

**I. Five dictionary definitions that supports the classical order: Distinguish first; prejudicial second****Oxford** (no object): [Supports classical]

- 1) Recognize a distinction; differentiate.
  - 2) make an unjust or prejudicial distinction...
- <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/discriminate>

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**Merriam-Webster** [Supports classical]

- 1a) to make a distinction 1b) to use good judgment
  - 2) to favor on other than individual achievement
- [www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/discriminate](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/discriminate)

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**Collins Cobuild Dictionary** [Supports classical]

1. To recognize that two things are different.  
Synonyms: differentiate, distinguish, discern, separate
  2. To discriminate against a group of people...
- [www.collinsdictionary.com/us/dictionary/english/discriminate](http://www.collinsdictionary.com/us/dictionary/english/discriminate)

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**WikiTionary** [Supports classical]

1. To make distinctions.
  2. To make decisions based on prejudice.
- Usage notes: "Due to the strong pejorative connotations of sense of “decide based on prejudice”, care should be taken in using the term in the sense “distinguish, make distinctions”, and this sense is primarily used in formal discourse; synonyms are generally used instead."
- <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/discriminate>

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**American Heritage** (5th) [Supports classical]

1. To make a clear distinction; distinguish.
  2. To make distinctions on the basis of class or category without regard to individual merit, especially to show prejudice on the basis of ethnicity, gender, or a similar social factor.
- <https://www.wordnik.com/words/discriminate>

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**II. Three dictionary definitions that support the modern order: Prejudicial first; distinguish second.****Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English** [Supports modern]

1. to treat a person or group differently from another in an unfair way
  2. to recognize a difference between things
- [www.ldoceonline.com/dictionary/discriminate](http://www.ldoceonline.com/dictionary/discriminate)

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**Dictionary.com** [Supports modern]

- Verb (used without object)
1. make a distinction in favor or against a person based on group membership
  2. to note or observe a difference
- [www.dictionary.com/browse/discriminate](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/discriminate)

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**Macmillan:** [Supports modern]

1. To treat someone unfairly because of their religion, race, or other personal features
  2. To recognize the difference between things
- [www.macmillandictionary.com/us/dictionary/american/discriminate](http://www.macmillandictionary.com/us/dictionary/american/discriminate)

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### III. Five dictionary definitions that are problematic

**Cambridge English Dictionary** [I don't think I'm seeing all the meanings]

C1. Treat differently: to treat a person or particular group of people differently, especially in a worse way from the way in which you treat other people, because of their skin color, sex, sexuality,  
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/discriminate>

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**Urban Dictionary** [Supports only the Modern]

unfair treatment based on skin color, age, etc  
<https://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=discriminate>

**Free Dictionary** [Has it both ways]

1. To make a clear distinction; distinguish...
2. To make distinctions on the basis of class or category...

1. (intr usually followed by for or against) to single out .. for special favour or disfavour...
  2. (when: intr, foll by between or among) to recognize or understand the difference (between); distinguish: to discriminate right and wrong; to discriminate between right and wrong.
  3. (intr) to constitute or mark a difference
  4. (intr) to be discerning in matters of taste
- [www.thefreedictionary.com/discriminate](http://www.thefreedictionary.com/discriminate)

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**YourDictionary.com** [Has it both ways]

- A1. to show partiality or prejudice based on a general category not on individual merit.
- A2. recognize or see the difference between two or more people or things.

B1. To make a clear distinction; distinguish

B2. To make distinctions on the basis of class or category without regard to individual merit  
<https://www.yourdictionary.com/discriminate>

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**Vocabulary.com** [Does not number different meanings]

Distinguish, Recognize or perceive the difference, treat differently on the basis of sex or race.  
[www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/discriminate](http://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/discriminate)

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