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longed, longer, longest, longing, longs Meanings Synonyms Sentences Measuring much from end to end in space or from beginning to end in time; not short or brief. Having relatively great height; tall. Measured from end to end rather than from side to side. Of greater than usual or standard length, height, quantity, etc. A long game, a long window, a long ton. Of a specified extent in length. More Adjective Definitions (24) At or to a considerable distance; far. She walked long past the end of the trail. For the duration of; from the beginning to the end. At a much earlier or a much later time than the time indicated; remotely. To stay long after midnight. Beyond a given boundary, limit, or goal. More Adverb Definitions (4) A variation of clothing size longer than the average for that size. A signal, syllable, etc. of long duration. It won't take long to finish the work. One who acquires holdings in a security or commodity in expectation of a rise in price. More Noun Definitions (3) To feel a strong yearning; wish earnestly. To long to go home, to long for affection. To have an earnest, heartfelt desire, especially for something beyond reach. To be fitting or appropriate. (finance) To take a long position in. (archaic) To be appropriate to, to pertain or belong to. More Verb Definitions (1) Forms adjectives indicating duration when suffixed to nouns of duration. For more time: At a time or during a period well before the present: I read that book long ago. A time well before the present: Not now as formerly: More idioms definitions (7) From Middle English long, lang, from Old English long, lang (“long, tall, lasting"), from Proto-Germanic *langaz (“long"), from Proto-Indo-European *dlī¥h₁gʰós (“long"). Cognate with Scots lang (“long"), North Frisian long, lung (“long"), Saterland Frisian loang (“long"), West Frisian lang (“long"), Dutch lang (“long"), German lang (“long"), Swedish lÃ¥ng (“long"), Icelandic langur (“long"), Latin longus (“long"), Ancient Greek δολιχός (dolikhos), Russian долгий (dólgij), длинный (dlinnyj). From Wiktionary From Middle English longen, from Old English langian (“to long for, yearn after, grieve for, be pained, lengthen, grow longer, summon, belong"), from Proto-Germanic *langōnÃ… (“to desire, long for"), from Proto-Indo-European *dlī¥h₁gʰós (“long"). Cognate with German langen (“to reach, be sufficient"), Swedish langa (“to push, pass by hand"), Icelandic langa (“to want, desire"), Dutch and German verlangen (“to desire, want, long for"). From Wiktionary Middle English longen from Old English langian del-1 in Indo-European roots From American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, 5th Edition Aphetic form of Old English gelang; the verb later reinterpreted as an aphetic form of belong. From Wiktionary Middle English from Old English lang del-1 in Indo-European roots From American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, 5th EditionFrom long From Wiktionary having considerable linear extent in space.a long distance; a long handle.Synonyms: extensive, lengthyhaving considerable duration in time.a long conversation; a long while.Synonyms: extended, protractedextending, lasting, or totaling a number of specified units.eight miles long; eight hours long.containing many items or units.requiring a considerable time to relate, read, etc..extending beyond normal or moderate limits.Synonyms: boring, tedious, prolix, wordyexperienced as passing slowly, because of the difficulty, tedium, or unpleasantness involved.reaching well into the past.the longer of two or the longest of several.the long way home; a brick with the long side exposed.taking a long time; slow.He's certainly long getting here.forward-looking or considering all aspects; broad.to take a long view of life.intense, thorough, or critical; seriously appraising.a long look at one's past mistakes.having an ample supply or endowment of something (often followed byon).to be long on advice; to be long on brains.having a considerable time to run, as a promissory note.Chiefly Law. distant or remote in time.extending relatively far.being higher or taller than usual.being against great odds; unlikely.(of beverages) mixed or diluted with a large amount of soda, seltzer, etc..highballs, collinses, and other long drinks.(of the head or skull) of more than ordinary length from front to back.Phonetics. lasting a relatively long time.