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adjective (1noun (2)adverb (3)great in quantity, measure, or degree.a great quantity, measure, or degree.Much of his research was unreliable.a great, important, or notable thing or matter.The house is not much to look at.to a great extent or degree; greatly; far.to talk too much; much heavier.nearly, approximately, or about.This is much like the others.Slang, (used after an adjective, noun, or verb to form a question that comments on someone's intense feelings or extreme actions in a way that is critical, sarcastic, teasing, etc.): Geeking out much?jealous much?Geeking out much?(usually used with a negative) a great quantity or degree ofthere isn't much honey left,(as pronoun )much has been learned from thisinformal rather excessivelyexactly that suspected as much when I heardSee make ofnot to any appreciable degree or extenthe's not much of an actor reallyinformal of a low standardsthis beer is not up to much(used with a negative) to have a high opinion ofI don't think much of his behaviour"Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged" 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012considerablymuchacholly: nearly (esp in the phrase much the same )usually used with a negative)often, a great dealth doesn't happen much in this countryeven though; althoughmuch as I'd like to, I can't come"Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged" 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012Origin of much1First recorded in 1150–1200; Middle English muche, moche, shortened variant of muclel, muclel, Old English mycel; replacing Middle English michelel, Old English micel "great, much", cognate with Old Norse mikill, Gothic mikils, Greek μέγας, expanded stem of mégas "great"Origin of much1Old English mycel; related to Old English micel great, Old Saxon mikil, Gothic mikils; compare also Latin magnus, Greek μέγαςExamples have not been reviewed.The Conservative party claims that its proposed changes would bring the UK in line with other nations across the world, such as Australia and Canada, which have much tighter restrictions on industrial action.There was so much euphoria and mayhem after sealing the series.So much of life in Juárez depends on decisions made in Washington, he said."It's very demoralizing that we can do as much as we can to contribute ... but these don't have representation on water boards, on school boards and city councils across the state", Rosales said.There's so much hate out there right now, and we're seeing it from the top down.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.mucedinousmuchachBrowse#aabbccddeeffghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC MuchadjetiveLarge in quantity; long in time; many in number.Etymology: mycker, Swedish; mucho, Spanish.Let us know! 'twill tie up thy discontented sword.And carry back to Sicily much tall youth;That else must perish here. William Shakespeare, Antony and Cleopatra. Thou shalt carry much seed and, shalt gather but little in; for the locust shall consume it. Deut. xiv. 38. I am well served, to take so much pains for one resolved to make away with himself. Roger L'Estrange. You were pressed for the servants.Muchadverb1. In a great degree; by far. Isaac, thou art much mightier than me. Gen. xvi. 16. Excellent speech becometh not a fool, much less do lying lips a prince. Prov. xvii. 17. We have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence; shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and love? Heb. xii. 9. If they escaped not who refused him that spoke on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven. Heb. xii. 25. Somewhat aw'd I, I shook with holy fear.Yet not so much but that I noted wellWho did the most in song and dance excell. Dryden.2. To a certain degree. He charged them that they should tell no man: but the more he charged them, so much the more a great deal they published it. Mark vii. 36.3. To a great degree. So spake, so wish'd I much I humbled Eve, but fateSubscrib'd not. John Milton. To thee thy much-afflicted mother flies.And on thy succour and thy faith relies. Dryden. Your much-lov'd fleet shall soonBesiege the petty monarchs of the land. Dryden. If his rules of reason be not better than his rules for health, he is not like to be much followed. Thomas Baker. Ref. on Learning. Oh much experience'd man! Alexander Pope. Odyssey. Sad from my natal hour my days have ran.A much afflicted, much enduring man. Alexander Pope, Odyssey.4. Often, or long. You pine, you languish, love to be alone,Think much, speak little, and in speaking, sigh. Dryden. shall last, like Alexander, long.As much recorded, and as often sung. George Granville.5. Nearly. All left the world much as they found it, ever unquiet, subject to changes and revolutions. William Temple.Muchnoun1. A great deal; multitude in number; abundance in quantity. They gathered about Moses and Aaron, and said, Ye take too much upon you. Num. xvi. 3. Nor grudge I thee the much the Grecians