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noun jump to other results an actors part in a play, film, etc.She has landed the lead role (= the most important one) in a new play.a leading/starring role the role of somebody He played the role of Sonny in The Godfather. Homophones role | rollrole roll role nounShe's playing the role of Elizabeth Bennet.roll nounThe soup is served with a freshly baked roll.roll verbEveryone must roll the dice, and the player with the highest number starts.Wordfinderactorauditionbody doublecameocastplayrolestarstuntmanunderstudyWordfinderactcastdramaentranceextlineplayrolescenespeechCollocations Cinema/the moviesCinema/the moviesWatchinggo to/take somebody to (see) a filmgo to/sit in (British English) the cinema(North American English) the (movie) theaterrent a film/DVDdownload/stream a filmburn/copy/rip a DVDsee/watch a film/DVD/preview/trailerShowingshow/screen a filmpromote/distribute/review a film(British English) be on at the cinemabe released on/come out on/be out on DVDcaptivate/delight/grip/thrill the audiencedo well/badly at the box officeget a lot of/live up to the hypeFilm-makingwrite/co-write a film/script/screenplaydirect/produce/make/shoot/edit a film/sequelmake a romantic comedy/a thriller/an action moviedo/work on a sequel/remakefilm/shoot the opening scene/an action sequence/footage (of something)compose/create/do/write the soundtracktrack/edit (out) a scene/sequenceActinghave/get/do an auditionget/have/play a leading/starring/supporting roleplay a characterJames Bond/the bad guyact in/appear in/star in a film/remake/do/performance/attempt a stuntwork in/make it big in Hollywoodforge/carve/make/pursue a career in HollywoodDescribing the camera pulls back/pans over something/zooms in (on something)the camera focuses on something/flingers on somethingshoot somebody/show somebody in extreme close-upuse odd/unusual camera anglesbe filmed/shot on location/in a studiobe set/take place in London/in the 60shave a happy ending/plot twistExtra ExamplesEthan Hawke does a solid job in a thankless role.He has the starring role in the movie.He was very good in the role.In the series, Smith assumes the role of the go-between.It took her three years to land her first film role.Lee began to get big roles in movies.Most of the original cast are reprising their roles.She interprets the role as more tragic than I expected.She sings the title role in Tosca.The supporting roles are filled by British actors.This is the plum role in the play.Walken carefully underplays the role.a starring female roleone of his stereotypical action hero rolesthe chance to sink her teeth into the meaty role of femme fatale MargaretPlaying the role of Hamlet is an immense challenge for the actor.It is one of the greatest roles she has played.Topics Film and theatre2Oxford Collocations Dictionaryadjectiveverb + roleprepositionSee full entry the function or position that somebody has or is expected to have in an organization, in society or in a relationshipthe changing role of women role in something the artist's role in society role as somebody He is stepping down from his role as chair.I welcome the opportunity to assume a leadership role within the organization.In many marriages there has been a complete role reversal (= change of roles) with the man staying at home and the woman going out to work.It is important that everyone has clearly defined roles and responsibilities.Extra ExamplesEvery member of staff must have a clear role.He assumed a conspicuous role at the new arts agency.He filled several governmental roles.He has been cast in the role of chief apologist for the government.He is looking for ways to strengthen his role in the business.He is trying to carve out a new role for himself.He may have to settle for a backup role.He really wants to fulfil his role as godfather properly.I accepted the executive editor role at the magazine.I feel I can fit any role this team needs me to.I've had to take on the role of mother in her absence.Many staff perform multiple roles.She embraced her role as ruler of the country.She has a dual role as principal and French teacher.She has joined the team in a consultative role.Supervising elections is a possible role for the UN.The caregiving role is still overwhelmingly a female one.The fighting has prevented the UN troops from fulfilling their role as peacekeepers.The new prime minister promised a greater role for women in government.Their brother plays a protective role.They have to be willing to accept their roles as caregivers and not managers.Traditional gender roles are reversed in their household.We are waiting to see if he can handle an expanded role.We need to find a useful role for the volunteers in the campaign.We will meet with them to determine individual roles.the views prevalent in society about female rolesShe refused to take on the traditional woman's role.the role of the teacher in the classroomOxford Collocations Dictionaryadjectiveverb + rolerule + nounmodelreversalexpectationprepositionin