“Feed” has a longer sound than “feet” or “fit.”belonging to a class of sounds considered as usually longer in duration than another class, as the vowel of bought as compared to that of but, and in many languages serving as a distinctive feature of phonemes, as the ah in German Bahn in contrast with the a in Bann, or the tt in Italian fatto in contrast with the t in fato (short).having the sound of the English vowels in mate, meet, mite, mote, moot, and mute, historically descended from vowels that were long in duration.Prosody. (of a syllable in quantitative verse) lasting a longer time than a short syllable.Finance. holding or accumulating stocks, futures, commodities, etc., with the expectation of a rise in prices.a long position in chemicals.Gambling. marked by a large difference in the numbers of the given betting ratio or in the amounts wagered.of or relating to the larger amount bet.Ceramics. (of clay) very plastic; fat.a comparatively long time.They haven't been gone for long. Will it take long?something that is long.The signal was two longs and a short.a size of garment for men who are taller than average.a garment, as a suit or overcoat, in this size.The shorts and the longs are hung separately.Finance. a person who accumulates or holds stocks or commodities with the expectation of a rise in prices.Music. longa.for or through a great extent of space or, especially, time.for or throughout a specified extent, especially of time.(used elliptically in referring to the length of an absence, delay, etc.).throughout a specified period of time (usually used to emphasize a preceding noun).It's been muggy all summer long.at a point of time far distant from the time indicated.Crawford Williamson 1815–78, U.S. surgeon.Huey Pierce 1893–1935, U.S. politician: governor of Louisiana 1928–31; U.S. senator 1931–35.Russell B(illiu) 1918–2003, U.S. lawyer and politician: U.S. senator 1948–87 (son of Huey Long).Stephen Harriman, 1784–1864, U.S. army officer and explorer.having relatively great extent in space on a horizontal planehaving relatively great duration in time(postpositive) of a specified number of units in extent or duration(in combination)having or consisting of a relatively large number of items or partshaving greater than the average or expected rangebeing the longer or longest of alternativeshaving more than the average or usual quantity, extent, or durationseeming to occupy a greater time than is really soshe spent a long afternoon waiting in the departure loungeintense or thorough (esp in the phrase a long look)(of drinks) containing a large quantity of nonalcoholic beverage(of a garment) reaching to the wearer's anklesinformal (foll by on) plentifully supplied or endowed (with)phoneticsof relatively considerable durationclassified as long, as distinguished from the quality of other vowels(in popular usage) denoting the qualities of the five English vowels in such words as mate, mete, mite, moat, moot, and mutefrom end to end; lengthwiseunlikely to win, happen, succeed, etcprosodydenoting a vowel of relatively great duration or (esp in classical verse) followed by more than one consonantdenoting a syllable containing such a vowel(in verse that is not quantitative) carrying the emphasis or ictusfinance having or characterized by large holdings of securities or commodities in anticipation of rising pricescricket (of a fielding position) near the boundaryinformal (of people) tall and slenderSee runinformal old or ageing“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012for a certain time or periodfor or during an extensive period of timeat a distant time; quite a bit of timelong before I met youlong agofinance into a position with more security or commodity holdings than are required by sale contracts and therefore dependent on rising prices for profitfor or during just the length of time thatinasmuch as; sinceprovided that; ifnot any more; formerly but not now“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012a long time (esp in the phrase for long)a relatively long thing, such as a signal in Morse codea clothing size for tall people, esp in trousersphonetics a long vowel or syllablefinance a person with large holdings of a security or commodity in expectation of a rise in its price; bullmusic a note common in medieval music but now obsolete, having the time value of two brevessoonthe essential points or facts“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012Crawford Williamson. 