

The Oxford English Dictionary

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Quemadero–Roaver

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KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION

THE pronunciations given are those in use in the educated speech of southern England (the so-called 'Received Standard'), and the keywords given are to be understood as pronounced in such speech.

I. Consonants

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z have their usual English values

g as in *go* (gəʊ)
h ... *ho!* (həʊ)
r ... *run* (rʌn), *terrier* ('tɛrɪə(r))
(r) ... *her* (hɜ:(r))
s ... *see* (si:), *success* (sək'sɛs)
w ... *wear* (weə(r))
hw ... *when* (hwen)
j ... *yes* (jes)

θ as in *thin* (θɪn), *bath* (bɑ:θ)
ð ... *then* (ðɛn), *bathe* (beɪð)
ʃ ... *shop* (ʃɒp), *dish* (dɪʃ)
tʃ ... *chop* (tʃɒp), *church* (tʃɜ:ʃ)
ʒ ... *vision* ('vɪʒən), *déjeuner* (deʒəne)
dʒ ... *judge* (dʒʌdʒ)
ŋ ... *singing* ('sɪŋŋ), *think* (θɪŋk)
ŋg ... *finger* ('fɪŋgə(r))

(FOREIGN AND NON-SOUTHERN)

ʎ as in It. *serraglio* (ser'raʎo)
ɲ ... Fr. *cognac* (kɔ'naɲ)
x ... Ger. *ach* (ax), Sc. *loch* (lox), Sp. *frijoles* (fri'xoles)
ç ... Ger. *ich* (ɪç), Sc. *nicht* (nɪçt)
ʏ ... North Ger. *sagen* ('zayən)
c ... Afrikaans *baardmannetjie* ('ba:rtmanɛci)
q ... Fr. *cuisine* (kɥizin)

Symbols in parentheses are used to denote elements that may be omitted either by individual speakers or in particular phonetic contexts: e.g. *bottle* ('bɒt(ə)l), *Mercian* ('mɑ:(t)ɪən), *suit* (s(j)u:t), *impromptu* (ɪm'prɒm(p)tju:), *father* ('fɑ:(ə)r)).

II. Vowels and Diphthongs

SHORT

ɪ as in *pit* (pɪt), *-ness*, *(-nis)*
ɛ ... *pet* (pɛt), Fr. *sept* (sɛt)
æ ... *pat* (pæt)
ʌ ... *putt* (pʌt)
ɒ ... *pot* (pɒt)
ʊ ... *put* (pʊt)
ɔ ... *another* (ə'nʌðə(r))
(ə) ... *beaten* ('bi:t(ə)n)
i ... Fr. *si* (si)
e ... Fr. *bébé* (bebe)
a ... Fr. *mari* (mari)
ɑ ... Fr. *bâtiment* (batimɑ)
ɔ ... Fr. *homme* (ɔm)
o ... Fr. *eau* (o)
ø ... Fr. *peu* (pø)
œ ... Fr. *boeuf* (bœf) *cœur* (kœr)
u ... Fr. *douce* (dus)
y ... Ger. *Müller* ('mylɐr)
ɪ ... Fr. *du* (dy)

LONG

i: as in *bean* (bi:n),
ɑ: ... *barn* (bɑ:n)
ɔ: ... *born* (bɔ:n)
u: ... *boon* (bu:n)
ɜ: ... *burn* (bɜ:n)
e: ... Ger. *Schnee* (ʃne:)
ɛ: ... Ger. *Fähre* ('fæ:ɐ)
a: ... Ger. *Tag* (ta:k)
o: ... Ger. *Sohn* (zɔ:n)
ø: ... Ger. *Goethe* ('gø:ɐ)
y: ... Ger. *grün* (gry:n)

NASAL

ɛ̃, æ̃ as in Fr. *fin* (fɛ̃, fæ̃)
ɑ̃ ... Fr. *franc* (frɑ̃)
ɔ̃ ... Fr. *bon* (bɔ̃)
œ̃ ... Fr. *un* (œ̃)

DIPHTHONGS, etc.

eɪ as in *bay* (beɪ)
aɪ ... *buy* (baɪ)
ɔɪ ... *boy* (bɔɪ)
əʊ ... *no* (nəʊ)
aʊ ... *now* (naʊ)
ɪə ... *peer* (pɪə(r))
eə ... *pair* (peə(r))
ʊə ... *tour* (tʊə(r))
ɔə ... *boar* (bɔə(r))

aɪə as in *fiery* ('fɪəri)
aʊə ... *sour* (saʊə(r))

The incidence of main stress is shown by a superior stress mark (ˈ) preceding the stressed syllable, and a secondary stress by an inferior stress mark (ˌ), e.g. *pronunciation* (prəˌnʌnsɪˈeɪʃ(ə)n).

For further explanation of the transcription used, see *General Explanations*, Volume I.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, ETC.

Some abbreviations listed here in italics are also in certain cases printed in roman type, and vice versa.

