I'm not a robot

a difficult or unpleasant experienceThey had survived a terrifying ordeal.The interview was less of an ordeal than she'd expected.The hostages spoke openly about the terrible ordeal they had been through. ordeal of (doing) something They are to be spared the ordeal of giving evidence in court.Extra ExamplesShe was subjected to a terrible six-day ordeal.She's extremely distressed by the whole ordeal.Starting at a new school can be quite an ordeal for a young child.Oxford Collocations Dictionaryadjectiveverb + ordealprepositionphrasesan ordeal at the hands of somebodySee full entryWord OriginOld English ordāl, ordēl, of Germanic origin; related to German urteilen ‘give judgement’, from a base meaning ‘share out’. The word is not found in Middle English (except once in Chaucer's Troilus); modern use of the current sense began in the mid 17th cent. See ordeal in the Oxford Advanced American Dictionary Nearby words orchid noun ordain verb ordeal noun order noun order verb From Middle English ordel, ordal, from Medieval Latin ordālium or inherited from its source Old English ordēl, ordāl (“ordeal, judgement”), from Proto-West Germanic *urdailī (“judgement”, literally “an out-dealing”), from *urdailijan (“to deal out; dispense”), equivalent to or- + deal. Cognate with Saterland Frisian Uurdeel (“judgement; verdict”), West Frisian oardiel (“judgement”), Dutch oordeel (“judgement, discretion”), Low German Oordeel (“judgement; verdict”), German Urteil (“judgement, verdict”). ordeal (plural ordeals) (historical) A trial in which the accused was subjected to a dangerous test (such as ducking in water), divine authority deciding the guilt of the accused. trial by ordeal (figuratively) A painful or trying experience. 1960, P[elham] G[renville] Wodehouse, chapter XXI, in Jeeves in the Offing, London: Herbert Jenkins, →OCLC:“And do you realize that in a few shakes I've got to show up at dinner and have Mrs Cream being very, very kind to me? It hurts the pride of the Woosters, Jeeves.” “My advice, sir, would be to fortify yourself for the ordeal.” “How?” “There are always cocktails, sir. Should I pour you another?” “You should.” 1960 October, P. Ransome-Wallis, “Modern motive power of the German Federal Railway: Part Two”, in Trains Illustrated, page 611:All the same, nearly eight hours on the footplate covering a distance of 320 miles, with an ambient temperature of up to 103° for much of the time, proved an ordeal which I would not lightly undertake again. 2012 December 29, Paul Doyle, “Arsenal's Theo Walcott hits hat-trick in thrilling victory over Newcastle”, in The Guardian[1]:Arsène Wenger confessed: "The result was not an accurate indication of the match." Certainly, at half-time it seemed unlikely that Arsenal would catch fire so spectacularly because the first half was a damp squib of a display from Wenger's team, as Newcastle initially showed no ill-effects from their Old Trafford ordeal. The poisonous ordeal bean or Calabar bean. ordalianordeal beanordeal treetrial by ordeal loader, Loader, Eldora, Laredo, reload, Rodela Also found in: Thesaurus, Legal, Idioms, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia.Related to ordeal: trial by ordeal (ôr-dēl′)n.1. A difficult or painful experience, especially one that severely tests character or endurance. See Synonyms at trial.2. A method of trial in which the accused was subjected to pain or danger as a means of invoking God's intercession, with the outcome regarded as revealing a divine determination of guilt or innocence.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. (ɔːˈdiːl) n1. a severe or trying experience2. (Historical Terms) history a method of trial in which the guilt or innocence of an accused person was determined by subjecting him or her to physical danger, esp by fire or water. The outcome was regarded as an indication of divine judgment[Old English ordāl, ordēl; related to Old Frisian ordēl, Old High German urteili (German Urteil) verdict. See deal1, dole1]Collins English Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition 2014 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014 (ɔrˈdil, -ˈdi əl, ˈɔr dil) n. 1. any extremely severe or trying test, experience, or trial. 2. a former method of trial used to determine guilt or innocence by subjecting the accused person to serious physical danger, the result being regarded as a divine judgment. [before 950; Middle English ordal, Old English ordāl; c. Old Frisian ordēl, Old Saxon urdēli, Old High German urteili] Random House Kernerman Webster's College Dictionary, © 2010 K Dictionaries Ltd. Copyright 2005, 1997, 1991 by Random House, Inc. All rights reserved. - From Old English ordel, "judgment," figuratively, an experience testing endurance, patience, courage, etc.—also a test of guilt or innocence that was one of severe pain or torture.See also related terms for torture.Farlex Trivia Dictionary. © 2012 Farlex, Inc. All rights reserved. Noun1.ordeal - a severe or trying experienceexperience - an event as apprehended; "a surprising experience"; "that painful experience certainly got our attention"2.ordeal - a primitive method of determining a person's guilt or innocence by subjecting the accused person to dangerous or painful tests believed to be under divine control; escape was usually taken as a sign of innocencetrial - (law) the determination of a person's innocence or guilt by due process of law; "he had a fair trial and the jury found him guilty"; "most of these complaints are settled before they go to trial"Based on WordNet 3.0, Farlex clipart collection. © 2003-2012 Princeton University, Farlex Inc.noun hardship, trial, difficulty, test, labour, suffering, trouble(s), nightmare, burden, torture, misery, agony, torment, anguish, toil, affliction, tribulation(s), baptism of fire the painful ordeal of identifying the body delight, pleasure, joy, happiness, enjoyment, bliss, elation, gladnessCollins Thesaurus of the English Language – Complete and Unabridged 2nd Edition. 