1815–78, US surgeon. He was the first to use ether as an anaesthetic“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012(intr; foll by for or an infinitive) to have a strong desire“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012archaic (intr) to belong, appertain, or be appropriate“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012(in combination) for or lasting a long timelong-awaitedlong-establishedlong-lasting“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012longly adverblongness nounOrigin of long1First recorded before 900; Middle English adjective longe, Old English lang, long; cognate with Dutch, German lang, Old Norse langr, Gothic langs, Latin longus; noun, adverb, derivative of the adjectiveOrigin of long2First recorded before 900; Middle English longen, Old English langian “grow longer, yearn after, summon”; long 1Origin of long3First recorded in 1150–1200; Middle English longen “to be suitable, fitting, or proper,” derivative of long “attributable (to), dependent (on),” Old English gelang “belonging (to), dependent (on)”; belong, alongOrigin of long1Old English lang; related to Old High German lang, Old Norse langr, Latin longusOrigin of long2Old English langian; related to long 1Origin of long3Old English langian to belong, from gelang at hand, belonging to; compare alongExamples have not been reviewed.Everything part of this franchise’s existence is designed to keep the Marvel Cinematic Universe pumping out films and raking in cash for as long as possible.This is the longest England have batted under Stokes in the UK and it showed.How can something marked as urgent be delayed for so long?“If we lose that this could be a long run, really, really damaging effect on our economy. In the short run, I would say it’s going to slow our growth.“Only five months ago fans and pundits considered the Premier League to be as wide open as it had been in a long time, with Forest and Bournemouth both in the Champions League spots.deep great high lengthy protracted tall 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.lone wolflongaBrowse#aabbccddeeffgghhiijjkkllmmnnooppqqrrsstuuvvwwxxyyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC adjective as in extended in space or timeStrongest matchesdeep, great, high, lengthy, protracted, tallStrong matchescontinued, elongate, elongated, enduring, enlarged, expanded, lasting, lengthened, lingering, prolonged, running, stretch, stretched, stretching, sustained, toweringWeak matchesdistant, drawn-out, extensive, far-off, far-reaching, faraway, gangling, lanky, lofty, longish, outstretched, rangy, remote, spread-out, spun out, stringyadjective as in interminable, excessive in lengthStrongest matcheslate, lengthy, protracted, slowStrong matchesdelayed, diffuse, dragging, lingering, prolonged, sustainedWeak matchesboundless, diffusive, dilatory, drawn-out, for ages, forever and a day, limitless, long-drawn-out, long-winded, overlong, prolix, tardy, unending, verbose, without end, wordyStrong matchesache, aim, aspire, covet, hanker, hunger, itch, lust, miss, pine, sigh, suspire, thirst, want, wishWeak matchesdream of, have a yen for, spoil forExamples have not been reviewed.Everything part of this franchise’s existence is designed to keep the Marvel Cinematic Universe pumping out films and raking in cash for as long as possible.This is the longest England have batted under Stokes in the UK and it showed.How can something marked as urgent be delayed for so long?“If we lose that this could be a long run, really, really damaging effect on our economy. In the short run, I would say it’s going to slow our growth.“Only five months ago fans and pundits considered the Premier League to be as wide open as it had been in a long time, with Forest and Bournemouth both in the Champions League spots.From Roget's 21st Century Thesaurus, Third Edition Copyright © 2013 by the Philip Lief Group.Browse#aabbccddeeffgghhiijjkkllmmnnooppqqrrsstuuvvwwxxyyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC adjective(comparative longer , superlative longest)Word Familylong adjective adverblength nounlengthy adjectivelengthen verbIdioms jump to other results enlarge image measuring or covering a great length or distance, or a greater length or distance than usualShe had long dark hair.He walked down the long corridor.It was the world's longest bridge.a long journey/walk/drive/flightWe're a long way from anywhere here.It's a long way away.He had long, thin fingers.a lush meadow of long grass opposite shortExtra ExamplesEconomy class can be uncomfortable for those with long legs.His drive to work is fairly long.There was a long queue for tickets.After the hurricane, many are forced to wait in very long lines to get food or gas. Topics Appearancea1Oxford Collocations Dictionaryverbsadverb See full entry used for asking or talking about particular lengths or distancesHow long is the River Nile?The table is six feet long.The report is only three pages long. lasting or taking a great amount of time or more time than usualHe’s