a. (in Etym.)	adoption of, adopted from	Bull.	(in titles) <i>Bulletin</i>	Dict.	Dictionary; <i>spec.</i> , the
a (as a 1850)	<i>ante</i> , 'before', 'not later than'	c (as c 1700)	<i>circa</i> , 'about'	dim.	<i>Oxford English Dictionary</i>
a.	adjective	c. (as '19th c.)	century	Dis.	diminutive
abbrev.	abbreviation (of)	Cal.	(in titles) <i>Calendar</i>	Diss.	(in titles) <i>Disease</i>
abl.	ablative	Cambr.	(in titles) <i>Cambridge</i>	D.O.S.T.	(in titles) <i>Dissertation</i>
absol.	absolute, -ly	Canad.	Canadian		<i>Dictionary of the Older</i>
Abstr.	(in titles) <i>Abstract</i> , -s	Cat.	Catalan	Du.	<i>Scottish Tongue</i>
acc.	accusative	caiachr.	catachrestically		Dutch
Acct.	(in titles) <i>Account</i>	Catal.	(in titles) <i>Catalogue</i>	E.	East
A.D.	<i>Anno Domini</i>	Celt.	Celtic	Eccl.	(as label) in Ecclesiastical
ad. (in Etym.)	adaptation of	Cent.	(in titles) <i>Century</i> , <i>Central</i>		usage;
Add.	Addenda	Cent. Dict.	<i>Century Dictionary</i>	Ecol.	(in titles) <i>Ecclesiastical</i>
adj.	adjective	Cf., cf.	<i>confer</i> , 'compare'	Econ.	in Ecology
Adv.	adverb	Ch.	Church		(as label) in Economics;
advb.	adverbial, -ly	Chem.	(as label) in Chemistry;	ed.	(in titles) <i>Economy</i> , -ics
Advnt.	advertisement	Chr.	(in titles) <i>Chemistry</i> , -ical	E.D.D.	edition
Aeronaut.	(as label) in Aeronautics;	Chron.	(in titles) <i>Christian</i>	Edin.	<i>English Dialect Dictionary</i>
	(in titles) <i>Aeronautic</i> , -al, -s	Chronol.	(in titles) <i>Chronicle</i>	Edu.	(as label) in Education;
AF., Afr.	Anglo-French	Cinemat.	(in titles) <i>Chronology</i> , -ical		(in titles) <i>Education</i> , -al
Agric.	Africa, -n	Cinematogr.	in Cinematography	EE.	Early English
	(as label) in Agriculture;	Clin.	(in titles) <i>Clinical</i>	e.g.	<i>exempli gratia</i> , 'for example'
	(in titles) <i>Agriculture</i> , -al	cl. L.	classical Latin	Electr.	(as label) in Electricity;
Alb.	Albanian	cogn. w.	cognate with		(in titles) <i>Electricity</i> , -ical
Amer.	American	Col.	(in titles) <i>Colonel</i> , <i>Colony</i>	Electron.	(in titles) <i>Electronic</i> , -s
Amer. Ind.	American Indian	Coll.	(in titles) <i>Collection</i>	Elem.	(in titles) <i>Element</i> , -ary
Anat.	(as label) in Anatomy;	collect.	collective, -ly	ellipt.	elliptical, -ly
	(in titles) <i>Anatomy</i> , -ical	collog.	colloquial, -ly	Embryol.	in Embryology;
Anc.	(in titles) <i>Ancient</i>	comb.	combined, -ing	e.midl.	east midland (dialect)
Anglo-Ind.	Anglo-Indian	Comb.	Combinations	Encycl.	(in titles) <i>Encyclopædia</i> , -ic
Anglo-Ir.	Anglo-Irish	Comm.	in Commercial usage	Eng.	England, English
Ann.	Annals	Communic.	in Communications	Engin.	in Engineering
Anthrop.	(as label) in Anthropology;	comp.	compound; composition	Ent.	in Entomology
Anthropol.	(in titles) <i>Anthropology</i> , -ical	Compan.	(in titles) <i>Companion</i>	Entomol.	(in titles) <i>Entomology</i> ,
Antiq.	(as label) in Antiquities;	compar.	comparative		-logical
	(in titles) <i>Antiquity</i>	compl.	complement	erron.	erroneous, -ly
aphet.	aphetic, aphetized	Compl.	(in titles) <i>Complete</i>	esp.	especially
app.	apparently	Conc.	(in titles) <i>Concise</i>	Ess.	(in titles) <i>Essay</i> , -s
Appl.	(in titles) <i>Applied</i>	Conch.	in Conchology	et al.	<i>et alii</i> , 'and others'
Applic.	(in titles) <i>Application</i> , -s	concr.	concrete, -ly	etc.	et cetera
appos.	appositive, -ly	Conf.	(in titles) <i>Conference</i>	Ethnol.	in Ethnology
Arab.	Arabic	Congr.	(in titles) <i>Congress</i>	etym.	etymology
Aram.	Aramaic	conj.	conjunction	euphem.	euphemistically
Arch.	in Architecture	cons.	consonant	Exam.	(in titles) <i>Examination</i>
arch.	archaic	const.	construction, construed with	exc.	except
Archæol.	in Archæology	contr.	contrast (with)	Exerc.	(in titles) <i>Exercise</i> , -s
Archit.	(as label) in Architecture;	Contrib.	(in titles) <i>Contribution</i>	Exper.	(in titles) <i>Experiment</i> , -al
	(in titles) <i>Architecture</i> , -al	Corr.	(in titles) <i>Correspondence</i>	Explor.	(in titles) <i>Exploration</i> , -s
Arm.	Armenian	corresp.	corresponding (to)		
assoc.	association	Cotgr.	R. Cotgrave, <i>Dictionnaire of the French and English Tongues</i>	f.	feminine
Astr.	in Astronomy			f. (in Etym.)	formed on
Astrol.	in Astrology	cpd.	compound	f. (in subordinate	entries)
Astron.	(in titles) <i>Astronomy</i> , -ical	Crit.	(in titles) <i>Criticism</i> , <i>Critical</i>	F.	form of French
Astronaut.	(in titles) <i>Astronautic</i> , -s	Cryst.	in Crystallography	fem. (rarely f.)	feminine
attrib.	attributive, -ly	Cycl.	(in titles) <i>Cyclopædia</i> , -ic	fig.	figurative, -ly
Austral.	Australian	Cytol.	(in titles) <i>Cytology</i> , -ical	Finn.	Finnish
Autobiogr.	(in titles) <i>Autobiography</i> , -ical			fl.	<i>floruit</i> , 'flourished'
A.V.	Authorized Version	Da.	Danish	Found.	(in titles) <i>Foundation</i> , -s
B.C.	Before Christ	D.A.	<i>Dictionary of Americanisms</i>	Fr.	French
B.C.	(in titles) <i>British Columbia</i>	D.A.E.	<i>Dictionary of American English</i>	freq.	frequent, -ly
bef.	before			Fris.	Frisian
Bibliogr.	(as label) in Bibliography;	dat.	dative	Fund.	(in titles) <i>Fundamental</i> , -s
	(in titles) <i>Bibliography</i> , -ical	D.C.	District of Columbia	Funk or	<i>Funk and Wagnalls</i>
Biochem.	(as label) in Biochemistry;	Deb.	(in titles) <i>Debate</i> , -s	Funk's Stand.	<i>Standard Dictionary</i>
	(in titles) <i>Biochemistry</i> , -ical	def.	definite, -ition	Dict.	
Biol.	(as label) in Biology;	dem.	demonstrative		
	(in titles) <i>Biology</i> , -ical	deriv.	derivative, -ation	G.	German
Bk.	<i>Book</i>	derog.	derogatory	Gael.	Gaelic
Bot.	(as label) in Botany;	Descr.	(in titles) <i>Description</i> , -tive	Gaz.	(in titles) <i>Gazette</i>
	(in titles) <i>Botany</i> , -ical	Devel.	(in titles) <i>Development</i> , -al	gen.	genitive
Bp.	Bishop	Diagn.	(in titles) <i>Diagnosis</i> , -ic	gen.	general, -ly
Brit.	(in titles) <i>Britain</i> , <i>British</i>	dial.	dialect, -al	Geogr.	(as label) in Geography;
Bulg.	Bulgarian				(in titles) <i>Geography</i> , -ical

