

**Today we will study the verb “to bear”. Bear has many definitions and uses.**

**I. Definitions**

*Bear- to give birth to. EX: She bore a son in 1999. Louisa has borne three children.*

*Bear- have as a characteristic EX: Roger bears a scar on his left arm. Sandy bears a strong resemblance to her mother.*

*Bear-have as an identification EX: Both wills bore Uncle Lee’s signature.*

*Bear- take care of, pay for EX: My parents bore the expense of my college education.*

*Bear- require EX: This candidate bears watching.*

*Bear- produce EX: These apple trees won’t bear fruit for several years.*

*Bear- carry or move along EX: The current bore the small boat out to sea.*

*Bear-support EX: The columns bore the weight of the roof.*

*Bear- endure EX: He couldn’t bear the pain. I couldn’t bear hearing about the accident.*

*Bear- carry in your mind EX: I bear a grudge against him for the way he treated me as a child.*

**II. If you bear down, you try hard. If you bear down on something, you press hard on it. If you bear off, you turn off. If you bear with, you are patient with.**

**Look at these examples and decide which definition they match:**

*Bear down on the pen. You are making four copies.*

*If you bear down, you will make an A.*

*Louise bore up well during her husband’s funeral.*

*Bear with us while we get the projector working.*

*Bear left when you see the large mailbox.*

**III. There are many expressions with “bear”.**

*If you bear arms, you possess a weapon. EX: A citizen of the U.S. may bear arms to protect himself.*

*Things that bear fruit give satisfactory results. EX: Taking the practice exam really bore fruit when I had to take the LSAT.*

*If you bear something in mind, you keep it in mind. EX: Bear in mind that Mother will be coming with us to the theatre.*

*If you bear the brunt of something, you endure the worst part of it. EX: The mayor bore the brunt of the criticism.*

*If you grin and bear it, you endure something unpleasant with a smile. EX: The boys will probably tease you about this outfit. Just grin and bear it.*

**Choose the correct word to finish these sentences.**

We were in a small rowing boat and were terrified that the steamer hadn't seen us as it was bearing ..... on us.

- (a) down (b) across (c) over (d) under

As we have all worked very hard this year, I'm hoping that our efforts will bear .....

- (a) produce (b) benefits (c) yields (d) fruit

There is really nothing much you can do to stop it and I'm afraid you'll just have to ..... and bear it.

- (a) scorn (b) grin (c) laugh (d) smile

She has been proved right in everything she did as the report quite clearly bears .....

- (a) out (b) to (c) for (d) onto

Quite honestly the two cases are so completely different that they really don't bear .....

- (a) confirmation (b) contrast (c) comprehension (d) comparison

Try and be a little more cheerful because if you don't bear ..... soon, you'll make everyone else miserable.

- (a) through
- (b) along
- (c) up
- (d) to

I fully understand your comments and bearing those in ....., I have made the appropriate decision.

- (a) brain
- (b) mind
- (c) thought
- (d) sense

We all have our ..... to bear so I should be grateful if you would stop complaining all the time.

- (a) problems
- (b) situations
- (c) crosses
- (d) results

I hope you can be patient for a little longer and bear ..... me while I try and solve the problem.

- (a) by
- (b) on
- (c) at
- (d) with

The judge dismissed the new evidence completely because it had no bearing ..... the trial.

- (a) to
- (b) on
- (c) into
- (d) by