SINCE 1828

partial

adjective

Save Word

par·tial | \ ˈpär-shəl How to pronounce partial (audio) \

Definition of *partial*

(Entry 1 of 2)

1 **:** of or relating to a part rather than the whole **:** not general or total a partial solution a partial payment
2 **:** inclined to favor one party more than the other **:** biased it is inconsistent with justice to be partial— J. S. Mill
3 **:** markedly fond of someone or something —used with *to* partial to pizzaShe's partial to tall men with blond hair.

partial

noun

Definition of *partial* (Entry 2 of 2)

: overtone sense 1a

Synonyms & Antonyms More Example Sentences Learn More about *partial*

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Synonyms & Antonyms for *partial*

Synonyms: Adjective

- biased,
- one-sided,
- parti pris,
- partisan,
- prejudiced

Antonyms: Adjective

- disinterested,
- equal,
- equitable,
- evenhanded,
- fair,
- impartial,
- neutral,
- nonpartisan,
- objective,
- unbiased,
- unprejudiced

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Examples of *partial* in a Sentence

Adjective These plants prefer full sun or *partial* shade. The *partial* ban on immigration has been lifted. His latest play was deemed only a *partial* success by the critics. a *partial* eclipse of the sun He wears a *partial* denture. She suggested a *partial* solution to the problem. A referee must not be *partial* toward either team.
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Recent Examples on the Web: Adjective The Flyers then put the game on ice late in the second period when Gostisbehere, on a *partial* break up the left wing, and Laughton scored 4:21 apart. — John Wawrow, *ajc*, "Elliott stops 23 shots in Flyers' 3-0 win over Sabres," 27 Feb. 2021 The gaps were largest among lower-income families, but many above the $75,000 income level—who in the current phaseout of checks would receive *partial* payment—still lost out. — Roya Wolverson, *Quartz*, "The economic rationale for whether you deserve a stimulus check," 26 Feb. 2021 Concert promoters are publicly skeptical of *partial*-opening plans. — Samantha Hissong, *Rolling Stone*, "Why Limited-Capacity Concerts Just Don't Make Sense," 26 Feb. 2021 Senior or disabled low-income renters may be eligible for a *partial* rebate of rent and utility bills, excluding telephone and cable. — *courant.com*, "Community News For The Putnam-Killingly Edition," 26 Feb. 2021 Some of the victims had been *partial* burned in a fire ignited by the two, investigators said. — William Thornton | Wthornton@al.com, *al*, "2 men indicted in connection with 7 Morgan County homicides," 26 Feb. 2021 November 19 will see a *partial* eclipse of the moon, and skywatchers in North America and Hawaii will see it between 1 a.m. ET and 7:06 a.m. ET. — Megan Marples And Ashley Strickland, *CNN*, "Full moon in February 2021: When to see the Snow Moon," 26 Feb. 2021 The fund has awarded 46 full-tuition and 176 *partial* scholarships to 222 Morgan State University students, according to the release. — Caitlin O'kane, *CBS News*, "Nearly 60 years after dropping out of college because he couldn't afford it, this man donated $20M to the school for financial aid," 25 Feb. 2021 As *partial* outages on the internet have been rising, big firms like Amazon aren't sitting still. — Nick Roll, *The Christian Science Monitor*, "The internet breaks too easily. Can that be fixed?," 25 Feb. 2021 Recent Examples on the Web: Noun So in other words, if your PIA is more than twice as much as your wife's PIA, she will be paid her own benefit plus a *partial*, or excess, spousal benefit, not a spousal benefit instead of her own benefit. — Laurence Kotlikoff, *Forbes*, "Ask Larry: Will A Spousal Benefit From My Record Increase My Wife's Social Security Benefits?," 25 Feb. 2021 Is your pet *partial* to a particular chair or corner of the couch? — Christina Vercelletto, *CNN Underscored*, "41 gifts for pets and the people who love them," 20 Nov. 2020 Is your pet *partial* to a particular chair or corner of the couch? — Christina Vercelletto, *CNN Underscored*, "41 gifts for pets and the people who love them," 20 Nov. 2020 Is your pet *partial* to a particular chair or corner of the couch? — Christina Vercelletto, *CNN Underscored*, "41 gifts for pets and the people who love them," 20 Nov. 2020 In the *partial* reopening, only about 80 floor brokers were welcomed back, about 25% of the number before the coronavirus pandemic. — *NBC News*, "Some NYSE operations to return to remote work amid case surge," 23 Dec. 2020 Is your pet *partial* to a particular chair or corner of the couch? — Christina Vercelletto, *CNN Underscored*, "41 gifts for pets and the people who love them," 20 Nov. 2020 Yet the whiplash many New York City students, parents and teachers felt — from a full shutdown before Thanksgiving to a *partial* reopening less than three weeks later — is not likely to abate as the fall turns to winter. — *New York Times*, "How New York City Plans to Keep Children Safe as Schools Reopen," 7 Dec. 2020 Is your pet *partial* to a particular chair or corner of the couch? — Christina Vercelletto, *CNN Underscored*, "41 gifts for pets and the people who love them," 20 Nov. 2020

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First Known Use of *partial*

Adjective

14th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1

Noun

1873, in the meaning defined above

History and Etymology for *partial*

Adjective and Noun

Middle English *parcial*, from Late Latin *partialis*, from Latin *part-, pars* part

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Time Traveler for *partial*

Time Traveler

The first known use of *partial* was in the 14th century

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More Definitions for *partial*

partial

adjective
How to pronounce partial (audio)

English Language Learners Definition of *partial*

: not complete or total
: tending to treat one person, group, or thing better than another

See the full definition for *partial* in the English Language Learners Dictionary

partial

adjective
par·tial | \ ˈpär-shəl How to pronounce partial (audio) \

Kids Definition of *partial*

1 **:** not complete a *partial* success a *partial* eclipse
2 **:** favoring one side of a question over another I'm too *partial* to be a fair judge.
3 **:** fond or too fond of someone or something Grandma is *partial* to ice cream sodas.

Other Words from *partial*

partially \ ˈpär-shə-lē \ adverb

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Who Knew?

- What is a **ruelle**?

a pillow for one's elbow | a second mother-in-law | the space between a bed and the wall | a week and a day

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WORDS AT PLAY

- **On 'Eminent' and 'Imminent' (and 'Immanent')**

  The difference will be clear in a moment

- **The Words of the Week - 3/5/2021**

Words from the week of 3/5/2021

- **Getting Up to Speed on (the History of) 'Speed'**

  "Godspeed," dear readers.

- **The Story Behind 'Stonks'**

  Buying low and selling high in the meme market

ASK THE EDITORS

- **'All Intensive Purposes' or 'All Intents and Purposes'?**

  We're intent on clearing it up

- **'Nip it in the butt' or 'Nip it in the bud'?**

  We're gonna stop you right there

- **Literally**

  How to use a word that (literally) drives some pe...

- **Is Singular 'They' a Better Choice?**

  The awkward case of 'his or her'

WORD GAMES

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  Take this quiz and discover 12 words for things y...

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