



WHAT IS AN ENTREPRENEUR?

en-tre-pre-neur

en-tre-pre-neur (ɒn'trə-prə-nûr', -nōōr') *noun*

A person who organizes, operates, and assumes the risk for a business venture. [**business** and **venture** defined below.]

[French, from Old French, from *entreprendre*, to undertake. See **enterprise**.]

— **en'tre-pre-neur'i-al** *adjective*

— **en'tre-pre-neur'i-al-ism** or **en'tre-pre-neur'ism** *noun*

— **en'tre-pre-neur'ship'** *noun*¹

busi-ness

busi-ness (bîz'nîs) *noun*

Abbr. **bus**.

1. **a.** The occupation, work, or trade in which a person is engaged: *the wholesale food business*. **b.** A specific occupation or pursuit: *the best designer in the business*.
2. Commercial, industrial, or professional dealings: *new systems now being used in business*.
3. A commercial enterprise or establishment: *bought his uncle's business*.
4. Volume or amount of commercial trade: *Business had fallen off*.
5. Commercial dealings; patronage: *took her business to a trustworthy salesperson*.
6. **a.** One's rightful or proper concern or interest: "*The business of America is business*" (Calvin Coolidge). **b.** Something involving one personally: *It's none of my business*.
7. Serious work or endeavor: *got right down to business*.
8. An affair or matter: "*We will proceed no further in this business*" (Shakespeare).
9. An incidental action performed by an actor on the stage to fill a pause between lines or to provide interesting detail.
10. *Informal*. Verbal abuse; scolding: *gave me the business for being late*.
11. *Obsolete*. The condition of being busy.

noun, attributive

Often used to modify another noun: *a business computer; a business suit*.

[Middle English *businessse*, from *bisi*, busy. See **busy**.]

Synonyms: *business, industry, commerce, trade, traffic*. These nouns apply to forms of activity that have the objective of supplying commodities. *Business* pertains broadly to commercial, financial, and industrial activity: *decided to go into the oil business*. *Industry* is the production and manufacture of goods or commodities, especially on a large scale: *the computer industry; the arms industry*. *Commerce* and *trade* refer to the exchange and distribution of goods or commodities: *laws regulating interstate commerce; involved in the domestic fur trade; foreign commerce (or trade)*. *Traffic* pertains broadly to commercial dealings but in particular to businesses engaged in the transportation of goods or passengers: *renovated the docks to attract shipping traffic*. The word may also suggest illegal trade, as in narcotics: *Traffic in stolen goods was brisk*. See also synonyms at **affair**.²

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ven·ture

ven·ture (vēn'chər) *noun*

1. An undertaking that is dangerous, daring, or of uncertain outcome.
2. A business enterprise involving some risk in expectation of gain.
3. Something, such as money or cargo, at hazard in a risky enterprise.

verb

ven·tured, ven·tur·ing, ven·tures *verb, transitive*

1. To expose to danger or risk: *ventured her entire fortune.*
2. To brave the dangers of: *ventured the high seas in a small boat.*
3. To express at the risk of denial, criticism, or censure: *"I would venture to guess that Anon., who wrote so many poems without signing them, was often a woman" (Virginia Woolf).*

verb, intransitive

1. To take a risk; dare.
2. To proceed despite possible danger or risk: *ventured into the wilderness.*

— *idiom.*

at a venture

By mere chance or fortune; at random.

[Middle English, chance, short for *aventure*, adventure. See [adventure](#).]

— **ven'tur-er** *noun*³

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