<i>Geol.</i>	(as label) in Geology; (in titles) <i>Geology, -ical</i>	<i>masc. (rarely m.)</i>	masculine	<i>Palæont.</i>	(as label) in Palæontology; (in titles) <i>Palæontology, -ical</i>
<i>Geom.</i>	in Geometry	<i>Math.</i>	(as label) in Mathematics; (in titles) <i>Mathematics, -al</i>	<i>pa. pple.</i>	passive participle, past participle
<i>Geomorphol.</i>	in Geomorphology	<i>MDu.</i>	Middle Dutch	(Partridge),	(quoted from) E. Partridge's <i>Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English</i>
<i>Ger.</i>	German	<i>ME.</i>	Middle English	<i>pass.</i>	passive, -ly
<i>Gloss.</i>	Glossary	<i>Mech.</i>	(as label) in Mechanics; (in titles) <i>Mechanics, -al</i>	<i>pa. t.</i>	past tense
<i>Gmc.</i>	Germanic	<i>Med.</i>	(as label) in Medicine; (in titles) <i>Medicine, -ical</i>	<i>Path.</i>	(as label) in Pathology; (in titles) <i>Pathology, -ical</i>
<i>Godef.</i>	F. Godefroy, <i>Dictionnaire de l'ancienne langue française</i>	<i>med. L.</i>	medieval Latin	<i>perh.</i>	perhaps
<i>Goth.</i>	Gothic	<i>Mem.</i>	(in titles) <i>Memoir, -s</i>	<i>Pers.</i>	Persian
<i>Govt.</i>	(in titles) <i>Government</i>	<i>Metaph.</i>	in Metaphysics	<i>pers.</i>	person, -al
<i>Gr.</i>	Greek	<i>Meteorol.</i>	(as label) in Meteorology; (in titles) <i>Meteorology, -ical</i>	<i>Petrogr.</i>	in Petrography
<i>Gram.</i>	(as label) in Grammar; (in titles) <i>Grammar, -tical</i>	<i>MHG.</i>	Middle High German	<i>Petrol.</i>	(as label) in Petrology; (in titles) <i>Petrology, -ical</i>
<i>Gt.</i>	Great	<i>midl.</i>	midland (dialect)	(Pettman),	(quoted from) C. Pettman's <i>Africanisms</i>
<i>Heb.</i>	Hebrew	<i>Mil.</i>	in military usage	<i>pf.</i>	perfect
<i>Her.</i>	in Heraldry	<i>Min.</i>	(as label) in Mineralogy; (in titles) <i>Ministry</i>	<i>Pg.</i>	Portuguese
<i>Herb.</i>	among herbalists	<i>Mineral.</i>	(in titles) <i>Mineralogy, -ical</i>	<i>Pharm.</i>	in Pharmacology
<i>Hind.</i>	Hindustani	<i>MLG.</i>	Middle Low German	<i>Philol.</i>	(as label) in Philology; (in titles) <i>Philology, -ical</i>
<i>Hist.</i>	(as label) in History; (in titles) <i>History, -ical</i>	<i>Misc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Miscellany, -eous</i>	<i>Philos.</i>	(as label) in Philosophy; (in titles) <i>Philosophy, -ic</i>
<i>hist.</i>	historical	<i>mod.</i>	modern	<i>phonet.</i>	phonetic, -ally
<i>Histol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Histology, -ical</i>	<i>mod. L.</i>	modern Latin	<i>Photogr.</i>	(as label) in Photography; (in titles) <i>Photography, -ical</i>
<i>Hort.</i>	in Horticulture	(Morris),	(quoted from) E. E. Morris's <i>Austral English</i>	<i>phr.</i>	phrase
<i>Househ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Household</i>	<i>Mus.</i>	(as label) in Music; (in titles) <i>Music, -al</i>	<i>Phys.</i>	physical; (rarely) in Physiology
<i>Housek.</i>	(in titles) <i>Housekeeping</i>	<i>Myst.</i>	<i>Museum</i> (in titles) <i>Mystery</i>	<i>Physiol.</i>	(as label) in Physiology; (in titles) <i>Physiology, -ical</i>
<i>Ibid.</i>	<i>Ibidem</i> , 'in the same book or passage'	<i>Mythol.</i>	in Mythology	<i>Pict.</i>	(in titles) <i>Picture, Pictorial</i>
<i>Icel.</i>	Icelandic	<i>N.</i>	North	<i>pl., plur.</i>	plural
<i>Ichthyol.</i>	in Ichthyology	<i>n.</i>	neuter	<i>poet.</i>	poetic, -al
<i>id.</i>	<i>idem</i> , 'the same'	<i>N. Amer.</i>	North America, -n	<i>Pol.</i>	Polish
<i>i.e.</i>	<i>id est</i> , 'that is'	<i>N. & Q.</i>	<i>Notes and Queries</i>	<i>Pol.</i>	(as label) in Politics; (in titles) <i>Politics, -al</i>
<i>IE.</i>	Indo-European	<i>Narr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Narrative</i>	<i>Pol. Econ.</i>	in Political Economy
<i>Illustr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Illustration, -ted</i>	<i>Nat.</i>	(in titles) <i>Natural</i>	<i>Polit.</i>	(in titles) <i>Politics, -al</i>
<i>imit.</i>	imitative	<i>Nat. Hist.</i>	in Natural History	<i>pop.</i>	popular, -ly
<i>Immunol.</i>	in Immunology	<i>Naut.</i>	in nautical language	<i>Porc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Porcelain</i>
<i>imp.</i>	imperative	<i>N.E.</i>	North East	<i>poss.</i>	possessive
<i>impers.</i>	impersonal	<i>N.E.D.</i>	<i>New English Dictionary</i> , original title of the <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> (first edition)	<i>Pott.</i>	(in titles) <i>Pottery</i>
<i>impf.</i>	imperfect	<i>Neurol.</i>	in Neurology	<i>ppl. a., pple. adj.</i>	participial adjective
<i>ind.</i>	indicative	<i>neut. (rarely n.)</i>	neuter	<i>pple.</i>	participle
<i>indef.</i>	indefinite	<i>NF., NFr.</i>	Northern French	<i>Pr.</i>	Provençal
<i>Industr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Industry, -ial</i>	<i>No.</i>	Number	<i>pr.</i>	present
<i>inf.</i>	infinitive	<i>nom.</i>	nominative	<i>Pract.</i>	(in titles) <i>Practice, -al</i>
<i>infl.</i>	influenced	<i>north.</i>	northern (dialect)	<i>prec.</i>	preceding (word or article)
<i>Inorg.</i>	(in titles) <i>Inorganic</i>	<i>Norw.</i>	Norwegian	<i>pred.</i>	predicative
<i>Ins.</i>	(in titles) <i>Insurance</i>	<i>n.q.</i>	no quotations	<i>pref.</i>	prefix
<i>Inst.</i>	(in titles) <i>Institute, -tion</i>	<i>N.T.</i>	New Testament	<i>pref., Pref.</i>	preface
<i>int.</i>	interjection	<i>Nucl.</i>	Nuclear	<i>prep.</i>	preposition
<i>intr.</i>	intransitive	<i>Numism.</i>	in Numismatics	<i>pres.</i>	present
<i>Introd.</i>	(in titles) <i>Introduction</i>	<i>N.Z.</i>	North West New Zealand	<i>Princ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Principle, -s</i>
<i>Ir.</i>	Irish	<i>obj.</i>	object	<i>priv.</i>	privative
<i>irreg.</i>	irregular, -ly	<i>obl.</i>	oblique	<i>prob.</i>	probably
<i>It.</i>	Italian	<i>Obs., obs.</i>	obsolete	<i>Probl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Problem</i>
<i>J., (J.)</i>	(quoted from) Johnson's <i>Dictionary</i>	<i>Obstetr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Obstetrics</i>	<i>Proc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Proceedings</i>
<i>(Jam.)</i>	Jamieson, <i>Scottish Dict.</i>	<i>occas.</i>	occasionally	<i>pron.</i>	pronoun
<i>Jap.</i>	Japanese	<i>OE.</i>	Old English (= Anglo-Saxon)	<i>pronunc.</i>	pronunciation
<i>joc.</i>	jocular, -ly	<i>OF., OFr.</i>	Old French	<i>prop.</i>	properly
<i>Jrnl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Journal</i>	<i>OFris.</i>	Old Frisian	<i>Pros.</i>	in Prosody
<i>Jun.</i>	(in titles) <i>Junior</i>	<i>OHG.</i>	Old High German	<i>Prov.</i>	Provençal
<i>Knowl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Knowledge</i>	<i>OIr.</i>	Old Irish	<i>pr. pple.</i>	present participle
<i>L.</i>	line	<i>ON.</i>	Old Norse	<i>Psych.</i>	in Psychology
<i>L.</i>	Latin	<i>ONF.</i>	Old Northern French	<i>Psychol.</i>	(as label) in Psychology; (in titles) <i>Psychology, -ical</i>
<i>lang.</i>	language	<i>Ophthalm.</i>	in Ophthalmology	<i>Publ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Publications</i>
<i>Lect.</i>	(in titles) <i>Lecture, -s</i>	<i>opp.</i>	opposed (to), the opposite (of)	<i>Q.</i>	(in titles) <i>Quarterly</i>
<i>Lect.</i>	(in titles) <i>Lesson, -s</i>	<i>Opt.</i>	in Optics	<i>quot(s).</i>	quotation(s)
<i>Lett., Lett.</i>	letter, letters	<i>Org.</i>	(in titles) <i>Organic</i>	<i>q.v.</i>	<i>quod vide</i> , 'which see'
<i>LG.</i>	Low German	<i>orig.</i>	origin, -al, -ally	<i>R.</i>	(in titles) <i>Royal</i>
<i>lit.</i>	literal, -ly	<i>Ornith.</i>	(as label) in Ornithology; (in titles) <i>Ornithology, -ical</i>	<i>Radiol.</i>	in Radiology
<i>Lit.</i>	Literary	<i>OS.</i>	Old Saxon	<i>R.C.Ch.</i>	Roman Catholic Church
<i>Lith.</i>	Lithuanian	<i>OSl.</i>	Old (Church) Slavonic	<i>Rec.</i>	(in titles) <i>Record</i>
<i>LXX</i>	Septuagint	<i>O.T.</i>	Old Testament	<i>redupl.</i>	reduplicating
<i>m.</i>	masculine	<i>Outl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Outline</i>	<i>Ref.</i>	(in titles) <i>Reference</i>
<i>Mag.</i>	(in titles) <i>Magazine</i>	<i>Oxf.</i>	(in titles) <i>Oxford</i>	<i>refash.</i>	refashioned, -ing
<i>Magn.</i>	(in titles) <i>Magnetic, -ism</i>	<i>p.</i>	page	<i>refl.</i>	reflexive
<i>Mal.</i>	Malay, Malayan	<i>Palæogr.</i>	in Palæography	<i>Reg.</i>	(in titles) <i>Register</i>
<i>Man.</i>	(in titles) <i>Manual</i>				
<i>Managem.</i>	(in titles) <i>Management</i>				
<i>Manch.</i>	(in titles) <i>Manchester</i>				
<i>Manuf.</i>	in Manufacture, -ing				
<i>Mar.</i>	(in titles) <i>Marine</i>				