give,Nor mur'm'ring take the little I receive. John Dryden, Iliad. They have much of the poetry of Mœcænas, but little of his liberality. John Dryden, All for Love. Pref. To the fate of love is such,That still it sees too little or too much. Dryden. Much suffering heroes next their honours claim;Those of less noisy and less guilty fame,Fair virtue's silent train. Alexander Pope, Temple of Fame.2. More than enough; a heavy service or burden. Thou think'st it much to tread the oozeOf the salt deep. William Shakespeare, Tempest. He thought not much to clothe his enemies. John Milton. This gracious act the ladies all approve. Who thought it much a man should die for love.And with their mistress join'd in close debate. Dryden.3. Any assignable quantity or degree. The waters covered the chariots and horsemen; there remained not so much as one. Exod. xiv. 28. We will cut wood out of Lebanon as much as thou shalt need. 2 Chron. ii. 16. The matter of the universe was created before the flood; and if any more was created, then there must be as much annihilated to make room for it. Thomas Burnet, Theory of the Earth. Who is there of whom we can with any rational assurance, or perhaps so much as likelihood, affirm, here is a man whose nature is renewed, whose heart is changed. Robert South, Sermons.4. An uncommon thing; something strange. It was much that one that was so great a lover of peace should be happy in war. Francis Bacon, Henry VII. It is much, if men were from eternity, that they should not find out the way of writing all that long duration which had past before that time. John Tillotson, Sermons.5. To take Much of. To treat with regard; to fondle; to pamper. Though he knew his discourse was to entertain him from a more straight parley, yet he durst not but kiss his rod, and gladly make much of that entertainment which she allotted unto him. Philip Sidney, b. ii. The king understanding of their adventure, suddenly falls to take a pride in making much of them, extolling them with infinite praises. Philip Sidney, b. ii. When thou camest first, Thou stroak'd'st, and mad'st much of me; and would'st give meWater with berries in't. William Shakespeare, Tempest. See also; much, much, and Much From Middle English muche ("much, great"), apocopated variant of muclel ("much, great"), from Old English mycel, micel ("big, much"), from Proto-West Germanic \*mikilaz ("great, many, much"), from Proto-Indo-European \*megh₂- ("big, stout, great"). See also mikle, muckle, much (comparative more, superlative most)A large amount of. [from 13th c.] Pro you think I have much chance of catching the train on time? After much discussion, we decided to set about the task with much enthusiasm. Much of literature is concerned with stylistics. 1817 (date written), [Jane Austen], Persuasion; published in Northanger Abbey: And Persuasion. [...], volume (please specify [volume=III or IV], London: John Murray, [...], 20 December 1817 (indicated as 1818). —OCLC.As it was, he did nothing with much zeal, but sport; and his time was otherwise trifled away, without benefit from books or anything else. 2011 February 24, "Wisconsin and wider", in The Economist:Unless matters take a nastier turn, neither side has much incentive to compromise. (in combinations such as 'as much', 'much's') Used to indicate, demonstrate or compare the quantity of something. Add this much water and no more. Take as much time as you like. (now archaic or nonstandard) A great number of; many (people). [from 13th c.] (now Caribbean, African-American, UK regional) many (+ plural countable noun). [from 13th c.] 1977, Bob Marley, "So Much Things to Say":They got so much things to say right now, they got so much things to say. Much is now generally used with uncountable nouns. The equivalent used with countable nouns is many. In positive contexts, much is widely avoided. I have a lot of money instead of I have much money. There are many people for the future. A lot of these cases are emotive transitive verbs and adjectives. I have much need for a new assistant. In parallel, I need you much. Unlike many determiners, much is frequently modified by intensifying adverbs, as in "too much", "very much", "so much", "not much", "not much", and "as much". (The same is true of many.) a great deal of, (informal) a lot of much (not comparable) (obsolete) Large, great. [12th–16th c.] 1485, Sir Thomas Malory, "iiij", in Le Morte Darthur, book XX:Thenne launcelot unbarred the dore / and with his lyte hand he held it open a lytel / so that but one man myghte come in atones / and soo there came stryding a good knyghte a moche man and large / and his name was Colgreauunce / of Gore / and he with a swerd strake at syr launcelot mystely and he put asyde the stroke(please add an English translation of this quotation) (obsolete) Long in duration, much (comparative more, superlative most) To a great extent. I don't like melon much, and I don't much care for milk chocolate either: I find them both much too sweet. However much I