2002 © HarperCollins Publishers 1995, 2002noun The American Heritage® Roget's Thesaurus. Copyright © 2013, 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. مِحْنَه، إمْتِحان صَعْبمُصِيبَةGottesurteilQualschwere PrüfungTorturcalvarioexperiencia durasupliciocalvaireépreuveordaliedésolationafflictionиспытаниемукасуровое испытаниеCollins 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 2005 n (Hist: = trial) → Gottesurteil nt; ordeal by fire/water → Feuer-/Wasserprobe fCollins German Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged 7th Edition 2005. © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1980 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1997, 1999, 2004, 2005, 2007 [ɔːˈdiːl] n → esperienza traumaticaCollins Italian Dictionary 1st Edition © HarperCollins Publishers 1995 (ɔːˈdiːl) noun a difficult, painful experience. Being kidnapped was an ordeal for the child. beproewing, toets, ontbering مِحْنَه، إمْتِحان صَعْب изпитание provação utrpení, zkouška schwere Prüfung prøvelse δοκιμασία, τραυματική εμπειρία mala experiencia, terrible experiencia katsumus تجربه سخت و دردناک koettelemus épreuve מבחן קשה 試練 시련 muka, patnja megpróbáltatás cobaan be išmėginimas smags pārdzīvojums pengalaman pahit beproevingildprøve, prøvelseciężka próba سخته تجربه provação experiență (grea); încercare (grea) тяжёлое испытание utrpenie, skúška težka preizkušnja teško iskušenje prövning, pårs 困難 büyük çile 磨難 , 煎熬 тяжке випробування تجربه تکلیف د ابتلاء, تکلیف د تجربه sự thử thách 严酷的考验 , 磨难 , 煎熬 Kernerman English M 2006-2013 K Dictionaries Ltd. → مُصِيبَة utrpení prøvelse Qual δοκιμασία suplicio koettelemus épreuve kušnja prova ardua 苦しい体験 고난 beproeving prøvelse ciężka próba provação суровое испытание prövning 試練 çetin sınav sự thử thách 折磨Multilingual Translator © HarperCollins Publishers 2009 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: But would it not be something of an ordeal? Gossip had filtered to Anne regarding the light in which the Gardners viewed the "infatuation" of son and brother.But it is a terrible ordeal for a man to stand upright on his two legs unswaying, and decide that in all the universe he finds for himself but one freedom--namely, the anticipating of the day of his death.The position was one of misery for all three; and not one of them would have been equal to enduring this position for a single day, if it had not been for the expectation that it would change, that it was merely a temporary painful ordeal which would pass over.As this fearful ordeal we are about to pass through pictures itself to my fancy in all its dread sublimity, I begin to feel my fierce desire to converse with a genuine Emperor cooling down and passing away.The girl was a prey to the nervous reaction from the frightful ordeal through which she had so recently passed, and in her overwrought state it seemed that never again should she dare descend to the ground among the fearsome dangers which infested the broad stretch of jungle that she knew must lie between herself and the nearest village of her faithful Waziri.Horace shrank from the ordeal as Mercy shrank from it.I could only get on at all by taking "nature" into my confidence and my account, by treating my monstrous ordeal as a push in a direction unusual, of course, and unpleasant, but demanding, after all, for a fair front, only another turn of the screw of ordinary human virtue.She passed the ordeal of examination successfully, and accepted the wages offered with out a murmur.She had carried herself bravely right to the moment of the ordeal, but the sight of the four horses, ranged two and two opposing her, with the thing patent that she was to hold in her hands the hooks on the double-trees and form the link that connected the two spans which were to pull in opposite directions--at the sight of this her courage failed her and she shrank back, drooping and cowering, her face buried in her hands.It was a genuine relief to the whole congregation when the ordeal was over and the benediction pronounced.Burch in the afternoon because he called upon Rebecca to "lead." She had seen the pallor creep into the girl's face, the hunted look in her eyes, and the trembling of the lashes on her cheeks, and realized the ordeal through which she was passing.The idea, however, that his wife was suffering ill-effects from her terrible ordeal, braced him up. Read 5 new episodes only on the app!Scan the QR code to download the WEBTOON app on the App Store or Google Play. 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The outcome was regarded as an indication of divine judgment“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 ordeal1before 950; Middle English ordal, Old English ordāl; cognate with Dutch oordeel, German Urteil. See a- 3, dole 1Origin of ordeal1Old English ordāl, ordēl; related to Old Frisian ordēl, Old High German urteili (German Urteil ) verdict. See deal 1 , dole 1Examples are provided to illustrate real-world usage of words in context. Any opinions expressed do not reflect the views of Dictionary.com.Once I got through that ordeal—months of chemotherapy, a bone-marrow transplant—I took the task up again, this time with new zeal.Read more on The Wall Street JournalPosting about the "terrifying" ordeal on Instagram, the show's head judge said: "I really thought that was it."Now she simply wanted the ordeal to end.Finding an affordable place to live in New York City is an ordeal, but it doesn’t have to be as bad as it is.Read more on The Wall Street JournalLike hundreds of thousands of others who lived along the coast of Tohoku, Ryoichi was at the start of what would be a long, terrifying ordeal.agony anguish calamity difficulty nightmare torment torture trial ordaineeordeal beanBrowse#aabbccddeeffgghhiijjkkllmmnnooppqqrrssttuuvvwwxxyyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC


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