reg.	regular	str.	strong	Trop.	(in titles) <i>Tropical</i>
rel.	related to	Struct.	(in titles) <i>Structure</i> , -al	Turk.	Turkish
Reminisc.	(in titles) <i>Reminiscence</i> , -s	Stud.	(in titles) <i>Studies</i>	Typogr., Typogr.	in <i>Typography</i>
Rep.	(in titles) <i>Report</i> , -s	subj.	subject	ult.	ultimately
repr.	representative, representing	subord. cl.	subordinate clause	Univ.	(in titles) <i>University</i>
Res.	(in titles) <i>Research</i>	subseq.	subsequent, -ly	unkn.	unknown
Rev.	(in titles) <i>Review</i>	subst.	substantively	U.S.	United States
rev.	revised	suff.	suffix	U.S.S.R.	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Rhet.	in <i>Rhetoric</i>	superl.	superlative	usu.	usually
Rom.	Roman, -ce, -ic	Suppl.	Supplement		
Rum.	Rumanian	Surg.	(as label) in <i>Surgery</i> ; (in titles) <i>Surgery</i> , <i>Surgical</i>		
Russ.	Russian		<i>sub voce</i> , 'under the word'	v., vb.	verb
		s.v.	Swedish	var(r), vars.	variant(s) of
S.	South	s.w.	south-western (dialect)	vbl. sb.	verbal substantive
S. Afr.	South Africa, -n	Syd. Sôc. Lex.	Sydenham Society, <i>Lexicon of Medicine & Allied Sciences</i>	Vertebr.	(in titles) <i>Vertebrate</i> , -s
sb.	substantive			Vet.	(as label) in <i>Veterinary Science</i> ; (in titles) <i>Veterinary</i>
sc.	<i>scilicet</i> , 'understand' or 'supply'	syll.	syllable	Vet. Sci.	in <i>Veterinary Science</i>
Sc., Scot.	Scottish	Syr.	Syrian	viz.	<i>videlicet</i> , 'namely'
Scand.	(in titles) <i>Scandinavia</i> , -n	Syst.	(in titles) <i>System</i> , -atic	Voy.	(in titles) <i>Voyage</i> , -s
Sch.	(in titles) <i>School</i>			v.str.	strong verb
Sc. Nat. Dict.	<i>Scottish National Dictionary</i>	Taxon.	(in titles) <i>Taxonomy</i> , -ical	vulg.	vulgar
Scotl.	(in titles) <i>Scotland</i>	techn.	technical, -ly	v.w.	weak verb
Sel.	(in titles) <i>Selection</i> , -s	Technol.	(in titles) <i>Technology</i> , -ical		
Ser.	Series	Telegr.	in <i>Telegraphy</i>		
sing.	singular	Teleph.	in <i>Telephony</i>	W.	Welsh; West
Sk.	(in titles) <i>Sketch</i>	(Th.)	(quoted from) Thornton's <i>American Glossary</i>	wd.	word
Skr.	Sanskrit			Webster	<i>Webster's (New International) Dictionary</i>
Slav.	Slavonic	Theatr.	in the Theatre, theatrical	Westm.	(in titles) <i>Westminster</i>
S.N.D.	<i>Scottish National Dictionary</i>	Theol.	(as label) in <i>Theology</i> ; (in titles) <i>Theology</i> , -ical	WGmc.	West Germanic
Soc.	(in titles) <i>Society</i>	Theoret.	(in titles) <i>Theoretical</i>	Wks.	(in titles) <i>Works</i>
Sociol.	(as label) in <i>Sociology</i> ; (in titles) <i>Sociology</i> , -ical	Tokh.	Tokharian	w.midl.	west midland (dialect)
	Spanish	tr., transl.	translated, translation	WS.	West Saxon
Sp.	(in titles) <i>Speech</i> , -es	Trans.	(in titles) <i>Transactions</i>		
Sp.	spelling	trans.	transitive	(Y.),	(quoted from) Yule & Burnell's <i>Hobson-Jobson</i>
sp.	specifically	transf.	transferred sense	Yrs.	(in titles) <i>Years</i>
spec.	(in titles) <i>Specimen</i>	Trav.	(in titles) <i>Travel(s)</i>		
Spec.	(in titles) <i>Specimen</i>	Treas.	(in titles) <i>Treasury</i>	Zoogeogr.	in <i>Zoogeography</i>
St.	Saint	Treat.	(in titles) <i>Treatise</i>	Zool.	(as label) in <i>Zoology</i> ; (in titles) <i>Zoology</i> , -ical
Stand.	(in titles) <i>Standard</i>	Treatm.	(in titles) <i>Treatment</i>		
Stanf.	(quoted from) <i>Stanford Dictionary of Anglicised Words & Phrases</i>	Trig.	in <i>Trigonometry</i>		

Signs and Other Conventions

Before a word or sense

- † = obsolete
|| = not naturalized, alien
≡ = catachrestic and erroneous uses

In the listing of Forms

- 1 = before 1100
2 = 12th c. (1100 to 1200)
3 = 13th c. (1200 to 1300), etc.
5-7 = 15th to 17th century
20 = 20th century

In the etymologies

- * indicates a word or form not actually found, but of which the existence is inferred
:- = normal development of

The printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

.. indicates an omitted part of a quotation.

- (in a quotation) indicates a hyphen doubtfully present in the original; (in other text) indicates a hyphen inserted only for the sake of a line-break.

PROPRIETARY NAMES

THIS Dictionary includes some words which are or are asserted to be proprietary names or trade marks. Their inclusion does not imply that they have acquired for legal purposes a non-proprietary or general significance nor any other judgement concerning their legal status. In cases where the editorial staff have established in the records of the Patent Offices of the United Kingdom and of the United States that a word is registered as a proprietary name or trade mark this is indicated, but no judgement concerning the legal status of such words is made or implied thereby.

quemadero (kema'bero). [Sp., f. *quemar* to burn.] In Spain and former Spanish territories, a place where convicted heretics were executed by burning. Also *transf.*

1854 W. H. Pusscott *Hist. Reign Philip II* i. 11. iii. 353 The place of execution—the quemadero, the burning-place, as it was called—was a spot selected for the purpose without the walls of the city. 1874 W. H. RILEY *Hist. Inquisition* i. xiv. 208 Outside the city... was a hearth, or place of burning. As our own language is too poor to provide a name for such a thing, we consent to borrow from Spanish its peculiar and exclusive designation, and call it the quemadero. The quemadero was a piece of pavement devoted to the single use of burning human bodies. 1908 H. C. LEA *Inquisition in Spanish Dependencies* vi. 206 It was not until 1596 that the municipality [sc. Mexico], at a cost of four hundred pesos, constructed a quemadero or burning place, where concentration could be performed decently and in order. 1932 C. ROTH *Hist. Marranos* ii. 43 A quemadero, or burning place, was constructed in the Campo de Tablada. 1934 A. HUXLEY *Beyond Mexico Bay* 180 On each mound were... hearths of broken potsherds, blackened with smoke—the quemaderos, or burning places of the Indians. 1960 S. BECKER *Tr. Schwaers-Bart's Last of Just* (1961) i. 21 He died very old... on the vast white slab of the quemadero in Seville. Around him, scattered among the fagots, was the daily ovenful of three hundred Jews.

†queme, sb. Obs. Also 2-3 *cweme*, 5 *wheme*. [App. subst. use of next.] Pleasure, satisfaction. Chiefly in phr. to *queme*, so as to please or satisfy; also, to take to *queme*, to accept.

1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Ne pu ne mist beon wel iærifen god almiht to cweme. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1604 (Gött.) Godd toke to queme his sacrefis. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2018 Of alle schenes he moot til his queme. a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 624/444. I was cors to monnes quemus. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vii. 62 Thou shall... seue to wheme God with all thi hart.

queme, a. Obs. exc. north. dial. Forms: a. 3 *cweme*, 3-5 *queme*, 4-5 *quem*, 5 *queme*, 6 *queme*, 7-8 *Sc. quim*, 9 *Sc. quem*. 8. north. 5 *wheme*, 7 *wheme*, 7-9 *whem*, 8-9 *whim*, 9 *weam*, *weme*. [ME. *cweme*, *queme*, repr. OE. **cweme* (cf. *cwæman*, *cwæmnes*), or *gæcweme* 1-QUEME = ON. *kwæm-r* (MSw. *quām*): cf. OHG. *piquāmi* (MHG. *bequeme*, G. *bequem* = MDu. *bequame*, Du. *bekwaam*). The stem *kwæm-r* belongs to the ablaut-series of the vb. COME for the sense of GOTH. *gagimip* it is fitting, Eng. BECOME v. 7 ff., and L. *convenire*.]