a/the roleleasroleatSee full entry the degree to which somebody/something is involved in a situation or an activity and the effect that they have on itA cup of tea often serves an important social role.a key/leading/central/crucial/vital role role in doing something The media play a major role in influencing people's opinions.Small businesses have a significant role to play in keeping the economy buoyant. role in something UK scientists have taken a lead role in the project. role of somebody/something in something the role of diet in the prevention of disease role as something The company has cemented its role as a leader in the industry. role of somebody/something as something Thomas downplays the role of these letters as historical evidence.Extra ExamplesEconomic factors played a decisive role in the outcome of the war.He addressed the role of tradition in design.Migrant workers played a central role in the state's prosperity.Politicians acknowledge the key roles that young people play in the country.Pressure groups played a major role in bringing about the reforms.The authors emphasized the role of the slave trade in the economic development of the New World.They decided to expand the role that new technologies play at the hospital.We need to better understand the role of cold regions in the global climate system.an area where national rivalries play a powerful rolethe economic role of small townsOxford Collocations Dictionaryadjectiveverb + rolerule + nounmodelreversalexpectationprepositionin a/the roleleasroleatSee full entry see also thematic roleWord Originearly 17th cent., from obsolete French roule roll, referring originally to the roll of paper on which the actor's part was written.See role in the Oxford Advanced American DictionarySee role in the Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English Nearby words the Rokeby Venus roko noun role noun role model noun role-play verb magical adjective From the Word list Oxford 5000 C1 Oxford Learner's Dictionaries Word of the Day a part or character played by an actor or actress.proper or customary function the role of religion in society the function assumed by a person or thing in a given action or process.Schools offer few practical tools to help students explore their role in shaping the future.Sociology.the rights, obligations, and expected behavior patterns associated with a particular social status.When studying child development, it was critical to study the father's role.a part or character in a play, film, etc. to be played by an actor or actresspsychol the part played by a person in a particular social setting, influenced by his expectation of what is appropriateusual or customary functionwhat is his role in the organization?Collins English Dictionary Complete & Unabridged 2012 Digital Edition William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012Origin of role1 First recorded in 160010; from French rle roll (of paper containing the actor's part); rollOrigin of role1C17: from French rle roll , an actor's scriptExamples have not been reviewed.The five-star freshman was expected to step in and play a major role in his first year with the Trojans, despite being a full year younger than most freshmen in the same position.Im surprised by that amount of money, and it just goes to show that even though teaching is a thankless job, the students are craving and grateful for a role model.Among the information added were the efforts of indigenous people who originally maintained the land, as well as the role of women in creating the national monument.I ask her whether in that time, she was ever assigned a good or bad cop role.Skydance has said it didnt have a role in the Colbert decision.actappearanceaspectcharacterpartperformanceportrayalRolandrole conflictBrowse#aabbccddeeffghhijklklmmmmoppqqrrssttuuvvwxxyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day! 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC Also found in: Thesaurus, Medical, Acronyms, Idioms, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia.Related to role: Role Conflict a part played by an actor; a function; the role of a wifeNot to be confused with:roll to turn; to throw as in dice, a small breadAbused, Confused, & Misused Words by Mary Embree Copyright 2007, 2013 by Mary Embree (rln).1. also rle a character or part played by a performer.2. The characteristic and expected social behavior of an individual.3. A function or position. See Synonyms at function.4. Linguistics The function of a word or construction, as in a sentence.(French rle, from Old French rolle, roll of parchment (on which an actor's part was written), from Latin rotula, diminutive of rota, wheel; see roll.)American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright 2016 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. (rl) or n1. (Theatre) a part or character in a play, film, etc. to be played by an actor or actress2. (Psychology) psychol the part played by a person in a particular social setting, influenced by his expectation of what is appropriate3. usual or customary function: what is his role in the organization?. [C17: from French rle roll, an actor's script]Collins English Dictionary Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition 2014 HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014 (rol) n. 1. a part or character played by an actor, singer, or other performer. 