

Word of the Day – redeem

Transcript

Hi everyone! Today's word of the day is **redeem**. **Redeem** is a verb, and it is used in formal situations rather than daily conversations. **Redeem** has many different specific meanings, but there are two general definitions.

The most common is to exchange a non-money item for money. You can redeem or use a coupon for a discount or money saved from an item. You can also redeem a gift card by using it at your local store.

The second meaning of redeem is to compensate or save. So, in a way it's also an exchange, a present, better deed for a prior action. For example, "A soccer player who played badly in the last match can redeem his performance by making three goals in the next game."

In a related way, redeem also means to fulfill a promise or pledge. So when someone completely pays off the loan on his or her house, that is called "redeeming the mortgage."

However, there is one common way to use redeem in everyday life. For example, you might say, "Even though the service was slow and the food was too salty, the restaurant had one redeeming quality – it had free valet parking." In this phrase you find the one quality about the restaurant that compensates for or redeems the bad aspects of the evening. The phrase "redeeming quality" is used when you want to find a good point about an otherwise unpleasant person or experience.

If you would like more information, or the full transcript, please visit our website. Thank you very much and have a great day.