

Bring  
vs  
Take



# location

When you are  
speaking,  
ask people to  
bring you  
something

(towards the speaker).

# bring vs take



**Mr. Smith, please**  
**bring me the**  
**entire cake!**

**bring**



**Mr. Smith, please  
bring me the  
entire cake!**

# location

When you are  
speaking,  
ask people to  
**take** something  
away  
(away from the speaker).

# bring vs take



**Mr. Smith, please  
bring that  
smelly shoe  
away!**

**take**



**Mr. Smith, please  
take that  
smelly shoe  
away!**

# bring vs take

*deal with direction*

**Bring** is *towards*  
**someone/something**



while **take** is *away* from  
**someone/something.**

# bring vs take



I am thirsty,  
please \_\_\_\_\_  
me water.

# bring



**I am thirsty,  
please bring  
me water.**



**take**



**You can  
take the  
bottle away.**

# location

**Bring** things\* *here*

and

**Take** things *there...*



\* things or people

# bring vs take



**Did you forget to  
bring the  
garbage out?**

**take**



**Did you forget to  
**take** the garbage  
out?**

# bring vs take



I am home  
waiting for you  
to                       
me fast food.

# bring



I am home  
waiting for you  
to **bring**  
me fast food.



**take**



**Let's order  
take-out  
food.**

# bring vs take



**Yuck, that is  
gross...**

**\_\_\_\_\_ it away!**

**take**



**Yuck, that is  
gross...  
take it away!**



**take**



**We should never  
take more  
than needed.**

# **bring** vs **take**

**You ask people to**

**bring (towards)**

**things to you,**

**and you take (away)**

**things to/for**

**other people.**

# bring vs take



Will you \_\_\_\_\_  
my goldfish for  
a walk?

**take**



**Will you take  
my goldfish for  
a walk?**

**Now, for some  
questions that  
get a little  
tougher.**



# bring vs take



**The waiter will**

---

**bring**  
**the bill.**

# bring



**The waiter will  
bring\*  
the bill.**

*\* I have never heard someone say  
"The waiter will **take** the bill."*

# bring vs take



**Yes, you can  
bring a friend  
to my party!**

# bring



**Yes, you can  
bring a friend  
to my party!**

# bring vs take



**After the party,  
you can  
bring home  
the leftovers.**

**take**



**After the party,  
you can  
take home  
the leftovers.**

# bring vs take



I will                      pizza,  
and you can  
                                     home  
the leftovers.

**bring**

**take**



**I will bring pizza,  
and you can  
take home  
the leftovers.**



# Take



The alien said,  
"Take me  
to your leader."



**take**



**Don't forget to  
take  
your keys!**

*Who is the  
speaker?*





# Bring Take

If the person next to you said that, then the answer is **take**.

If a man from the cleaners called, then the answer is **bring**.

Who said,  
"**Bring/Take** your  
suit to the  
cleaners."?

*When the speaker  
is NOT associated  
with the location,  
it gets a bit tricky.*