2. the proper or customary function of a person or thing. 3. the rights, obligations, and expected behavior patterns associated with a particular social status. [160010; < French rle roll (as of paper) containing the actor's part] Random House Kernerman Webster's College Dictionary, 2010 K Dictionaries Ltd. Copyright 2005, 1997, 1991 by Random House, Inc. All rights reserved. rollThese words are both pronounced /rɪl/.1. 'role'Your role is your position and what you do in a situation or society.What is the role of the university in modern society?He had played a major role in the formation of the United Nations.A role is also one of the characters that an actor or singer plays in a film, play, opera, or musical.She played the leading role in The Winter's Tale.2. 'roll'A roll is a very small loaf of bread.The soup is served with a roll and butter.A roll of something such as cloth or paper is a long piece of it wrapped many times around itself or around a tube.I bought a roll of wallpaper Collins COBUILD English Usage HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 2004, 2011, 2012 Noun1.role - the actions and activities assigned to or required or expected of a person or group; "the function of a teacher"; "the government must do its part"; "play its role"duty - work that you are obliged to perform for moral or legal reasons; "the duties of the job"capacity - a specified function; "he was employed in the capacity of director"; "he should be retained in his present capacity at a higher salary"bat - an informal term for a person's role; "he took off his politician's hat and talked frankly"portfolio - the role of the head of a government department; "he holds the portfolio for foreign affairs"lieu, stead, place, position - the post or function properly or customarily occupied or served by another; "can you go in my stead?"; "took his place"; "in lieu of'second fiddle - a secondary role or function; "he hated to play second fiddle to anyone"2.role - an actor's portrayal of someone in a play; "she played the part of Desdemona"persona, theatrical role, character, partit part, minor role - a small roleheavy - a serious (or tragic) role in a playhero - the principal character in a play or movie or novel or poemingenue - the role of an innocent artless young woman in a playheroine - the main good female character in a work of fictionbaddie, villain - the principal bad character in a film or work of fiction3.role - what something is used for; "the function of an auger is to bore holes"; "ballet is beautiful but what use is it?"usefulness, utility - the quality of being of practical useasertion d'etre - the purpose that justifies a thing's existence4.role - normal or customary activity of a person in a particular social setting; "what is your role on the team?"activity - any specific behavior; "they avoided all recreational activity"gender role - the overt expression of attitudes that indicate to others the degree of your maleness or femaleness; "your gender role is the public expression of your gender identity"position - (in team sports) the role assigned to an individual player. "what position does he play?"Based on WordNet 3.0. Farlex clipart collection. 2003-2012 Princeton University, Farlex Inc.nounCollins Thesaurus of the English Language Complete and Unabridged, 2nd Edition. 2002 HarperCollins Publishers 1995, 2002 also nounThe American Heritage Roget's Thesaurus. Copyright 2013, 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Collins Spanish Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged 8th Edition 2005 William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1971, 1988 HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2005Collins English/French Electronic Resource. HarperCollins Publishers 2005Collins German Dictionary Complete and Unabridged 7th Edition 2005. William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1980 HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1997, 1999, 2004, 2005, 2007Collins Italian Dictionary 1st Edition HarperCollins Publishers 1995 (ru) noun1. a part played by an actor or actress in a play etc. He is playing the rle of King Lear. rol papel role die Rolle rolle papel roll, osa rooli rle , uloga szerep peran hlutverk ruolo, parte vaidmuo loma watak rolrollerola papel rol rola vloga uloga rol rol vai din 2. the actions or functions of a person in some activity. He played the rle of peacemaker in the dispute. rol papel role die Rolle funktion papel roll rooli rle uloga szerep peranan hlutverk ruolo vaidmuo loma watak rolrollerola papel rol rola vloga uloga rol rol vai tr Multilingual Translator HarperCollins Publishers 2009v. to play the _ of hacer