eat, I never get fat. He left her, much to the satisfaction of her other suitors. That boyfriend of yours is much (like - the same as) the others. My English was much the worst, and I'm certainly not much good at math either, of that I'm very much aware. Both candidates, who are much of an age, say much the same thing, but the youngest shows much the commoner love of the two. 1909, Archibald Marshall [pseudonym; Arthur Hammond Marshall], "A Court Ball", in The Squire's Daughter, New York, N.Y.: Dodd, Mead and Company, published 1919. —OCLC. page 8:They stayed together during three dances, went out on to the terrace, explored wherever they were permitted to explore, paid two visits to the buffet, and enjoyed themselves much in the same way as if they had been school-children surreptitiously breaking loose from an assembly of grown-ups. 2008, "Right Now (Na Na Na)" (track 1), in Freedom, performed by Akon:I can't lie (I miss you much). Watching every day that goes by (I miss you much). 2011 October 20, Michael da Silva, "Stoke 3-0 Macc Tel-Aviv", in BBC Sport:Angling with Ziv, Cameron caught him with a flailing elbow, causing the Israeli defender to go down a little easily. However, the referee was in no doubt, much to the displeasure of the home fans. 2013 June 8, "The new masters and commanders", in The Economist, volume 407, number 8839, page 52:From the ground, Colombo's port does not look like much. Those entering it are greeted by wire fences, walls dating back to colonial times and security posts. For mariners leaving the port after lonely nights on the high seas, the delights of the B52 Night Club and Stallion Pub lie a stumble away. (with a comparative adjective) for emphasis or to indicate a great difference in size between two things, you can say that one thing is much bigger or very much bigger than the other. Often; frequently. (in combinations such as "much", "the much's") Used to indicate or compare extent. I don't like Wagner as much as I like Mozart. (slang) Combining with an adjective or (occasionally) a noun, used in a rhetorical question to mock someone for having the specified quality. Jamie's always preaching about how we need to save a planet when she drives literally wherever she goes. Like, hypocritical much? 2005 December 28, Seth Stevenson, "What's With That Overstock.com Ad?", in Slate[1], New York, N.Y.: The Slate Group. —ISSN. —OCLC, archived from the original on 20 January 2024:The moment you've been waiting for—the lockdown on the Overstock hottie. I talked to her by phone last week. (jealous much, gentlemen) Ad Report Card talks to all the fine ladies. 2023 May 12, Lia Mappoura, "I tried Glossier's brand new C-Suit lip crèmes so you don't have to - you're welcome", in Cosmopolitan[2]:Well, on the grounds of this, what if I told you the brand's latest launch goes against the latter and instead, is the first product in an opaque lip crème line? Screaming, crying, throwing up, much? (obsolete) Almost. As a verb modifier in positive contexts, much must in standard English be modified by another adverb: I like fish very much, I like fish so much, etc. but not \*I like fish much. As a comparative intensifier, many can be used instead of much if it modifies the comparative form of many, i.e. more with a countable noun: many more people but much more snow. May be used in humorous questions to draw attention to somebody's undesirable behaviour: "desperate much?", "cherry-picking much?", etc. (antonyms) of "to a great extent": less, little, few, almost, nearly much A large amount or great extent. From those to whom much has been given much is expected. We lay awake for much of the night. "much adv.", in Green's Dictionary of Slang, Jonathan Green, 2016-present much much genitive plural of moucha much apocopic form of muche, very, greatly c. 1200, Almerich, Fazenda de Ultramar, f. 36r:Job fue much rich eo e uo. v. fijos. 7. iij. fijos. 7. iij. mil almas. Job was a very rich man. And he had five sons and three daughters. And he owned a thousand sheep and three thousand camels and five hundred yoke of oxen and five thousand donkeys. IPA(key), /ˈmʌs/ Rhymes: -ux Syllabification: much much f much c archaic spelling of much much alternative form of mucha 1967, "SONG", in SONGS, ETC. IN THE DIALECT OF FORTH AND BARGY, number 2, page 108:Hea had no much wit. He had not much wit. Jacob Poole (d. 1827) (before 1828) William Barnes, editor, A Glossary. With some Pieces of Verse, of the old Dialect of the English Colony in the Baronies of Forth and Bargy, County of Wexford, Ireland, London: J. Russell Smith, published 1867, page 108 much obsolete spelling of much Also found in: Thesaurus, Medical, Acronyms, Idioms, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia.Related to much: much less, Much Ado About Nothing (mich'ad), more (môr), most (môst) Great in quantity, degree, or extent: not much rain; much affection.n.1. A large quantity or amount: Much has been written.2. 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