†1. Pleasing, agreeable, acceptable to a person. (In early use with dat. of person.) Obs.

1200 ORMIN 466 He was, god preat & Godd full *cweme*. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 þat me is quemeþe þat unbunden þe bendes of wiferfulness. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 276a Dan salde we... sen Quile gure sal god quemeþe þen. 1300 *Cursor M.* 2652 To demne quile and dede als him es queme. 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (Katharine) 29 Quha sacrifice mad till hym queme. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* i. 42 This warke to me is queme.

b. Of pleasing appearance; specious; beautiful, fair; neat, tidy.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28128. I. sayd my scryft wit wordes queme þat my syn þe leuse sould esme. 13... E.E. *Allit. P. B.* 1178 Me payed ful tile to þe outfume. Fro alle þo sytzes so quikeþ & queme. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6203 The wheelis full wheme, all of white amber. 1490 *Minor Saluacion* 2802 A newe grave full queme. 1883 *Almonds. & Hudders. Gloss.* *Wæm, weme*, -tidy. 'A nice little weme packet'.

c. dial. Closed against or protected from the wind, snug; unrudd, smooth.

1674-81 *RAY N.-C. Words, Whem, wheem, near, close*, so as, no, wind can enter it. 1880 *Marmalade* c. Clyde in Whitelaw *Bk. Sc. Ballads* (1874) 93/2 When the year quold alle brings winter quold We feir til our ha's sac queme. 1824 *Mactaggart Gallovid. Encycl.* (1876) 391 Dream that the ocean's queme.

2. Fit, fitting, suitable; convenient, handy; near at hand, close. Const. to or dative.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8734 Sai me nu quet yow thinc queme. *Ibid.* 8809 þe tre was als mete and quet. Als animan þat to chit demne. a 1400-50 *Alexander* 5078 [A way] þat to þe marche of Meacdone was him must queme. 1570 *Levins Manip.* 60/15 Queme, equis, compar. 1674-81 *RAY N.-C. Words, Whem, wheem*,... very handsome and convenient for one. 1812 T. WILKINSON *Death of Roger in Gilpin Poetry Cumberl.* 206 How wheem to Matty's elbow draws his chair. 1882a *Lancash. Gloss.* *Whem, handy, convenient*.

3. Of persons: †a. Friendly or well-disposed (to), intimate (with). Obs.

1325 *Metr. Hom.* 20 That he be til us quet that day. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1763 To quet claym all quetels, & be queme fryndes. 1440 *Bone Flor.* 145 They left a burgees feyre and wheme, all ther schyppys for to weme. a 1667 M-WARD *Contend.* 262 (Jam.) They shall fall into an intimacy with the malignant enemies to the work of God, and grow quim and cosh with them. 1733 *Plain Reasons Presbyt. Dissent.* 53 Quim and cosh with them.

b. Quiet, still, etc.

1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints v. (John)* 324 Sa pu wil þis folk mak quem. I sal sone consent þat to. 1873 *Suvaldale Gloss.* *Whem, smooth, demure, still, slyly quiet, mock-modest*. 1883 *Almonds. & Hudders. Gloss.* *Wæm or Weme, quiet*. 'A weme woman in a house is a jewel'.

c. Skilled, clever; smart, active. Obs. rare.

a 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4202 Who is now so queme or quaint of his wit. That couthe mesure our might. 1611 *COTGR.* *Adroit*, Handsome, nimble, wheeme, readie or quick etc.

†4. As adv. = QUEMELY. Obs. rare.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints vi. (Thomas)* 180 And 3e þe bidding 3eme of þe apostil wel & queme. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneid* ix. xii. 6 He thrists to the levys of the 3et, And cloist quym the entre.

†**queme, v.** Obs. Forms: 1 *cwēman*, 3 *cweme* (a, -can; 2-3 *quemen*, (4-5 -yn), 3-6, 8 *queme*, (4 *quem*, *quime*, *queme*), 5-6 *queeme*, (5 *qw-*); 3-5 *qweme*, (5 *qwh-*, *wh-*). Pa. 1. 1 *queme*, 1-3 *cwemde*, 3 *cwemmede*, *quamed*, 4 *quemed*, (5 -et, 6 *Sc. -it*). Pa. pple. 3 *cwemmed*, *cwemmd*, 3-5 *quemed*, (5 -yd). [OE. *cwēman* (= *gæcwēman* 1-QUEME v.) f. (3e) *cwēme* adj.; see prec. and cf. MSw. *quamma*, *quemma*, G. *bequemen* (f. *bequem* adj.).]

1. Of persons: To please, gratify (another, esp. a superior); to act so as to please (one). Orig. const. with dat. or to, later with objective case.

a 750 *Blickl. Glosses* 13 in O.E. Texts 123 *Complacebam*, *quende*. 807 K. *Ælfric Gregory's Past.* xix. 146 Diet ic monnum queme & licge. 1125 *Lamb. Hom.* 67 3ef þu þus dost... þu quemeþt god. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1380 Him. Wið watres drinc he quemeþe wil. 1340 *Ayrb.* 26 To... do þe kued, uor to kuenne kued-lich to þe wordle. 1374 *CHAUCER Troilus* v. 695 My fader nyl... do me grace, for ought I kan hym queme. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) viii. xiv. 342/1 We haue not guen hym ne wherwith to queme hym but that we take of hym. 1590 *PALGR.* 676/2. 1 *queme*,... This worde is nowe out of use.]

absol. c 1275 *Moral Ode* 96 in O.E. Misc. Hwat schulle we beren 3a bi-voren; Mid hwan schulle we queme. a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* lii. 6 God skatered banes of þa Unto men þat quemes swa.

2. Of things: a. To please, to be acceptable or agreeable to (a person). Const. as prec.

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat. (Gr.)* 165 Nænig man scile oft orbanes ut abreden wepnes ecge, 6eah ðe him se witte *cweme*. a 1225 *Anr. R.* 338 Seruises inndeþ þa cwemest nout ure Lorde. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 578 þy dom vs alle quemes. 1390 *GOWEN Conf.* ii. 273 Every newe lowe quemet To him which newefolgen is. 1447 *BOKENHAM Seyntys* (Roxb.) 196 Tyl it hym queme To returnyn ageyn. a 1500 *How the good wife* etc. in *Haslitt E.P.P.* i. 188 A dede wile done herte it wherwith. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* May 15 Such merimake holy Saints doth queme [Gloss. please]. 1602 *DAVIDSON Rhaphody* (1611) 53 Like peerlesse pleasures wout us for to queme.

b. To be suitable or fitting for. rare-1.

a 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3404 Paris... Worshippit þat worthy in wedys full riche As quemet for a quene.

3. trans. To satisfy, appease, mitigate. rare.

a 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 408 Swile dicþe ðugte and and god, And sumdel quemet it his sermt. *Ibid.* 978 At a welle quemeþe hire list. 1430-40 *L.Yng. Bochas* (1494) i. xxiii. 125 All the worlde outereþ of vs tweyn Wha hafuþ ire by vs may nat be quemyd.

4. To join or fit closely. Sc. rare.

1501 *DOUGLAS Pal. Hom.* iii. lxvii. And thamē [the stones] conuenticie jonit fast and quemet. 1808-10 *JAMISON, To Queme*, to fit exactly; as, to queme the mortice, or joint in wood. Upp. Lanark.

5. To slip in. rare-0.

1727 *BAILEY* vol. II. To Queme, as to queme a Thing into one's hand, to put it in privately.

Hence †**quemed ppl. a.**; †**queming vbl. sb.**

a 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 86 Til ihesus crist for helle nam His quemed wid eue and sermt. a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* cxlvi. 10 Nocht... in schines of man queming beþ him till. 1340 *Ayrb.* 26 be ilke eame comp of kueda kuenyng. c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 420/1 Qwemyng, or pseyng, *passificacio*.

†**quemeful, a.** Obs. Also **quemful** (l. *qwem*, *quemful*: [f. QUEME sb. + -FUL] 'Pleasing, pleasant, agreeable; kind, gracious.

a 1340 *HAMLETT Psalter*, Cant. 499 Dwelled and tharof, psalme is nochte quemful al ihu crist. 1358 *WYCLIF Job* xxiii. 26 God... achal be quemful to hym.

