

Need another word that means the same as “ordeal”? Find 15 synonyms and 30 related words for “ordeal” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Ordeal” are: trial by ordeal, trial, tribulation, test, nightmare, trauma, baptism of fire, hell, hell on earth, misery, trouble, difficulty, torture, torment, agony**

## Ordeal as a Noun

### Definitions of "Ordeal" as a noun

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “ordeal” as a noun can have the following definitions:

- *A primitive method of determining a person's guilt or innocence by subjecting the accused person to dangerous or painful tests believed to be under divine control; escape was usually taken as a sign of innocence.*
- *An ancient test of guilt or innocence by subjection of the accused to severe pain, survival of which was taken as divine proof of innocence.*
- *A severe or trying experience.*
- *A very unpleasant and prolonged experience.*



## Synonyms of "Ordeal" as a noun (15 Words)

- agony** A state of acute pain.  
*He crashed to the ground in **agony**.*
- baptism of fire** A Christian sacrament signifying spiritual cleansing and rebirth.
- difficulty** A situation that is difficult or dangerous.  
*There is a practical **difficulty**.*
- hell on earth** A cause of difficulty and suffering.
- misery** A state of ill-being due to affliction or misfortune.  
*She was exhausted by her **misery** and grief.*
- nightmare** A person or situation that is very difficult to deal with.  
*Developing thunderclouds are a balloonist's worst **nightmare**.*
- test** The act of testing something.  
*A positive **test** for protein.*

- torment** A feeling of intense annoyance caused by being tormented.  
*So great was his harassment that he wanted to destroy his **tormentors**.*
- torture** The act of distorting something so it seems to mean something it was not intended to mean.  
*Dances were absolute **torture** because I was so small.*
- trauma** Any physical damage to the body caused by violence or accident or fracture etc.  
*A personal **trauma** like the death of a child.*
- trial** A preliminary competition to determine qualifications.  
*Candidates must compete in a **trial** of skill.*
- trial by ordeal** The determination of a person's innocence or guilt by due process of law.
- tribulation** A state of great trouble or suffering.  
*The **tribulations** of being a megastar.*
- trouble** A strong feeling of anxiety.  
*They had labor **trouble**.*



## Usage Examples of "Ordeal" as a noun

- *Ordeal by fire.*
- *The ordeal of having to give evidence.*
- *Ordeals conducted in the twelfth century.*



## Associations of "Ordeal" (30 Words)

<b>abominable</b>	Unequivocally detestable- Edmund Burke. <i><b>Abominable</b> workmanship.</i>
<b>abomination</b>	A thing that causes disgust or loathing. <i>A Calvinist <b>abomination</b> of indulgence.</i>
<b><u>alarming</u></b>	Worrying or disturbing. <i>Our countryside is disappearing at an <b>alarming</b> rate.</i>
<b><u>appalling</u></b>	Causing consternation. <i>The cat suffered <b>appalling</b> injuries during the attack.</i>
<b><u>atrocious</u></b>	Provoking horror. <i>Murder is an <b>atrocious</b> crime.</i>
<b><u>atrocious</u></b>	A highly unpleasant or distasteful object. <i>Atrocities in cheap red nylon.</i>
<b>awful</b>	Awfully very. <i>An <b>awful</b> voice.</i>
<b>blamed</b>	Expletives used informally as intensifiers. <i>It s a <b>blamed</b> shame.</i>
<b><u>dire</u></b>	(of a warning or threat) presaging disaster. <i>The concert was <b>dire</b>.</i>
<b>disservice</b>	An act intended to help that turns out badly. <i>You have done a <b>disservice</b> to the African people by ignoring this fact.</i>
<b><u>dread</u></b>	Causing fear or dread or terror. <i>The <b>dread</b> presence of the headmaster.</i>
<b><u>dreadful</u></b>	Used to emphasize the degree to which something is the case, especially something regarded with sadness or disapproval. <i>A <b>dreadful</b> storm.</i>
<b>fearful</b>	Lacking courage; ignobly timid and faint-hearted- P.B.Shelley. <i><b>Fearful</b> of criticism.</i>
<b>fearsome</b>	Causing fear or dread or terror. <i>The cat mewed displaying a <b>fearsome</b> set of teeth.</i>
<b><u>formidable</u></b>	Inspiring fear or respect through being impressively large, powerful, intense, or capable. <i>The <b>formidable</b> army of brains at the Prime Minister s disposal.</i>
<b><u>frightening</u></b>	Causing fear or dread or terror. <i>A <b>frightening</b> experience.</i>

<b>frightful</b>	Extreme in degree or extent or amount or impact. <i>A <b>frightful</b> mistake.</i>
<b><u>ghastly</u></b>	Causing great horror or fear. <i>A <b>ghastly</b> pallor.</i>
<b><u>hellish</u></b>	Extremely (used for emphasis). <i><b>Hellish</b> torture.</i>
<b>horrible</b>	Causing or likely to cause horror; shocking. <i>War is beyond all words <b>horrible</b>.</i>
<b><u>horrific</u></b>	Causing horror. <i><b>Horrific</b> conditions in the mining industry.</i>
<b><u>nasty</u></b>	Offensive or even (of persons) malicious. <i>Plastic bags burn with a <b>nasty</b> acrid smell.</i>
<b>probe</b>	Examine physically with or as if with a probe. <i>There was a congressional <b>probe</b> into the scandal.</i>
<b>sadly</b>	To a regrettable extent; regrettably. <i><b>Sadly</b> the forests of Sulawesi are now under threat.</i>
<b>terrible</b>	Exceptionally bad or displeasing. <i>The <b>terrible</b> conditions in which the ordinary people lived.</i>
<b><u>terrifying</u></b>	Causing extreme terror. <i>The <b>terrifying</b> events of the past few weeks.</i>
<b>test</b>	Carry out a medical test on a person a part of the body or a body fluid. <i>The exam will <b>test</b> accuracy and neatness.</i>
<b><u>tragedy</u></b>	The dramatic genre represented by tragedies. <i>Greek <b>tragedy</b>.</i>
<b><u>trial</u></b>	Of a horse dog or other animal compete in trials. <i>Clinical <b>trials</b> must establish whether the new hip replacements are working.</i>
<b><u>unspeakable</u></b>	Not able to be expressed in words. <i>A piece of <b>unspeakable</b> abuse.</i>

