation, change, variety, exception, distinction, diversity, alteration, discrepancy, disparity, deviation, differentiation, peculiarity, divergence, singularity, particularity, distinctness, unlikeness the vast difference in size dissimilarity similarity, resemblance, affinity, relation, conformity, likeness, sameness, congruence, comparability, similitude3. disagreement, conflict, argument, row, clash, dispute, set-to (informal), controversy, contention, quarrel, strife, wrangle, tiff, contretemps, discordance, contrariety They are leaning how to resolve their differences. disagreement agreement, concordance, harmonyCollins Thesaurus of the English Language – Complete and Unabridged 2nd Edition. 2002 © HarperCollins Publishers 1995, 2002noun3. The condition or fact of varying:4. A state of disagreement and disharmony:clash, conflict, confrontation, contention, difficulty, disaccord, discord, discordance, dissension, dissent, dissentience, dissidence, dissonance, faction, friction, inharmony, schism, strife, variance, war, warfare. The American Heritage® Roget's Thesaurus. Copyright © 2013, 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. إِخْتِلافإِخْتِلاف، عَدم إِتِّفاقإِخْتِلَاففَرْق|forskelmeningsforskeldifferensUnterschiedDifferenzMeinungsverschiedenheitunterscheidendifferenziereneroeroavaisuuserotuserilaisuusdifferenzadifferenza di stipendiodifferenzialedifformitàdistinguerediferencijavimasnuomonių nesutapimasskirtingasatšķirībanesaskaņastarpībastrīdsverschildifferentiërenonderscheidonderscheidenforskjellmeningsforskjelldifferanseразницаотличиеразличиеотличительная чертаразностьfarklılıkgörüş ayrılığıuyuşmazlıkanlaşmazlıkaradaki farkCollins Spanish Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged 8th Edition 2005 © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1971, 1988 © HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2005 [ˈdɪfrəns] n (= dissimilarity) → différence fdifference in sth [+ size, colour, age] → différence de qchThere's not much difference in age between us → Il n'y a pas une grande différence d'âge entre nous.difference between → différence entreto tell the difference between (= distinguish) → différencierI can't tell the difference between them → Je suis incapable de les différencier.to make a difference (= be important) → avoir de l'importanceIt makes no difference → Ça n'a pas d'importance.it makes no difference to me (= is of no importance) → cela m'est égal, cela m'est indifférentto make a difference to sth (= affect) → avoir un effet sur qchto make all the difference (= be a decisive factor) → faire toute la différencewith a difference (= very unusual) [holiday, job] → pas comme les autresCollins English/French Electronic Resource. © HarperCollins Publishers 2005Collins German Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged 7th Edition 2005. © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1980 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1997, 1999, 2004, 2005, 2007Collins Italian Dictionary 1st Edition © HarperCollins Publishers 1995 (ˈdifrəns) noun1. what makes one thing unlike another. I can't see any difference between these two pictures; It doesn't make any difference to me whether you go or stay; There's not much difference between them. verskil, onderskeid إِخْتِلاف разлика diferença rozdíl der Unterschied forskel διαφοράdiferencia erinevus فرق؛ تفاوت eroavaisuus différenceשוני □□□□□□□ razlika különbség perbedaan munur differenza 違い skirtumas atšķirība beza verschilforskjellróżnica تفاوت diferença diferenţă разница rozdiel razlika razlika skillnad □□□□□□□□□□□ farklılık, fark 差異 різниця فرق sự khác nhau 差异2. an act of differing, especially a disagreement. We had a difference of opinion; Have they settled their differences? (= Have they stopped arguing?). meningsverskil, geskilpunt إِخْتِلاف، عَدم إِتِّفاق إِخْتِلاف различие diferença neshoda, r Meinungsverschiedenheit meningsforskel διαφωνίαdiferencia erimeelsus اختلاف erimielisyys désaccord חִילוּקֵי דֵעוֹת □□□□□□ neslaganje, razlikovanje nézeteltérés perselisihan disaccordo, controversia 相異 nesutarimas, nuomonių nesutapimas nesaskaņa; strīds berlainan geschil, meningsverschilmeningsforskjellnieporozumienie اختلاف discussão dezacord; neînţelegere разногласие nezhoda spor razlika meningsskiljaktighet, tvist □□□□□□□□□□□ görüş ayrılığı, anlaşmazlık, uyuşmazlık 歧見 незгода, сварка نا موافق □ون□ کی کیفیت sự bất đồng 分歧3. the amount by which one quantity or number is greater than another. If you buy it for me I'll give you $6 now and make up the difference later. verskil فَرْق разлика diferença rozdíl die Differenz forskel διαφορά, υπόλοιποdiferencia vahe باقی مانده؛ بقیه ero différ brojeva különbözet kekurangan mismunur differenza 差 skirtumas starpība kekurangan verschildifferanse, forskjellróżnica نوری diferença diferenţă разница rozdiel razlika razlika mellanskillnad □□□□□□□□ aradaki fark 差額 різниця □ فرق و اختلاف کی مقدار یا درج sự chênh lệch 差额ˈdifferent adjective,diffeˈrentiate (-ˈrenʃieit) verb1. to see or be able to tell a difference (between). I cannot even differentiate starling. onderskei يُفَرِّق различавам diferenciar odlišit, rozlišit unterscheiden zwischen se forskel; differentiere mellem διακρίνωdiferenciar, distinguir eristama تشخیص دادن؛ جدا کردن erottaa distinguer לְהַבְדִּיל □□□□□ □□□ □□□□ razlikovati megkülönböztet membedakan