been ill (for) a long time.There was a long silence before she spoke.I like it now the days are getting longer (= it stays light for more time each day).a long book/film/list (= taking a lot of time to read/watch/deal with)Nurses have to work long hours (= for more hours in the day than is usual). (North American English) He stared at them for the longest time (= for a very long time) before answering.Chicago has a long history of country music. to have a long life/careerWhich Word? (for) long / (for) a long time(for) long / (for) a long timeBoth (for) long and (for) a long time are used as expressions of time. In positive sentences (for) a long time is used:We’ve been friends a long time. (For) long is not used in positive sentences unless it is used with too, enough, as, so, seldom, etc:I stayed out in the sun for too long.You’ve been waiting long enough. Both (for) long and (for) a long time can be used in questions, but (for) long is usually preferred:Have you been waiting long?In negative sentences for a long time sometimes has a different meaning from (for) long. Compare:I haven’t been here for a long time (= It is a long time since the last time I was here) and I haven’t been here long (= I arrived here only a short time ago). opposite shortExtra Examplesan unusually long pauseHe let out a long, slow breath.It took me a long time to accept the situation.Winters are long and severe in the far north. Oxford Collocations Dictionaryverbsadverb See full entry used for asking or talking about particular periods of timeHow long is the course?I think it's only three weeks long.How long a stay did you have in mind? see also age-long, week-long, year-long seeming to last or take more time than it really does because, for example, you are very busy or not happyI'm tired. It's been a long day.We were married for ten long years. opposite shortOxford Collocations Dictionaryverbsadverb See full entry covering all or most of your legs or armsShe usually wears long skirts.a long-sleeved shirt opposite short (of a ball, shot, etc.) travelling a great distanceThe full-back intercepted an attempted long pass and ran through to score.A hopeful long ball from out of defence led to a goal.She's good with the driver and hits a long ball.Topics Sports: ball and racket sportsc2 (of a shot) travelling too far so that it goes out of playHer return of serve was long.Topics Sports: ball and racket sportsc2 long on something (informal) having a lot of a particular qualityThe government is long on ideas but short on performance. (phonetics) a long vowel is pronounced for a longer time than other vowelsCompare the long vowel in ‘beat’ and the short vowel in ‘bit’. opposite short Word Originadjective Old English lang, long (adjective), lange, longe (adverb), of Germanic origin; related to Dutch and German lang.Idioms (informal) very longThere's a list of repairs as long as your arm. not longer than the particular time givenIt will take an hour at the longest. after a long time synonym finallyAt long last his prayers had been answered. by a great amountHe was the best by a long way. (of two or more people) to have known each other for a long timeWe go back a long way, he and I. (of money, food, etc.) to last a long timeShe seems to make her money go a long way.A small amount of this paint goes a long way (= covers a large area). (ironic) I find that a little of Jerry's company can go a long way (= I quickly get tired of being with him). go a long/some way towards doing something to help very much/a little in achieving somethingThe new law goes a long way towards solving the problem. to have made a lot of progressWe've come a long way since the early days of the project.The study of genes has come a long way in recent years. to need to make a lot of progress before you can achieve somethingShe still has a long way to go before she's fully fit.Topics Successc1 how long is a piece of string? (British English, informal) used to say that there is no definite answer to a question‘How long will it take?’ ‘How long's a piece of string?’ relating to a longer period in the futureThis measure inevitably means higher taxes in the long run. in the long/short/medium term used to describe what will happen a long, short, etc. time in the futureSuch a development seems unlikely, at least in the short term (= it will not happen for quite a long time).In the longer term, children of depressed mothers are more likely to suffer from childhood depression.In the long term, our efforts will pay off. it’s as broad as it’s long (informal) used to say that the reasons for something are complicated and you would prefer not to give all the details kick something into the long grass/into touch (British English) to reject something or treat it as not important; to stop dealing with a problemHe tends to deal with disputes by kicking them into the long grass. the long and (the) short of it used when you are telling somebody the essential facts about something or what effect it will have, without explaining all the details the long arm of something the power and/or authority of somethingThere is no escape from the long arm of the law. (pull, wear, etc.) a long face (to have) an unhappy or disappointed expressionHe took one look at her long face and said ‘What’s wrong?’The news for the company isn't good, to judge from the long faces in the boardroom. (humorous, especially British English) old or too old (to cut a) long story short (British English) (North American English (to make a) long story short)(informal) used when you are saying that you will get to the point of what you are saying quickly, without including all the detailsTo cut a long story short, we didn’t get home until 3 in the morning!Anyway, long story short: we had this argument and I haven't seen him since. (informal) used to say hello to somebody you have not seen for a long time not by a long chalk (British English) (also not by a long shot North American English, British English)not nearly; not at allIt's not over yet—not by a long chalk. take a long (cool/hard) look at something to consider a problem or possibility very carefully and without hurryingWe need to take a long, hard look at all the options. take the long view (of something) to consider what is likely to happen or be important over a long period of time rather than only considering the present situationAs pension funds are investing for members’ retirements, they can take the long view. See long in the Oxford Advanced American DictionarySee long in the Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English 1 a : extending for a considerable distance b : having greater length than usual c : having greater height than usual : tall d : having a greater length than breadth : elongated e : having a greater length than desirable or necessary the column is one line too long f : full-length 2 a : having a specified length b : forming the chief linear dimension the long side of the room 3 a : extending over a considerable time b : having a specified duration c : prolonged beyond the usual time d : lasting too long : tedious 4 a : containing many items in a series b : having a specified number of units c : consisting of a greater number or amount than usual : large was married, and had a long family—A. T. Quiller-Couch 5 a of a speech sound : having a relatively long duration b : being the member of a pair of similarly spelled vowel or vowel-containing sounds that is descended from a vowel long in duration c of a syllable in prosody 6 : having the capacity to reach, extend, or travel a considerable distance tried to hit the long ball 7 : larger or longer than the standard a long count by the referee 8 a : extending far into the future the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts—H. W. Longfellow b : extending beyond what is known c : payable after a considerable period 9 : possessing a high degree or a great deal of something specified : strong 10 a : of an unusual degree of difference between the amounts wagered on each side b : of or relating to the larger amount wagered take the long end of the bet 11 : subject to great odds take a long chance for a large reward—W. P. Webb 12 : owning or accumulating securities or goods especially in anticipation of an advance in prices they are now long on wheat take a long position in steel WordReference Random House Learner's Dictionary of American English © 2025long1 /lɔŋ, lɑŋ/USA pronunciation adj., long•er /ˈlɔŋgɚ, ˈlɑŋ-/USA pronunciation long•est /ˈlɔŋgɪst, ˈlɑŋ-/USA pronunciation n., adv. adj. having considerable or greater than usual measurement in length or distance:a long table; a long way to travel. lasting a considerable length of time:a long story; a long trip. extending, lasting, measuring, or totaling a number of specified units:[after a noun]The river was eight miles long. containing many items:a long list. extending beyond normal, moderate, or desired limits:He's been working long hours. reaching well into the past:a long record of hatred. taking a long time; slow:He was long in getting here. forward-looking; long-range:taking the long view. intense, thorough, or critical; seriously examining:took a long look at his life. having a good or large supply or endowment:He's long on brains. being against great odds; unlikely:a