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Born or borne ?

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Born

We use *born* in the phrase *be born* to indicate that a child has entered the world:

*They say that in China a new baby **is born** every five minutes.*

Warning:

We use *was/were born* when we talk about when or where someone started their life:

*I **was born** in 1988.*

Not: ~~*I am born in 1988*~~, or ~~*I born in 1988*~~.

Bear, bore, borne

Bear means to tolerate something, usually something that you dislike. It is most commonly used in the expression *can't bear*. The past form is *bore* and the *-ed* form is *borne*:

*I can't **bear** so much football on television.*

*She has **borne** all her problems with great courage.*

The verb *bear* is sometimes used to describe the act of giving birth. It is most commonly used in the past tense and in rather formal situations. *Have* is more common when talking about giving birth:

*She **bore** twelve children in twenty-two years.* (or, more commonly, *She **had** twelve children …*)