gera greinarmun á distinguere 識別する atskirti atšķirt membezakan onderscheiden skjelne mellom, holde atskilt/fra hverandre odróżnia distinguir a diferenţia, a deosebi отличать rozlíšiť razlikovati razlikovati hålla isär, skilja mellan (på) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□ ayırt etmek, farkı görmek 區別 розрізняти امتیاز کرنا phân biệt 区别2. (with between) to treat differently. She does not differentiate between her two children although one is adopted. onderskeid maak, voortrek يُفَرِّق بَيْنَ، يُمَيِّز разграничавам fazer diferença dělat rozdíl, rozlišovat einen Unterschied machen gøre forskel κάνω διακρίσεις hacer diferencias (entre) vahet tegema فرق گذاشتن بین؛ تبعیض قائل شدن tehdä eroa faire la différence לְהַבְדִּיל □□□□□ □□□□ različito megkülönböztet memperlakukan lain gera greinarmun á fare differenza 差別する skirti izturēties dažādi; šķirot beza-bezakan verschillend behandelen behandle ulikt, gjøre forskjell på traktować inaczej تویير fazer diferença a trata diferit делать различие robiť rozdiel razločevati praviti razliku göra åtskillnad mellan, behandla olika □□□□□□□□□□□□□ ayırım yapmak, farklı muamele etmek 區分 ставитися по-різному فرق کرنا phân biệt đối xử 区分ˈdiffe,rentiˈation noun onderskeiding, begunstiging تَفْريق، تَمْييز разграничаване diferenciação rozlišování die Unterscheidung skelnen; differentiering διαφοροποίησηdiferenciación vah تشخیص؛ تمایز erilaistuminen différenciationהבחנה, בידול □□□-□□□ razlikovanje megkülönböztetés diferensiasi sundurgreining, aðgreining differenziazione 区別 atskyrimas, diferencijavimas diferencēšana; atšķiršana kelainan onderscheidingdifferensiering; forskjellsbehandling odróżnianie, różnicowanie تشخیص diferenciação diferenţiere, deosebire различие rozlišovanie razlikovanje diferencijacija differentiering □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□ fark etme, ayırt etme 差別，分化，微分法，差異化 диференціація; диференціювання تفریق sự phân biệt 差別，分化，微分法 different is followed by from (not than). Kernerman English Multilingual Dictionary © 2006-2013 K Dictionaries Ltd. → اِخْتِلَاف rozdíl forskel Unterschied διαφορά diferencia ero différence razlika differenza 違い verschil forskjell różnica diferença разница skillnad □□□□□□□□□□□ farklılık sự khác nhau 差别Multilingual Translator © HarperCollins Publishers 2009 Want to thank TFD for its existence? Tell a friend about us, add a link to this page, or visit the webmaster's page for free fun content. Link to this page: Bakewell's flock, and yet the difference between the sheep possessed by these two gentlemen is so great that they have the appearance of being quite different varieties.'The explanation, I think, is simple: from long-continued study they are strongly impressed with the differences between the several races; and though they well know that each race varies slightly, for they win their prizes by selecting such slight differences, yet they ignore all general arguments, and refuse to sum up in their minds slight differences accumulated during many successive generations.Such are Dithyrambic and Nomic poetry, and also Tragedy and Comedy; but between them the difference is, that in the first two cases these means are all employed in combination, in the latter, now one means is employed, now another.Such, then, are the differences of the arts with respect to the medium of imitation.The state of equilibrium before the stimulus may be called the "primary indifference-state"; that after the cessation of the stimulus, the "secondary indifference-state." We define the "engraphic effect" of a stimulus as the effect in making a difference between the primary and secondary indifference-states, and this difference itself we define as the "engram" due to the stimulus.If, then, there is to be some standing difference between the person who can remember a certain fact and the person who cannot, that standing difference must be, not in anything mental, but in the brain.At first sight the difference does not seem great in either line of dealing with the difficult problem of limitations.And therein I think I can lay my finger upon the difference between the seamen of yesterday, who are still with us, and the seamen of to-morrow, already entered upon the possession of their inheritance.It was not in his calmness that she read his comparative difference. He was not calm; his spirits were evidently fluttered; there was restlessness about him.But there was a difference. There were gods and gods, and Jerry was not long in learning that in the hierarchy of the heaven of these white-gods on the Ariel, the sailorizing, ship-working ones were far beneath the captain and his two white-and-gold-clad officers.The difference in affection, of parents towards their several children, is many times unequal; and sometimes unworthy; especially in the mothers; as Solomon saith, A wise son rejoiceth the father, but an ungracious son shames the mother.Some persons will probably say, that the employments of the state ought to be given according to every particular excellence of each citizen, if there is no other difference between them and the rest of the community, but they are in every respect else alike: for justice attributes different things to persons differing from each other in their character, according to their respective merits.

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