Hence †**quemfully adv.** Obs. rare-1.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints i. (Katharine)* 1204 To leynd oure lyff sa quemfully till hym, þat we ma cum... to þat loy.

'quemely, adv. † Obs. Also 5 *qwem-*, 8 *whem-*, *whim-*, *quem-*. [f. QUEME a. + -LY. Cf. MSw. *quāmelika*.] In a pleasing, agreeable, or becoming manner; neatly, gently, smoothly, etc.

a 1380 *WYCLIF Ser. Sci. Wks.* II. 361 No þing is more resonable þan to quemely serue God. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1783 The golde was all gortyn, & the grette sommes, quemyly to-gedur. c 1475 *Raif Collier* 684 The flure... courent full clene, Cummand fra the Cornellis closand quemyly. 1703 *THORNBURY* *Lat. to Ray* (E.D.S.), *Whemely*, neatly. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh. Gloss.* (E.D.S.), *Whimly*, softly, silently, or with little noise. 1824 *Mactaggart Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Quem*, 'The gled glides quemyly along'; the kite glides smoothly along.

So †**quemeness, pleasure, satisfaction**. Obs. rare.

a 900 *tr. Bæda's Hist.* i. xvi. [xxvii.] (1890) 82 *Cwmnis unceta*. a 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 55 Ne mege we noht singe þe blissefule songes... gode to quemeness.

quen, obs. form of QUEEN, WHEN.

quence, obs. form of QUENCH, QUINCE.

quench, sb. [f. the vb.] 1. The act of quenching; the state or fact of being quenched.

1250 *More Dyaloge* II. Wks. 184/1 [To] lyce and smolder as coles doth in quench. 1346 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 9 A while kepe we in quench alle this Cune. c 1611 *CHAPMAN* *Iliad* xix. 365 A harmful fire let runne... none came To gie it quench. 1818 T. BROWN in *Welsh Life* vi. (1825) 389 The quench Of hope... Made even the ghastly change. Seem ghastlier. 1973 A. D. FRANKLIN in *Crawford & Slikin Point*

Defects in Solids i. 1. 33 The special property of ductility possessed by many metals allows thin wires to be drawn, which may be very rapidly quenched, at maximum cooling rates of 10⁵ deg/sec or higher. With such rapid quenches, one may hope to retain the equilibrium defects present at the high quench temperature.

2. *Electronics*. The process of stopping an oscillation, esp. in a superregenerative receiver; a signal used for this. *Freq. attrib.*, as quench frequency, the frequency with which oscillations are stopped.

1938 *Proc. IRE XXVI*. 94 The use of a rectangular wave quench voltage would not be practicable in most applications of superregenerative receivers. *Ibid.* 96 In a given design of a separately quenched superregenerative receiver there is a particular quench frequency which gives maximum sensitivity. 1948 *Electronic* Sept. 98/3 This action... is eliminated by restricting the frequency content of the quench. 1950 J. R. WHITEHEAD *Super-Regenerative Receivers* vii. 125 A super-regenerative receiver with grid quench and a.g.s. controlling the oscillator grid bias. 1959 G. T. MOORE *Rev.* 118 A 600 c/s quench frequency was used. 1965 *Wireless World* July 336/2 Quench oscillators in super-regenerative receivers have... their own problems. 1973 D. G. FINK *Electronic Engineers' Handbook* ix. 56 Electron current flow is initiated by an rf input signal and is terminated at the end of the rf input signal either by a voltage pulse or a dc bias voltage applied to a quench electrode.

quench (kwenz), v. Forms: 3 *Orm. cwenkenn*, 3-5 *quenchen*, 3-6 *quenche*, 4- *quench*, (also 4-5 *quench*, *whench*, 5 *quynche*, 6 *quence*, -*she*, 7 *quensh*). Pa. 1. 3 *cwen(ch)te*, *quain(c)te*. 5 *queynte*, 6 *quent*; 4- *quenched* (4-5 -id, -yd). Pa. pple: 3 *Orm. cwenknedd*, (-*enn*), 4 *ykenet* (-*3d*), -*quencet*, 4-5 (*i*)*queynt*, (5 *queynte*), 4-6 *quaint*, *quaynt*, 6 *quent*; 4- *quenched* (4-5 -id, 5 -yd). [Early ME. *cwenken*, *quench*; -OE. **cwēncan* (cf. *ācwencan* AQUENCH): **cwāncan*, causative form corresponding to the strong vb. *cwīncan* (*dwīncan*) to go out, be extinguished = Fris. *kwinka* (see QUINKLE); cf. *drench*, *drink*.]

1. trans. 1. a. To put out, extinguish (fire, flame, or light, lit. or fig.). †Also with out. Now *rhet.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 249 þet fur... ne meþ nawiht hit quench. 1200 *ORMIN* 40126 Wæter hæfep mæht To slecchen þat & cwenkenn. c 1200 *Cant. Love* 1708 Fyre that may not be queynte. 1340 *Ayrb.* 186 Huanne hit faileþ, þet we i-queynt. 1387 *TRIVISA Higden* (Rolls) I. 119 3if þe list is i-queynt, it dupper doun and dryncheþ. 1481 *CAXTON Myrr.* iii. xiii. 161 In one day alle the fyre thurgh out Rome faylled and was quenchid. 1581 *RICH Fawke*, i. will not... extinguiþe or quence the flamel of so fervent and constaute a love. 1604 E. GILMSTON *Di Arcana Hist.* *Indies* iii. viii. 142 Green wood... smokes most when the flame is quenched. 1622 *MASINGER & DEKKER Virg. Man.* ii. iii. O my admired mistress, quench not out the holy fires within you. 1713 *BARKLEY Guardian* No. 35 P. 5 He had almost quenched that light which his Creator had set up in his soul. 1870 *SCOTT Lady of L.* iii. xi. Quench thou his light, Destruction dark! 1863 E. WETHERELL *Old Helmet* (1864) i. xi. 230 In Africa they sit in the darkness of centuries, till almost the spark of humanity is quenched out. 1880 *Mrs. FORRESTER Roy & V.* i. 49 A tear comes into either eye and quenches the fire there.

b. To put out, extinguish, the fire or flame of (something that burns or gives light, lit. or fig.). †Also with away, out. Now only *rhet.*

1382 *WYCLIF 2 Chron.* xxix. 7 Thei... quencheden the lanterns. 1382 — *Ista* xlii. 3 Flax smokende he shal hit quenehen. 1382 — *Eph.* vi. 16 3e mown quenche alle the fryr darts of the worste enemy. 1413 *Pilgr. Soule* ii. lxi. (1859) 58 Wax smellith worse after it is quenched, than doth any talow. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneid* iv. ii. 60 The lyght of day Ay mair and mair the mone quencheth away. 1548 *UDALL, etc. Eras.* *Par. Matt.* xii. 71 He wyl not quence out the smokyng flaxe. 1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* ii. 1. 15 The winde-shak'd Surge... Seemes to... quench the Guards of th'euer-fest Pole. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* xii. 402 Able to resist Satans assaults, and quench his fierie darts. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* iii. xi. The... points of Sparking Wood He quenched among the bubbling blood. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* xxii. There stood the candle quenched on the drawers. 1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* i. 1. 302 As she turned... To quench the lamp.

c. To destroy the sight or light of (the eye).

1667 *MILTON P.L.* iii. 25 These eyes, that rowle in vain... So thick a drop serene hath quench't thir Orbs. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* ii. 137 When age has quenched the eye and closed the ear. 1850 *Mrs. BROWNING Lam. for Adams* ii. His eyeballs lie quenched.

d. *Radio*. To cause (the spark in a spark transmitter) to cease by mechanical means, so that the secondary (aerial) circuit is no longer coupled to the primary; hence, to stop (oscillation).

