

'worth' reading!

How to use the word 'worth'

Most commonly, you will see the word **'worth'** – used as a *noun*, *adjective* or *fixed expression*. We use it to evaluate the *value* of a thing, person or action. In each of these forms **'worth'** does not change its structure, but it suggests a different meaning.

*This book is worth €20.
You can get €200 worth of books.
The book had proved its worth.
The book will last you a month's worth.
The book is worth reading..
It's worth reading this book.
The book is worth a try.
This book is worth a great deal to me.*

Worth as a noun

worth + noun | **time/period + worth of + noun**

- an amount of money something cost or can be sold for
"Her engagement ring was worth €30.000".
"He has bought €1000 worth of chocolate".
- the importance or usefulness
"He has not proved his worth in this company".
- a period or amount of time
"My mum always buys a month's worth of toilet paper".

Worth as an adjective

verb to be + worth + verb-ing | **to be + worth** | **to be + worth + amount**

- useful to have or do
"As we'll have to leave early, I don't think it's worth going to the party tonight".
"Granada is worth visiting for its spectacular architecture"
"Occasionally, it's worth spending money on a fancy dinner". a value in money
"Top models are usually worth millions of pounds". a value of a person
"This car is worth €10.000".

Be worth it (adjective)

verb to be + worth + it

- reasonable or good value - investment
"It's (well) worth it, if you think about what it'll pay back in the future"
"Spending money on a house to avoid paying rent for good is worth it"

Be worth something (adjective)

verb to be + worth + action/effort

- important or interesting to receive
"The matter is worth our attention".
"The coffee at that new place is (definitely) worth a try".

'worth' reading!

How to use the word 'worth'

be worth having/doing something (adj)

verb to be + worth + verb-ing

- important or useful to have or do
"To save money on a lawyer it's worth sorting out the problem ourselves"
"It's worth reading a book when learning a language".

worth it (adjective)

verb to be + worth + it

- enjoyable or producing advantage to make effort, to risk, or stand pain
"The climb up was worth the view from the top".
"You need to get over him, - he's just not worth it".

worthy of

Worthy of is (an old-fashioned) way used to explain an idea, thing, person or action deserves attention, effort or respect.

verb to be + worthy

| verb to be + worthy of + noun

"She's not worthy".

"These two issues are worthy of mention here".

"The lyrics are worthy of deep reflection".

She's not worth it.

These two issues are worth mentioning here.

The lyrics are worth reflecting upon.

1. Based on the example sentences, figure out what the expressions with 'worth' mean

1. You may not find all the stops as interesting, but I may as well **get our money's worth**.

2. This grammar post is **worth its weight in gold**. I know exactly what to do with 'worth'.

3. **For what it's worth**, you've always meant the world to me.

4. The agreements written in the email **aren't worth the paper they're printed on**.

5. **It's more trouble than it's worth** to go all that way if the forecast is looking so bad.

6. **It's not worth the trouble** of going all that way, when the forecast is looking so bad.

7. Any teacher **worth their salt** should do some research before they teach a new language point.

8. **It would be worth your while** to see if the happy hour at that restaurant is still on.

9. If you work the weekend, I'll **make it worth your while**.

2. Match these common usages & fixed expressions to their definition

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. worth a try - well worth a ... | a. something that is not useful enough to make an effort doing it |
| 2. equal worth | b. good at your job |
| 3. get your money's worth | c. to make the most of something |
| 4. worth its weight in gold | d. being uncertain if it is useful or important information |
| 5. for what it's worth | e. to be extremely helpful or useful |
| 6. not worth the paper it's printed/written on | f. pay someone for a service |
| 7. more trouble than it's worth to | g. no value – especially legally |
| 8. worth your salt | h. worth to taste, watch, listen to x 2 |
| 9. worth your while | i. worth the same |
| 10. make it worth somebody's while | |

3. Tell me about....

1. a form of education that **wasn't worth your while** - why?

2. a teacher, coach, or trainer **worth his salt** - what should he be like?

3. a recipe that **is worth a try** - why?

4. something that **was worth the risk** - why?

5. **a worthy** entertainer - what do you like about him/her?

6. **your week worth of** exercises - how much do you move?

7. **your year worth of** sugar - how much of it do you eat?

8. a place that **is worth a visit** - why?

9. an experience that **was more trouble than it was worth** - why?

10. something you'd never buy because **they are worthless** - why?
