

English- Vocabulary



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Year 7



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Wikipedia: the word **etymology** is derived from the Greek **etymon**, meaning **true sense** and the suffix **-logia**, denoting **the study of**.





Origin of the word 'nightmare'

- It sounds as though it refers to a female horse, but in fact the “mare” part of the word “nightmare” (a terrifying dream) comes from Germanic folklore, in which a “mare” is an evil female spirit or goblin that sits upon a sleeper’s chest, suffocating them and/or giving them bad dreams.
- Interestingly, in Germanic folklore, it was believed that this “mare” did more than just terrorise human sleepers. It was thought that it rode horses in the night, leaving them sweaty and exhausted the next day.

Origin of the word 'ketchup'

- More than 650 million bottles of ketchup are sold every year throughout the world.
- It's hard to believe that this British and American staple started life in 17th-century China as a sauce of pickled fish and spices. Known in the Chinese Amoy dialect as kôe-chiap or kê-chiap, its popularity spread to what is now Singapore and Malaysia in the early 18th century, where it was encountered by British explorers.
- In Indonesian-Malaysian the sauce was called "kecap", the pronunciation of which, "kay-chap", explains where we got the word "ketchup".
- It wasn't until the 19th century that tomato ketchup was invented, however; people used to think that tomatoes were poisonous, and the sauce didn't catch on in America until later that century. One couldn't imagine chips or burgers without it now!

Origin of the word 'berserk'

When someone “goes berserk”, they go into a frenzy, run amok, perhaps even destroying things. Picture someone going berserk and it's not difficult to imagine the ancient Norse warriors to whom the word “berserker” originally referred. The word “berserk” conjured up the fury of these men and the untamed ferocity with which they fought, and it's thought that the word came from two other Old Norse words, “bjorn”, meaning “bear” and “serkr”, meaning “coat”.

So, next time you use the expression “going berserk” to describe someone acting irrationally, remember those battle-crazed Vikings and be glad that you're not on the receiving end of the wrath of a real “berserker”!

Origin of the word 'sandwich'

- The nation's favourite lunchtime snack gets its name from the 4th Earl of Sandwich, John Montagu.
- The story goes that 250 years ago, the 18th-century aristocrat requested that his valet bring him beef served between two slices of bread. He was fond of eating this meal whilst playing card games, as it meant that his hands wouldn't get greasy from the meat and thus spoil the cards. Observing him, Montagu's friends began asking for "the same as Sandwich", and so the sandwich was born. Though people did eat bread with foods such as cheese and meat before this, these meals were known as "bread and cheese" or "bread and meat". The sandwich is now the ultimate convenience food.

What is the word?

- Ancient Greek *rex* meaning *king*, *tyrannos* meaning *tyrant* and *sauros* meaning *lizard*
- **Tyrannosaurus Rex**



What is the word?

- The Eastern European slavs were subject to centuries of oppression and forced labour under both the Byzantine and Holy Roman Empires.
- **Slaves**



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What is the word?

- From the French **quarante** (=forty). Adding the suffix **–aine** to French numbers gives a degree of roughness to the figure (like –ish in English), so this word means **about forty**. Originally when a ship arriving in port was suspected of being infected with a malignant, contagious disease, its cargo and crew were obliged to forego all contact with the shore for a period of around forty days. This term came to be known as period of...
- **Quarantine**



Names

Until around the 14th century most people had only one name. As towns and cities grew, it became necessary to identify individuals and families, so people started to be given a surname.



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There were four main ways that surnames were given:

1. Patronymic – The father's name with 'son' immediately after it, e.g. Peterson or Woodson. The Irish and Scottish Mac- or Mc- (McDonald) means 'son of', the Irish O' means "grandson" (O'Hare)



2. Place names –identifies where a person or family lived or came from, for example Hill, Wood, and Lake.



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3. Occupational Names – for example Miller, Butler and Baker.



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4. Nicknames – based on a person's personality or characteristics, for example Short, Brave and Savage.



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Mand	To order	Demand, mandate
Meter	To measure	Thermometer, metric
Imag	Imitate/likeness	Imagine, image
Man	Hand	Manual, manuscript
Loc	Place	Location, locate
Fac	Make/do	Manufacture, facsimile
Gen	Birth (or origin)	Genesis, generate
Cogn	Know	Cognitive, cognate
Dent	Tooth	Dental, denture



Why is Vocabulary Important?

- Comprehension
- Reading comprehension
- GCSE Exams - Literary texts
- Most importantly...communication! Being able to express yourself.



Question Time

What percentage of words do you think you need to know in a text to ensure you are able to understand the text?

50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



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Answer

95%



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At 75%...

_____ is marking a _____ on a measuring _____. This involves _____ the relationship between _____ of a measuring _____ and _____ or _____, which must be _____. For example, placing a _____ in melting ice to see whether it reads zero, to check it has been _____ correctly.



At 95%...

██████████ is marking a scale on a measuring instrument. This involves establishing the relationship between indications of a measuring instrument and standard or reference values, which must be applied. For example, placing a thermometer in melting ice to see whether it reads zero, to check it has been ██████████ correctly.



What we are going to do in your English lessons...

- Accelerated Reader Programme - most of our vocabulary is learned through wider reading!
- Focus on explicit teaching new vocabulary. You have already been doing this with your Week 1 KO work!



What we are going to do in your English lessons...

- Promote high quality academic talk in the classroom... 'Say it again' approach
- Teach word learning strategies - e.g using knowledge of root word.



What you can do to help...

- Read as much and as widely as you can!
- When you come across a word you do not know, look it up in a dictionary and note down the definition.