1910 G. W. PIERCE *Princ. Wireless Telegr.* xxiii. 267 The spark is quenched when the energy in the primary attains its first minimum. 1913 *Chambers's Jnl.* Mar. 23/2 The oscillatory current in the aerial, and therefore the wave-train radiated, continues long after the spark has been quenched. 1927 O. F. BROWN *Elements of Radio Communication* iv. 53 The spark is produced between projecting studs on a rapidly revolving metal disc and two fixed electrodes... The rotation of the disc will rapidly increase the distance between the studs and the electrodes, so that the spark is quenched and the oscillation in the primary circuit ceases. 1928 *Proc. IRE XXVI*. 76 In a typical superregenerative receiver the regenerative coupling between the plate and grid circuits of the detector tube is great enough so that self-sustained oscillations are produced, and these oscillations are periodically quenched, by applying an alternating voltage having a frequency much lower than that of the

oscillations. 1959 G. TROUP *Masters* vii. 117 These authors measured the noise figure of an ammonia maser amplifier operated superradiatively; that is, oscillations were allowed to build up and then quenched. 1966 *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* 1. 3621 A regenerative detector in which the oscillations are periodically stopped or quenched is called a superregenerative detector.

2. a. To extinguish (heat or warmth, lit. or fig.) by cooling. †Also with *out*.

1406 HOCCEVE *La Male Reple* 135 Heuy purs, with herte liberal, Quenched the thirye hete of hertes drie. c. 1410 — *Mother of God* 28 That al the hete of brennyng Lecherie He quenche in me. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* iv. Prof. 119 Heit. in to agit failleis, and is out quent. 1604 E. G. (KIMSTONE) *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iii. ix. 150 A kinde of cold so piercing, that it quenched the vitall heate. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* ii. ii. Pity, my lord, that you have quenched the warmth of France toward you.

b. To cool (a heated object) by means of cold water or other liquid.

1308 TREVISAR *Barth. De P.R.* vii. xxxv. (1495) 250 Gotes mylke in the whyche stones of ryuers ben quenched. 1460-70 *Bk. Quenches* 7 panne quenche soure foreyn in pe beste wiht wynn. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* x. (1636) 34 [Rice]...boyled in Milke wherein hot stones have bene quenched. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate Wks.* (1653) 358 Hot Bricks, somewhat quenched with water. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1756) 61 Quench it in half a Pint of French white Wine. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* i. Was the steel quenched with water from Rosamond's well.

fig. 1719 YOUNG *Paraphr.* Job Wks. 1757 l. 208 Who can refresh the burning sandy plain, And quench the summer with a waste of rain?

†c. To slake (lime). *Obs. rare*.

1577 HARRISON *England* ii. xii. (1877) l. 234 The white lime...being quenched. 1643 J. STEER *Exp. Chyrurg.* 1. 3 When Lym is quenched...it is heated.

3. *transf.* a. To put an end to, stifle, suppress (a feeling, act, condition, quality, or other non-material thing, in early use chiefly something bad).

c. 1200 ORMIN 4911 All idell 3ellp & idell ros pu cwenkeset. c. 1325 *Songs of Mercy* in E.E.P. (1862) 120. i. whenced al pi care. c. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16357 Louerid pou quenche his wykkesnesse. 1494 FAYAN *Chron.* v. lxi. 67 In this Prouyence the faythe of Criste was all quenched. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* iii. (1874) 16 How mercifully dyd God quench the fury of the people. 1622 LITGOW *Troil.* 84 Quenching the least suspicion he might conceyte. 1742 YOUNG *Mc. Ph.* ii. 340 All god-like Luggers ii. v. 81 The observance of this rule would soon quench the desire for protection. 1876 TAYLOR *Adv. Phys. Sc.* vii. (ed. 2) 174 The final effect of the tides in stopping or quenching the earth's rotation.

b. To slake (thirst) completely; rarely, to satisfy or dispel (hunger).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 201 Thus the thirst of gold was quench. c. 1433 L. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Dijb. His hunger is not thereby quenched. 1835 COVSEDALE *P. cit.* (11) That the wyde seas maye quench their thyrste. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 235 Sticklebacks...serve better to quench hunger, than to nourish. 1773 YOUNG *Brothers* iv. i. Friends, sworn to quench infernal thirst in kindred blood. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* l. 489 Where they could quench their thirst at a well of brackish water.

†c. With personal object. *Obs. rare*.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 195 Being thus quench'd Of hope, not longing [etc.]. 1614 B. JONSON *Burth. Fair* ii. ii. A bottle of Ale, to quench me, Rascal.

d. *Physics*. To suppress (luminescence); hence, to de-excite (an atom that would otherwise give rise to this effect).

1928 *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci.* XIV. 851 The results show that hydrogen quenches the resonance radiation of cadmium as effectively as it does that of mercury. 1932 *Jrnl. Amer. Chem. Soc.* LIV. 572 The apparent decrease in quenching at high pressures or temperatures does not at all preclude the possibility that some fraction of the mercury atoms are being quenched to the normal state. 1954 C. ZWICKER *Physical Properties of Solid Materials* xiii. 230 Fluorescence may be quenched by radiation, e.g. infra-red of too long a wavelength to excite fluorescence. The quenching photons raise electrons from the crystal lattice...to the copper ions...and thus inhibit the recombination effect. 1976 *Sci. Amer.* June 472 (Adv.). While the list of molecules which will react with O_2 is growing rapidly, the list of molecules which will quench O_2 back to O_2 is much smaller.

e. *Physics and Chem.* To suppress (the orbital angular momentum of an electron and the associated magnetic moment).

1932 J. H. VAN VLECK *Theory of Electric & Magn. Susceptibilities* xi. 282 Solids of solutions in which interatomic forces quench the orbital angular momentum but leave the spin free. 1955 TOWNES & SCHAWLOW *Microwave Spectroscopy* vii. 175 In nonlinear molecules, the orbital motion of electrons is almost completely 'quenched' or suppressed, and a spin momentum is the only angular momentum in the molecule of distinctly electronic origin. 1962 COTTON & WILKINSON *Adv. Inorg. Chem.* xxiv. 508 The electric fields of other atoms, ions, or molecules surrounding the metal ion in its compounds interfere with the orbital motion of the electrons so that the orbital angular momentum and hence the orbital moment are wholly or partially 'quenched'. 1971 J. D. PATTERSON *Introduct. Theory of Solid State Physics* iv. 240 The cubic field acts to 'quench' the orbital angular momentum.

f. To prevent (the discharge in a Geiger counter) from continuing too long and reducing the possible counting rate; also with the counter as obj.

1940 *Physical Rev.* LVII. 1036 If we merely assure ourselves that the counter wire is falling somewhat below the starting potential with each discharge, then we can be

sure that the discharge is quenched after the first stage and we will have a clean, fast pulse. 1942 POLLARD & DAVIDSON *Applied Nucl. Physics* iii. 30 A very common device to quench a counter is to employ a vacuum tube. 1958 O. R. FRISCH *Nucl. Handbk.* xv. 14 The discriminator circuit used with Geiger counters...should provide facilities for quenching the counter for a period of several hundred microseconds after each pulse. 1963 W. E. BURCHAM *Nuclear Physics* vi. 218 It is the function of the alcohol in the gas filling to 'quench' the discharge. 1975 K. H. GOULDING in Williams & Wilson *Biologist's Guide to Princ. & Techniques Pract. Biochem.* vi. 178 To overcome this, the tube is quenched by the addition of a suitable gas, which reduces the energy of the ions.

4. a. To destroy, kill (a person); to oppress or crush. †Also with *out*. *Now rare*.

c. 1200 ORMIN 10612 be33 woldenn himm forfarenn all & cwenkenn. c. 1360 WYCLIF *Sol. Wks.* III. 363 He wyth his part pat lovey pe world quenchen men þat spoken þis. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Radeles* iii. 127 They conswored quereles to queneche the peple. 1567 *Triall Treas.* (1850) 44. i. Tyme... queneche out the ungodly, their memory and fame. 1850 DOBELL *Roman* iv. Boet. Wks. (1875) 54 Oh sea, if thou hast waves, Quench him! 1889 TENNYSON *Vivien* 216 (67) His greatness whom the quench'd.

absol. c. 1200 ORMIN 15213 Swille ias winesa kinde, jiff...mann drinkepp it att olerdenn, itt cwenkepp.

b. To put down (in a dispute), to squash.

1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* ix. I knew I should quench her, said Tim. 1868 MISS ALCOOT *Little Women* (1869) l. vi. 94 Jo quenched her by slamming down the window.

†5. To destroy some quality of (a thing). *Obs.*

1308 TREVISAR *Barth. De P.R.* xvi. vii. (1495) 556 Quycle syluer...is quenched wyth spotyll whanne it is frotyd therwyth.