el _ de. English-Spanish Medical Dictionary Farlex 2012 n papel m; model modelo de conducta; playing o play juegos de rolEnglish-Spanish/Spanish-English Medical Dictionary Copyright 2006 by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved. Want to thank TFD for its existence? Tell a friend about us, add a link to this page, or visit the webmaster's page for free fun content. Link to this page: It was this automatic assumption of a role that was considered imperative.Incidentally, I may state that in my dual role I managed a few important things for the Revolution.It was necessary for us to practise until our assumed roles became real; until to be our original selves would require a watchful and strong exercise of will.Many of them were delicious in the role; one of them was the embodiment of every womanly grace and charm."Where would I not go at the countess' command!" said Denimov, who at the Rostovs' had jocularly assumed the role of Natasha's knight. She leaned towards her neighbour on the other side and Major Thomson was able to resume the role of attentive observer, a role which seemed somehow his by destiny.In the long history of the world, only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger; I do not shrink from this responsibility.I saw myself, too, from the dramatic standpoint, and I was pleased with my role of the trusted friend bringing back the errant husband to his forgiving wife.It was neither warrior, nor lover, nor god; in none of these roles do the English excel.The attention will bedivided and the performance will at best be mediocre.Maintain constant vigil, give priority to the role that the situation demandsand also ensure that there is no intermixing of roles. Princeton's WordNet3.3 / 7 votesfunction, office, part, rolenounthe actions and activities assigned to or required or expected of a person or group"the function of a teacher"; "the government must do its part"; "play its role"character, role, theatrical role, part, personanonuan actor's portrayal of someone in a play"she played the part of Desdemona"function, purpose, role, usenounwhat something is used for"the function of an auger is to bore holes"; "ballet is beautiful but what use is it?"rolenounnormal or customary activity of a person in a particular social setting"what is your roll on the team?"Wiktionary4.3 / 4 votesrolenounA character or part played by a performer or actor.rolenounThe expected behaviour of an individual in a society.The role of women has changed significantly in the last century.rolenounThe function or position of something.Local volunteers played an important role in cleaning the beach after the oil spill.rolenounThe function of a word in a phrase.Etymology: From rle.ChatGPT0.0 / 0 votesroleA role refers to a set of responsibilities, duties, and behaviors associated with a particular position or function within a group, organization, or society. It determines how individuals are expected to behave and contribute towards achieving collective goals and maintaining order and structure. Roles can vary widely depending on the context and can be formal or informal, assigned or adopted voluntarily Webster Dictionary3/0 / 2 votesRolenouna part, or character, performed by an actor in a drama; hence, a part of function taken or assumed by any one; as, he has now taken the role of philanthropistEtymology: [F. See Roll,Wikidata3.5 / 4 votesRolea role or social role is a set of connected behaviours, rights, obligations, beliefs, and norms as conceptualised by actors in a social situation. It is an expected or free or continuously changing behaviour and may have a given individual social status or social position. It is vital to both functionalist and interactionist understandings of society. Social role posits the following about social behaviour:The division of labour in society takes the form of the interaction among heterogeneous specialised positions, we call roles.Social roles included appropriate and permitted forms of behaviour, guided by social norms, which are commonly known and hence determine the expectations for appropriate behaviour in these roles.Roles are occupied by individuals, who are called actors.When individuals approve of a social role, they will incur costs to conform to role norms, and will also incur costs to punish those who violate role norms.Changed conditions can render a social role outdated or illegitimate, in which case social pressures are likely to lead to role change.Chambers 20th Century Dictionary5.0 / 2 votesRlerl, n. the part performed by an actor in a play: any important part played in public life. [Fr.]Rolerl, n. an ancient unit of quantity, seventy-two sheets of parchment.U.S. National Library of Medicine0.0 / 0 votesRoleThe expected and characteristic pattern of behavior exhibited by an individual as a member of a particular social group.Editors Contribution0.0 / 0 votesroleThe accurate and specific action, activity and function created for a person in a specific form of employment.Her role at work was very exciting