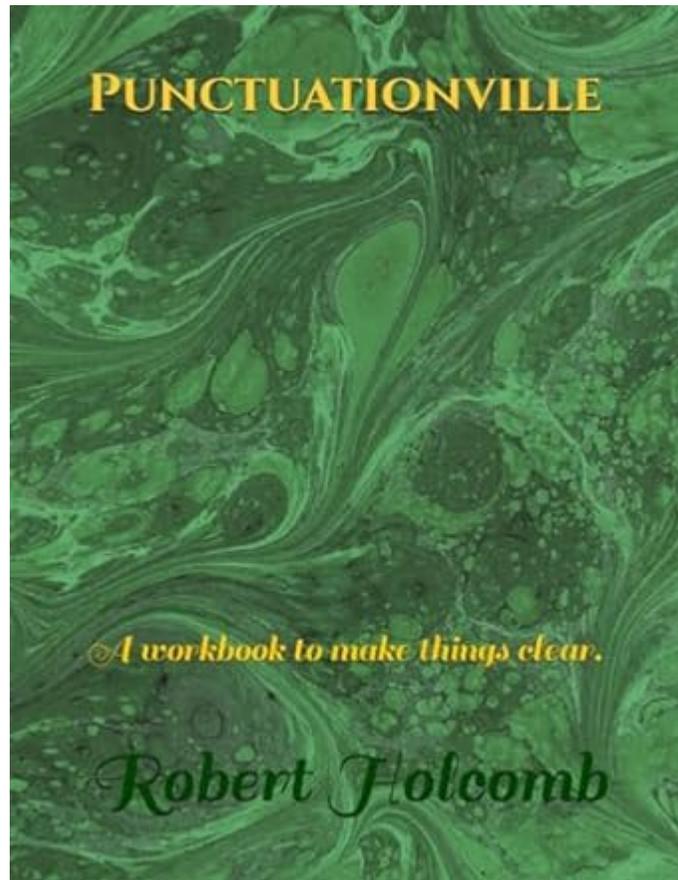
Bring

VS

Take



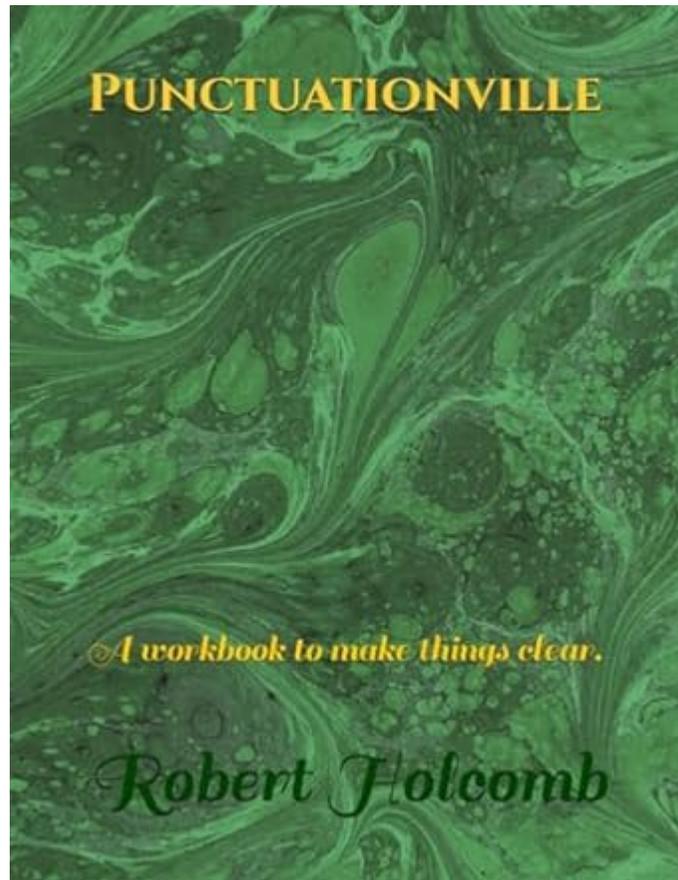
# bring vs take



Someone doesn't  
want you to forget  
to            home the  
punctuation book.

**bring**

**take**



**Someone doesn't  
want you to forget  
to **bring/take** home  
the punctuation book.**

# bring vs take

**Bring** (come) usually means **towards**  
the speaker  
(please **bring** me a cup of tea).



**Take** (go) usually means **away**  
from the speaker  
(You can **take** away the cup).

These "rules" get blurry when the  
movement is not associated  
with the speaker  
or a situation is imaginary.

**Some countries (Ireland) have different rules.**

# **bring vs take**

**Taken from Merriam Webster Online dictionary:**

**I'm going to take this dictionary to my favorite pub  
—they should have one at the bar.**

**OR:**

**I'm going to bring this dictionary to my favorite  
pub—they should have one at the bar.**

**Either of those is likely to come from the mouth of  
a native speaker interested in dictionary access at  
pubs. But is one correct?**

**The people who feel strongly about bring and take  
will tell you with some vehemence that, yes, the  
first is correct and the second is not. They will tell  
you that bring implies movement toward the  
speaker, while take implies movement away. If the  
destination of the dictionary is a pub where I  
currently am not, I can only take the dictionary  
there; I cannot bring it.**