long chance. Phonetics (of a speech sound) lasting a relatively long time:long vowels. having the sound of the English vowels in mate, meet, mite, mote, moot, and mute:The long vowels are sometimes written with a macron on top of them, as ā, ē, ī, and ō. n. a comparatively long time:[uncountable]They haven't been gone for long. Clothing [uncountable] a size of garments for men who are taller than average. [countable] a garment in this size. adv. for or through a great extent of space or, esp., time:a reform that has long been needed. for or throughout a period or extent, esp. of time:How long did he stay? at a point of time far distant from the time indicated:long before now. Idioms Idioms as long as: provided that:You can watch television as long as you have finished your homework. seeing that; since:As long as you're going, I'll go too. Also, so long as. during the time that; while:As long as he has been in charge that division has done well. Idioms before long, soon:I hope I get to see you before long. Idioms the long and (the) short of it, [~ + be + (that) clause] the essential point or end result:The long and short of it is that they'll have to sell the house. long2 /lɔŋ, lɑŋ/USA pronunciation v. to have an earnest or strong desire or craving; yearn: [~ + for + object]to long for spring.[~ + to + verb]He longed to return home. [~ + for + object + to + verb]longed for her to kiss him. WordReference Random House Unabridged Dictionary of American English © 2025long1 (lông, long),USA pronunciation adj. long•er (lông′gər, long′-),USA pronunciation long•est (lông′gist, long′-),USA pronunciation n., adv. adj. having considerable linear extent in space:a long distance; a long handle. having considerable duration in time:a long conversation; a long while. extending, lasting, or totaling a number of specified units:eight miles long; eight hours long. containing many items or units:a long list. requiring a considerable time to relate, read, etc.:a long story. extending beyond normal or moderate limits:a long, boring speech. experienced as passing slowly, because of the difficulty, tedium, or unpleasantness involved:long years of study. reaching well into the past:a long memory. the longer of two or the longest of several:the long way home; a brick with the long side exposed. taking a long time; slow:He's certainly long getting here. forward-looking or considering all aspects; broad:to take a long view of life. intense, thorough, or critical; seriously appraising:a long look at one's past mistakes. having an ample supply or endowment of something (often fol. by on):to be long on advice; to be long on brains. having a considerable time to run, as a promissory note. Law[Chiefly Law.]distant or remote in time:a long date. extending relatively far:a man with a long reach. being higher or taller than usual:long casement windows. being against great odds; unlikely:a long chance. (of beverages) mixed or diluted with a large amount of soda, seltzer, etc.:highballs, collinses, and other long drinks. Physical Anthropology(of the head or skull) of more than ordinary length from front to back. [Phonet.] lasting a relatively long time:"Feed" has a longer sound than "feet" or "fit." belonging to a class of sounds considered as usually longer in duration than another class, as the vowel of bought as compared to that of but, and in many languages serving as a distinctive feature of phonemes, as the ah in German Bahn in contrast with the a in Bann, or the tt in Italian fatto in contrast with the t in fato (opposed to short). having the sound of the English vowels in mate, meet, mite, mote, moot, and mute, historically descended from vowels that were long in duration. Poetry[Pros.](of a syllable in quantitative verse) lasting a longer time than a short syllable. Stock Exchange, Business[Finance.]holding or accumulating stocks, futures, commodities, etc., with the expectation of a rise in prices:a long position in chemicals. Games marked by a large difference in the numbers of the given betting ratio or in the amounts wagered:long odds. of or pertaining to the larger amount bet. Ceramics(of clay) very plastic; fat. n. a comparatively long time:They haven't been gone for long. Will it take long? Poetrysomething that is long:The signal was two longs and a short. Clothinga size of garment for men who are taller than average. a garment, as a suit or overcoat, in this size:The shorts and the longs are hung separately. Business[Finance.]a person who accumulates or holds stocks or commodities with the expectation of a rise in prices. Music and Dancelonga. Idioms before long, soon:We should have news of her