and interesting she loved it with a passion.Submitted by MaryC on February 17, 2020Suggested Resources4.0 / 2 votesSurnames Frequency by Census Records0.0 / 0 votesROLEAccording to the U.S. Census Bureau, Role is ranked #102197 in terms of the most common surnames in America.The role surname appeared 176 times in the 2010 census and if you were to sample 100,000 people in the United States, approximately 0 would have the surname Role.66.4% or 117 total occurrences were White.18.1% or 32 total occurrences were Black.6.8% or 12 total occurrences were of Hispanic origin.5.6% or 10 total occurrences were Asian.Matched CategoriesActivityDutyPortrayalUtilityBritish National Corpus Spoken Corpus FrequencyRank popularity for the word 'ROLE' in Spoken Corpus Frequency: #496Written Corpus Frequency:Rank popularity for the word 'ROLE' in Written Corpus Frequency: #1118Nouns Frequency:Rank popularity for the word 'ROLE' in Nouns Frequency: #169Usage in printed sourcesFrom:Anagrams for ROLE loreloreOrelroleroleOrelroleroleHow to pronounce ROLE?How to say ROLE in sign language?NumerologyChaldean NumerologyThe numerical value of ROLE in Chaldean Numerology is: 8Pythagorean NumerologyThe numerical value of ROLE in Pythagorean Numerology is: 5Silky Shah:We're seeing the pandemic is playing a role -- but also the conditions of detention, and what it does both to your mental health and the really poor medical care that exists inside, as we're looking at this death toll going up, what it tells us is,... it's a system that shouldn't exist. People should be with their loved ones, with their families, being able to social distance and quarantine at home going through their immigration proceedings.Wang Chung-yi:As far as Taiping Island is concerned, we still maintain not so much a military as a civil role.Angela Giampolo:'Zoolander' is not the medium by which we should be teaching tolerance and/or educating the masses about transgender issues, moreover, there is something to be said for the fact that funny movies and satires have a role in mainstreaming hard to grasp issues.Paul Thomas:If Canada is able to play a prominent role, I think Trudeau might get some credit with Canadians.Matthew Stafford:It was, and still is, incredibly impressive. Just how she handled the whole thing. Not even going through the surgery and coming out of it and recovering. But inspiring a bunch of people along the way. She's an incredible role model to our girls and a bunch of little girls out there. References . ArabicroleCzechFunktion, Aufgabe, RolleGermanGreekpapel, rolSpanishPersianrooliFinnishrieFrenchFindiszerepHungarianperanan, tugas, peranIndonesianruoloItalianHebrew , JapaneseJewKurdishshroleNorwegianpapel, funoPortugueserolRomanian, Russianuloga, Serbo-CroatianvlogaSloveneTelugugrev, liev, rolTurkishUkrainianUrduChinese - Select - (Chinese - Simplified) (Chinese - Traditional) Español (Spanish) Esperanto (Esperanto) (Japanese) Português (Portuguese) Deutsch (German) (Arabic) Français (French) (Kannada) (Korean) (Hebrew) Gaeilge (Irish) (Ukrainian) (Urdu) Magyar (Hungarian) (Hindi) Indonesia (Indonesian) Italiano (Italian) (Tamil) Trke (Turkish) (Telugu) (Thai) Ting Vit (Vietnamese) etina (Czech) Polski (Polish) Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesian) Romnete (Romanian) Nederlands (Dutch) (Greek) Latinum (Latin) Svenska (Swedish) Dansk (Danish) Suomi (Finnish) (Yiddish) (Armenian) Norsk (Norwegian) English (English) WordReference Random House Learner's Dictionary of American English 2025rolelrle/rol/USA pronunciation n.[countable] a part played by an actor or singer:the role of the villain in the play, the proper function of a person or thing:the role of good computer programs in teaching English. WordReference Random House Unabridged Dictionary of American English 2025role (rl),USA pronunciationn. a part or character played by an actor or actress. proper or customary function:the teacher's role in society. Sociologythe rights, obligations, and expected behavior patterns associated with a particular social status.Also,rle. French rle roll (as of paper) containing the actor's part 160010 2. capacity, position, responsibility, duty. Collins Concise English Dictionary HarperCollins Publishers:role, rle /rɪl/ n a part or character in a play, film, etc. to be played by an actor or actress the part played by a person in a particular social setting, influenced by his or her expectation of what is appropriate usual or customary function: what is her role in the organization?Etymology: 17th Century: from French rle roll, an actor's scriptCollins Concise English Dictionary HarperCollins Publishers:role, rle /rɪl/ n a part or character in a play, film, etc. to be played by an actor or actress the part played by a person in a particular social setting, influenced by his or her expectation of what is appropriate usual or customary function: what is her role in the organization? Etymology: 17th Century: from French rle roll, an actor's script

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