

Inure (*pronounced ih-nyoor or ih-noor; “nyoor” rhymes with “pure” and “noor” rhymes with “poor”*) verb

Definition

to accustom or habituate to something undesirable or painful (such as by extended use or exposure).

Main Example

- In contrast to a decade ago, when the mere discovery of a gun on a school campus would make for “breaking news,” some school shootings nowadays don’t even get a mention in most TV and radio news broadcasts because the spate of campus shootings in recent years has, sadly, begun to **inure** us to this once unthinkable crime.

Workplace Examples

- Since this job involves having to deal with bad news quite frequently, we need somebody more mature . . . somebody who is **inured** to business ups and downs and who, therefore, won’t become crestfallen at the first setback.
- Oh, I don’t care which restaurant we go to for lunch today. Eating in the cafeteria everyday has pretty much **inured** me to mediocre food.

Other Examples

- a supervisor telling a new employee: “I see that you are a little rattled by the pressure to meet all these end-of-month deadlines. Just hang in there. Soon you’ll become **inured** to these pressure-cooker days, and you might even start relishing them.”
- an employee who just moved to the Southwest telling coworkers: “Having lived in northern Maine most of my life, I find this heat unbearable. I envy all of you who are **inured** to the long, hot summers here.”
- somebody finally becoming **inured** to the criticisms and unfriendly remarks which used to unsettle him or her
- the critically acclaimed movie “Blood Diamond,” set in Sierra Leone’s civil war, offering insight into how militia leaders in Africa’s strife-torn nations conscript and then systematically **inure** children--some as young as 6 years of age--to mindless killing