

Continue



























1 : belonging to or shared by two or more people or groups They have a common ancestor. The people on the island have a sense of common identity. a common goal/interest The pool at the condominiums is common property. [=the pool is owned by all of the condominium owners] The organization works for the common good. [=the public good; the advantage of everyone] He was chosen as the leader by common consent. [=everyone agreed that he should be the leader] [+ ] more examples [- ] hide examples [+ ] Example sentences [- ] Hide examples — see also common ground, common knowledge at knowledge 2 [or more common; most common] commoner; -est a . done by many people It is common practice for one town's fire department to help another town when there is a big fire. a common spelling mistake b : occurring or appearing frequently : not rare a common [=widespread] disease Buffalo were once a common [=familiar] sight on the American plains. Electric windows are a common feature in new cars. "Smith" is a common name. The problem is common to laptop computers. = It's common for laptop computers to have this problem. I think some of the most common flowers are also some of the prettiest. [+ ] more examples [- ] hide examples [+ ] Example sentences [- ] Hide examples 3 : of a type that is regularly seen and not considered special or unique cures for the common cold 4 a : without special rank or status You're nothing but a common [=ordinary] thief! b : not having power, wealth, or high status My parents were common [=ordinary, regular] folk. — see also common sense 5 : expected from polite and decent people He didn't even have the common decency to apologize. It is common courtesy to say "thank you." 6 [or more common; most common] British, old-fashioned + disapproving commoner; commonest : of or belonging to a low social class His manners are very common. She thought him common and uneducated. — commonly adverb [more commonly; most commonly] He is commonly believed to be the discoverer of electricity, a medicine commonly used to treat the flu commonly held beliefs/notions The kangaroo is commonly associated with Australia. /kɑːmənəs/ noun [noncount] The team showed a commonness of purpose, the commonness of the name "Smith" Also found in: Thesaurus, Medical, Legal, Financial, Acronyms, Idioms, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia. Related to common: common law, come on (kɑːm'ɑːn)adj, com-mon-er, com-mon-est 1. a. Belonging equally to or shared equally by two or more; joint: common interests. b. Of or relating to the community as a whole; public: for the common good. 2. Widespread; prevalent: Gas stations became common as the use of cars grew. 3. a. Occurring frequently or habitually; usual: It is common for movies to last 90 minutes or more. b. Most widely known; ordinary: the common housefly. 4. Having no special designation, status, or rank: a common sailor. 5. a. Not distinguished by superior or noteworthy characteristics; average: the common spectator. b. Of no special quality; standard: common procedure. c. Of mediocre or inferior quality; second-rate: common cloth. 6. Unrefined or coarse in manner; vulgar: behavior that branded him as common. 7. Grammar a. Either masculine or feminine in gender. b. Representing one or all of the members of a class; not designating a unique entity. n. 1. commons The common people; commonality. 2. commons (used with a sing. or pl. verb) a. The social class composed of commoners. b. The parliamentary representatives of this class. 3. Commons The House of Commons. 4. A tract of land, usually in a centrally located spot, belonging to or used by a community as a whole: a band concert on the village common. 5. The legal right of a person to use the lands or waters of another, as for fishing. 6. commons (used with a sing. verb) A building or hall for dining, typically at a university or college. 8. Ecclesiastical A service used for a particular class of festivals. Idiom: in commons Synonyms: common, ordinary, familiar These adjectives describe what is generally known or frequently encountered. Common applies to what takes place often, is widely used, or is well known. The botanist studied the common dandelion. The term also implies coarseness or a lack of distinction: My wallet was stolen by a common thief. Ordinary describes something usual that is indistinguishable from others, sometimes derogatory. "His neighbors were all climbing into their cars and trucks and heading off to work as if nothing miraculous had happened and this were just another ordinary day" (Steve Yarbrough). Familiar applies to what is well known or quickly recognized: Most children can recite familiar nursery rhymes. See Also Synonyms at general.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. (kɑːmən) adj 1. belonging to or shared by two or more people: common property. 2. belonging to or shared by members of one or more nations or communities; public: a common culture. 3. of ordinary standard; average: common decency. 4. prevailing; widespread: common opinion. 5. widely known or frequently encountered; ordinary: a common brand of soap. 6. widely known and notorious: a common nuisance. 7. derogatory considered by the speaker to be low-class, vulgar, or coarse: a common accent. 8. (prenominal) having no special distinction, rank, or status: the common man. 9. (Mathematics) maths a. having a specified relationship with a group of numbers or quantities: common denominator. b. (of a tangent) tangential to two or more circles 10. (Phonetics & Phonology) prosody (of a syllable) able to be long or short, or (in nonquantitative verse) stressed or unstressed 11. (Grammar) grammar (in certain languages) denoting or belonging to a gender of nouns, esp one that includes both masculine and feminine referents: Latin sacerdos is common. 12. (Anatomy) anatomy a. having branches: the common carotid artery. b. serving more than one function: the common bile duct. 13. (Ecclesiastical Terms) Christianity of or relating to the common of the Mass or divine office 14. common or garden informal ordinary; unexceptional 15. (Physical Geography) (sometimes plural) a tract of open public land, esp one now used as a recreation area 16. (Law) law the right to go onto someone else's property and remove natural products, as by pasturing cattle or fishing (esp in the phrase right of common) 17. (Ecclesiastical Terms) Christianity a. a form of the proper of the Mass used on festivals that have no special proper of their own, the ordinary of the Mass 18. archaic the ordinary people; the public, esp those undistinguished by rank or title 19. in common mutually held or used with another or others [C13: from Old French commun, from Latin communis general, universal] Collins English Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition 2014 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014 (kɑːm ən) adj. -er, -est, n. adj. 1. belonging equally to, or shared alike by, two or more or all in question: common objectives. 2. pertaining or belonging equally to an entire community, nation, or culture: a common language. 3. joint; united: a common defense. 4. widespread; general; universal: common knowledge. 5. of frequent occurrence; usual; familiar: a common mistake. 6. of mediocre or inferior quality; mean: a rough, common fabric. 7. coarse; vulgar: common manners. 8. lacking rank, station, distinction, etc.; ordinary: a common soldier. 9. in keeping with accepted standards; fundamental: common decency. 10. (of a syllable) able to be considered as either long or short. 11. a. (of a grammatical case) fulfilling different functions that in some languages would require different inflected forms: English nouns used as subject or object are in the common case. b. of or pertaining to a word or gender that may refer to either a male or female: French élève "pupil" has common gender. c. constituting a gender comprising nouns that were formerly masculine or feminine: Dutch nouns are either common or neuter in gender. 12. bearing a similar mathematical relation to two or more entities. 13. of or pertaining to common stock. n. 14. Often, commons, a tract of land owned or used jointly by the residents of a community, as a central square or park in a city or town. 15. the right, in common with other persons, to pasture animals on another's land or to fish in another's waters. 16. commons, a. the common people; commonality. b. the body of people not of noble birth, as represented by the House of Commons. c. (cap.) (used with a sing. v.) the House of Commons. 17. commons, a. (used with a sing. v.) a large dining room, esp. at a university or college. b. (usu. with a pl. v.) food or provisions for any group. 18. (sometimes cap.) a. an ecclesiastical office or form of service used on a festival of a particular kind. b. the ordinary of the Mass, esp. those parts sung by the choir. Idioms: in common, in joint possession or use; shared equally. [1250-1300; Middle English comun < Anglo-French, Old French < Latin communis common

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