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action



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action

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action

noun | ac-tion | \ˈak-shən\

Definition of ACTION

- 1 : the initiating of a proceeding in a court of justice by which one demands or enforces one's right; *also* : the proceeding itself
- 2 : the bringing about of an alteration by force or through a natural agency



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- 3 : the manner or method of performing:
 - a : an actor's or speaker's deportment or expression by means of attitude, voice, and gesture
 - b : the style of movement of the feet and legs (as of a horse)
 - c : a function of the body or one of its parts
- 4 : an act of will
- 5 a : a thing done : *deed*
 - b : the accomplishment of a thing usually over a period of time, in stages, or with the possibility of repetition
 - c *plural* : *behavior, conduct* <unscrupulous *actions*>
 - d : *initiative, enterprise* <a man of *action*>
- 6 a (1) : an engagement between troops or ships (2) : combat in war <gallantry in *action*>
 - b (1) : an event or series of events forming a literary composition (2) : the unfolding of the events of a drama or work of fiction : *plot* (3) : the movement of incidents in a plot
 - c : the combination of circumstances that constitute the subject matter of a painting or sculpture
- 7 a : an operating mechanism



Words at Play



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MARCH 18, 2015

controvertible

Capable of being disputed

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True or False?



Commonly Misspelled Words



b : the manner in which a mechanism or instrument operates

8 a : the price movement and trading volume of a commodity, security, or market

b : the process of betting including the offering and acceptance of a bet and determination of a winner

c : financial gain or an opportunity for financial gain <a piece of the *action*>

9 : sexual [activity](#)

10 : the most vigorous, productive, or exciting activity in a particular field, area, or group <wants to be where the *action* is>

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Examples of ACTION

He was critical of the government's *actions* before the war.

a military *action* against another country

She tried to explain her *actions*.

I accept full responsibility for my *actions*.

The situation demanded immediate *action*.

The problem may require military *action*.

The school took disciplinary *action* against the drunken students.

They decided that no further *action* was necessary.

Origin of ACTION

Middle English *accioun*, from Anglo-French *accion*, from Latin *action-*, *actio*, from *agere* to do — more at [agent](#)

First Known Use: 14th century

Related to ACTION

Synonyms

[act](#), [deed](#), [doing](#), [exploit](#), [feat](#), [thing](#)

[+] [more](#)

Rhymes with ACTION

[faction](#), [fraction](#), [taction](#), [traction](#)

action

noun | ac·tion | \ˈak-shən\ (*Medical Dictionary*)

Medical Definition of ACTION

1 : the process of exerting a force or bringing about an effect that results from the inherent capacity of an agent <protein synthesis is an expression of gene *action*> <insecticidal *action*>

2 : a function or the performance of a function of the body (as defecation) or of one of its parts <the normal baby has three or four *actions* of the bowel in 24 hours—Morris Fishbein> <heart *action*>

3 : an act of will

4 **actions** *pl* : [behavior](#) <aggressive *actions*>

Trend Watch



Fracas

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