

BREATH And BREATHE

The word breath is a noun referring to the air going in/out of your mouth and nose. You can...

- take a deep breath (inhale a lot of air)
- have bad breath (when the air coming out of your mouth smells bad)
- hold your breath (keep air in your lungs, like when you go underwater)
- gasp for breath (when you have difficulty breathing)

Breath or Breathe?

- On a cold day, you can see your breath when you breathe.

The word breathe is a verb, referring to the action of taking air in and out. You can...

- breathe hard/heavily - (when you're using a LOT of air)
- have trouble breathing - (when a medical condition is interfering with your respiration)
- breathe easily/freely again - (when you can relax after a period of intense stress or nervousness)

There are two pronunciation differences between breath and breathe:

- The ea in breath is like in bread, head, red, and bed.
- The ea in breathe is like in need, see, real, and breeze.
- The th in breath is "soft" like in with, tooth, and fourth.
- The th in breathe is "hard" like in this and these.

Bath Or Bathe?

Bath is a noun; bathe is a verb meaning to take a bath or to give someone else a bath.

- I took a long, hot bath.
- The baby's toys are in the bathtub.
- He only bathes once a week!
- She loves to sunbathe on the beach.

Loath Or Loathe?

If you are loath to do something, it means you are not willing to do it; you are reluctant:

- He's believed that for such a long time; he's loath to admit he's wrong.

To loathe something means to hate it very intensely
I absolutely loathe onions. I can't even stand the smell of them.

Sheath Or Sheathe?

A sheath (n.) is a case or covering for a blade, such as a sword. The word sheathe (v.) means to put a blade into its sheath.

A sword and sheath.

Teeth Or Teethe?

The word teeth is the plural form of tooth. Your mouth is filled with teeth.

The word teethe is a verb – it refers to when a baby's teeth are just beginning to grow into its mouth. Often, during this phase of life, the baby likes to chew on various things. We say the baby is teething.

The baby is teething.

3 More English Verbs Ending In -THE

SOOTHE

The word soothe can mean to help comfort a person and make them feel calmer, or to help relieve pain:

The parents tried everything to soothe their screaming child.

This lotion will help soothe irritated skin.

TITHE

To tithe is to give a portion of your income (usually 10%) voluntarily to support the church.

The pastor encouraged the members of the congregation to tithe.

WRITHE

The word writhe means to make twisting movements of the body, especially in pain:

The victim of the car accident writhed in agony.