whereabouts before long. Idioms the long and the short of, the point or gist of; substance of:The long and the short of it is that they will be forced to sell all their holdings.Also, the long and short of. adv. for or through a great extent of space or, esp., time:a reform long advocated. for or throughout a specified extent, esp. of time:How long did he stay? (used elliptically in referring to the length of an absence, delay, etc.):Will she be long? throughout a specified period of time (usually used to emphasize a preceding noun):It's been muggy all summer long. at a point of time far distant from the time indicated:long before. Idioms as long as: provided that:As long as you can come by six, I'll be here. seeing that; since:As long as you're going to the grocery anyway, buy me a pint of ice cream. Also, so long as. during the time that; through the period that:As long as we were neighbors, they never invited us inside their house. bef. 900; (adjective, adjectival) Middle English longe, Old English lang, long; cognate with Dutch, German lang, Old Norse langr, Gothic langs, Latin longus; (noun, nominal) late Middle English, derivative of the adjective, adjectival; (adverb, adverbial) Middle English long(e), lange, Old English longe, lange, cognate with Old Saxon, Old High German lango long′ly, adv. long′ness, n. 1. lengthy, extensive. 2. protracted, prolonged, extended. 6. overlong, wordy, prolix; tedious, boring. long2 (lông, long),USA pronunciation v.i. to have an earnest or strong desire or craving; yearn:to long for spring; to long to return home. bef. 900; Middle English longen, Old English langian grow longer, yearn after, summon; see long1 long3 (lông, long),USA pronunciation v.i. [Archaic.]to be suitable or fitting. [Obs.]to be the possession; belong. 1150–1200; Middle English longen to be suitable or proper, belong, derivative of long on account (of), attributable (to), dependent (on), Old English gelang belonging (to), dependent (on); see along Long (lông, long),USA pronunciation n. Crawford Wil•liam•son (wil′yəm sən),USA pronunciation 1815–78, U.S. surgeon. Hu•ey Pierce (hyōō′ē),USA pronunciation 1893–1935. U.S. politician: governor of Louisiana 1928–31; U.S. senator 1931–35. Russell B(il•liu) (bil′yōō),USA pronunciation born 1918, U.S. lawyer and politician: U.S. senator 1948–87 (son of Huey Pierce Long). Biographical Stephen Harriman, 1784–1864, U.S. army officer and explorer. long., Collins Concise English Dictionary © HarperCollins Publishers:: long /lɒŋ/ adj having relatively great extent in space on a horizontal plane having relatively great duration in time (postpositive) of a specified number of units in extent or duration: three hours long (in combination): a two-foot-long line having or consisting of a relatively large number of items or parts: a long list having greater than the average or expected range: a long memory being the longer or longest of alternatives: the long way to the bank having more than the average or usual quantity, extent, or duration: a long match seeming to occupy a greater time than is really so: she spent a long afternoon waiting in the departure lounge intense or thorough (esp in the phrase a long look) (of drinks) containing a large quantity of nonalcoholic beverage (of a garment) reaching to the wearer's ankles (followed by on) informal plentifully supplied or endowed (with): long on good ideas(of a speech sound, esp a vowel) of relatively considerable duration (in popular usage) denoting the qualities of the five English vowels in such words as mate, mete, mite, moat, moot, and mute from end to end; lengthwise unlikely to win, happen, succeed, etc: a long chance denoting a vowel of relatively great duration or (esp in classical verse) followed by more than one consonant denoting a syllable containing such a vowel (in verse that is not quantitative) carrying the emphasis or ictus having or characterized by large holdings of securities or commodities in anticipation of rising prices: a long position (of a fielding position) near the boundary: long leg informal (of people) tall and slenderin the long run ⇒ See runlong in the tooth ⇒ informal old or ageing adv for a certain time or period: how long will it last? for or during an extensive period of time: long into the next year at a distant time; quite a bit of time: long before I met you, long ago into a position with more security or commodity holdings than are required by sale contracts and therefore dependent on rising prices for profit: to go longas long as, so long as ⇒ for or during just the length of time that inasmuch as; since provided that; ifno longer ⇒ not any more; formerly