

be·lief (bĭ-lēf')❖ *n.*

The mental act, condition, or habit of placing trust or confidence in another: **My belief in you is as strong as ever.**

Mental acceptance of and conviction in the truth, actuality, or validity of something: **His explanation of what happened defies belief.**

Something believed or accepted as true, especially a particular tenet or a body of tenets accepted by a group of persons.

Middle English *bileve*, alteration (influenced by *bileven*, to believe) of Old English *gelēafa*; see **leubh-** in Indo-European roots.

Synonyms: [belief](#), [credence](#), [credit](#), [faith](#)

These nouns denote mental acceptance of the truth, actuality, or validity of something:

- a statement unworthy of belief;
- an idea steadily gaining credence;
- expert testimony meriting credit;
- has no faith in the poorly collected data.

See Also Synonyms at [view](#).

Antonym: [disbelief](#)