but not now n a long time (esp in the phrase for long) a relatively long thing, such as a signal in Morse code a clothing size for tall people, esp in trousers a long vowel or syllable a person with large holdings of a security or commodity in expectation of a rise in its price; bull a note common in medieval music but now obsolete, having the time value of two brevesbefore long ⇒ soonthe long and the short of it ⇒ the essential points or factsEtymology: Old English lang; related to Old High German lang, Old Norse langr, Latin longuslong /lɒŋ/ vb (intransitive; followed by for or an infinitive) to have a strong desireEtymology: Old English langian; related to long1long /lɒŋ/ vb (intransitive) archaic to belong, appertain, or be appropriateEtymology: Old English langian to belong, from gelang at hand, belonging to; compare alonglong abbreviation for Collins Concise English Dictionary © HarperCollins Publishers:: Long /lɒŋ/ n Crawford Williamson. 1815–78, US surgeon. He was the first to use ether as an anaesthetic Collins Concise English Dictionary © HarperCollins Publishers:: long- adv (in combination) for or lasting a long time: long-awaited, long-established, long-lasting Collins Concise English Dictionary © HarperCollins Publishers:: long /lɒŋ/ adj having relatively great extent in space on a horizontal plane having relatively great duration in time (postpositive) of a specified number of units in extent or duration: three hours long (in combination): a two-foot-long line having or consisting of a relatively large number of items or parts: a long list having greater than the average or expected range: a long memory being the longer or longest of alternatives: the long way to the bank having more than the average or usual quantity, extent, or duration: a long match seeming to occupy a greater time than is really so: she spent a long afternoon waiting in the departure lounge intense or thorough (esp in the phrase a long look) (of drinks) containing a large quantity of nonalcoholic beverage (of a garment) reaching to the wearer's ankles (followed by on) informal plentifully supplied or endowed (with): long on good ideas(of a speech sound, esp a vowel) of relatively considerable duration (in popular usage) denoting the qualities of the five English vowels in such words as mate, mete, mite, moat, moot, and mute from end to end; lengthwise unlikely to win, happen, succeed, etc: a long chance denoting a vowel of relatively great duration or (esp in classical verse) followed by more than one consonant denoting a syllable containing such a vowel (in verse that is not quantitative) carrying the emphasis or ictus having or characterized by large holdings of securities or commodities in anticipation of rising prices: a long position (of a fielding position) near the boundary: long leg informal (of people) tall and slenderin the long run ⇒ See runlong in the tooth ⇒ informal old or ageing adv for a certain time or period: how long will it last? for or during an extensive period of time: long into the next year at a distant time; quite a bit of time: long before I met you, long ago into a position with more security or commodity holdings than are required by sale contracts and therefore dependent on rising prices for profit: to go longas long as, so long as ⇒ for or during just the length of time that inasmuch as; since provided that; ifno longer ⇒ not any more; formerly but not now n a long time (esp in the phrase for long) a relatively long thing, such as a signal in Morse code a clothing size for tall people, esp in trousers a long vowel or syllable a person with large holdings of a security or commodity in expectation of a rise in its price; bull a note common in medieval music but now obsolete, having the time value of two brevesbefore long ⇒ soonthe long and the short of it ⇒ the essential points or factsEtymology: Old English lang; related to Old High German lang, Old Norse langr, Latin longuslong /lɒŋ/ vb (intransitive; followed by for or an infinitive) to have a strong desireEtymology: Old English langian; related to long1long /lɒŋ/ vb (intransitive) archaic to belong, appertain, or be appropriateEtymology: Old English langian to belong, from gelang at hand, belonging to; compare alonglong abbreviation for Collins Concise English Dictionary © HarperCollins Publishers:: Long /lɒŋ/ n Crawford Williamson. 1815–78, US surgeon. He was the first to use ether as an anaesthetic Collins Concise English Dictionary © HarperCollins Publishers:: long- adv (in combination) for or lasting a long time: long-awaited, long-established, long-lasting

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