H. *intr.* †6. a. Of fire, a burning thing, etc.: To be extinguished, to go out, to cease to burn or shine. *Obs.*

c. 1200 S. Eng. Leg. l. 196 Heore list queinte ouer-al. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.* T. 1479 Right anon on of the fires queinte. And at it queinte, I made a whistling. 1460 Lybeaus Disc. 1805 The torches that brende bright Quenched anon ryght. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* iv. xii. 131 Their with all the natural heit out quent. c. 1586 CRESS PEMBROKE *P. cit.* ix. Coales...which quickly fired, Flame very hott, very hardly quenching. 1643 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* iv. iii. Like a false star that quenches as it glides.

†b. *transf.* Of non-material things: To come to an end, perish, disappear. *Obs.*

c. 1200 S. Eng. Leg. l. 111 in E.E.P. (1862) 74 Quenche myste hire fole post mid blod þat hec schadde. c. 1400 ROW. Rom. 5324 This love...wote faille, and quenche anon. 1641 MILTON *Reform. Wks.* 1738 l. 16 The Spirit daily quenching and dying in them.

†c. Of a person: To cool down. *Obs. rare-1*. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 47 Dost thou think in time She will not quench, and let instructions enter Where Folly now possesses.

7. *Physics*. To change from the superconducting state to the non-superconducting state.

1969 *Sci. Jnl.* Apr. 42/2 Increasing current is passed through the superconductor until the material 'quenches' (goes normal). 1975 *Physics Bull.* May 214/1 The normal metal (copper or combinations of copper and cupro-nickel) is still required to protect the conductor when it reaches the limit of its current carrying capacity and 'quenches' (ie undergoes a transition to the normal state).

III. 8. Combs. (from sense 2b): **quench-aging**, changes in the properties of steel, notably hardening, which occur after the metal has been quenched from a high temperature (see quot. 1968); **quench-cracking**, fracture of a metal caused by thermal stresses during rapid cooling; **quench-hardening**, hardening of steel by heating it above a critical temperature for some time, quenching rapidly, and then allowing further slow cooling; also = **quench-aging** above; so **quench-harden** v. *trans.*

1935 *Trans. Amer. Soc. Metals* XXIII. 1049 To one of the three most important examples of aging, found in practically all soft steels, the designation 'Carbonizing' has been given for purposes of this discussion. It has also been called 'subcritical quench-aging'. 1938 *Jrnl. Iron & Steel Inst.* CXXXVIII. 247 The usual theory put forward to explain the process of quench-aging, whether in steel or in any other age-hardening alloy, is that it is caused by the precipitation from super-saturated solid solution of particles of the solute in a highly dispersed form on the lattice of the solvent... preliminary to precipitation. 1961 G. E. DIETER *Mech. Metallurgy* v. 137 Quench aging is a type of true precipitation hardening that occurs on quenching from the temperature of maximum solubility of carbon and nitrogen in ferrite. 1968 E. B. PERRY *Physical Metall.* of Engin. Materials v. 92 These changes involve an increase in hardness, elastic limit and tensile strength, accompanied by a fall in ductility and impact resistance, and may occur in low carbon steels finished by rapid cooling from a softening temperature above 600°C or by cold working. In the former case the phenomenon is referred to as quench aging while the latter is known as strain aging. 1971 *Engineering* Apr. 20/1 The absence of the defects of material or liquation on the surface of the pins and journals is of particular importance... where these areas are to be hardened by flame or induction, as the risk of quench cracking is almost entirely eliminated. 1973 J. G. TWEEDDALE *Materials Technol.* i. vi. 172 There is usually a limiting rate of cooling from the outside for any given steel, beyond which it is impractical to go because too-rapid contraction from the outside may cause quench-cracking. 1934 H. O'NEILL *Hardness of Metals & Its Measurement* v. 201 Metall. has reported that quench-hardening a pearlitic steel does not alter its compressibility. *Ibid.* 202 Ordinary quench-hardening practice by continuous rapid cooling to room temperatures will produce martensite if the rate is sufficient to preserve austenite down to Ar'. 1961 G. E. DIETER *Mech. Metallurgy*

v. 146 Quench hardening results in an increase in yield stress and a decrease in the rate of strain hardening. 1969 D. K. ALLEN *Metalurgy Theory & Pract.* vii. 194/4 Most all carbon steels can be quench-hardened but the hardness does not become appreciable until the carbon content... reaches about 0.35 percent. *Ibid.* 196/2 The second requirement for quench hardening is that the steel be heated to the recommended hardening temperature and held for a sufficient length of time to allow the steel to become fully austenitized.

quench, obs. variant of QUINCE.

quenchable ('kwɛnʃəb(ə)l), a. [f. prec. + -ABLE.] That may be quenched.

1611 COTTER, *Amortisable*, quenchable, stintable, dissoluable. c. 1620 J. DYKE *Sol. Swm.* (1620) 8 ff. it be a quenchable fire. 1848 SCOTT *Bar. Swm.* v. Had we thought that your...drought was quenchable. 1857 CARLYLE *Rev. II.* iv. ix. Fire itself is quenchable, yet only quenchable at first.

Hence 'quenchableness' (Bailey vol. II. 1727).

†**quench-coal**. *Obs.* [f. as prec. + COAL.] Something which extinguishes burning coal. In quots. *fig.*: An extinguisher.

1615 S. WARD *Coal* fr. *Altar* Sermon, etc. (1862) 71 Zeal hath in this our earthly mould little fuel, much quench-coal. 1643 SYMONDS *Serm. bnf. Hc. Comm.* Piiiib. Opinions should not be quench-copies of love. 1743 J. WILLIAMSON *Balm of Gilead* ii. (1800) 23 Carnal company oft proves a dangerous quench-coal to zeal.

quench, obs. form of QUINCE.

quenched ('kwɛnʃt), ppl. a. [f. QUENCH v. + -ED.] a. That has been quenched. Also with *out*.

1814 BYRON *Lara* l. xxix. Quench'd existence crouches in a grave. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 412 He could not bear the look of the quenched eyes. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* vi. 148 To resume the quenched flax. 1881 O. WILLES *Poems* 211 The quenched-out torch the lonely cyprus-gloom. 1938 [see QUENCH v. 2]. 1946 [see QUENCHING v. 1]. QUENCHING vbl. sb. a. 1958 [see AGONIZATE v. 6]. 1963 F. FOZARD *Instrumentation & Control Nucl. Reactors* v. 50 Organically quenched counters are characterised by high starting and operating voltages.

b. *Radio*. **quenched spark**, a spark in a spark transmitter that is extinguished mechanically soon after it begins (see QUENCH v. 1d); so **quenched gap**, a spark-gap designed to bring this about.

1920 G. W. PRINCE *Princ. Wireless Telegr.* xxiii. 260 The quenched spark is... economical in transmitting energy, and is favorable to sharp tuning. 1927 O. F. BROWN *Elements of Radio Communication* iv. 53 The two methods most frequently employed for quenching are either the use of a rotating spark gap or a specially designed spark gap known as the 'quenched gap'. 1962 J. H. & P. J. REYNOLDS *Radio Communication* vii. 204 Owing to the rapid cooling a very high spark frequency may be used, and quenched spark sets operated with a spark frequency of 1,500 per second or more.

quenching ('kwɛnʃɪŋ), vbl. sb. [f. as QUENCH + -ING.]

a. One who, or that which, quenches.

c. 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* i. 820 Norysches of vertu and quenchers of vice. 1661 FRINGTON *King Combyss* 904 Of the same [heat] the quencher you must be. c. 1608 J. GOODWIN *Filled in the Spirit* (1869) 353 Those quenchers of the Spirit in themselves. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 86 Liquorice... was ever reputed by the Ancients, for the greatest quencher of Thirst in Nature. 1848 DISKINS *Dombey* viii. Mrs. Pipchin's presence was a quencher to any number of candles. 1879 H. N. HUDSON *Hamlet* Pref. A feast so overlaid with quenchers of the appetite. 1950 H. W. LEVERENZ *Introduct. Luminescence of Solids* iv. 132 A phosphor center may function as... a poison (or killer, or quencher), by having the excited-state equilibrium level sufficiently near or above ϕ so that radiationless transitions predominate. 1961 G. R. CHOPPIN *Exper. Nuclear Chem.* v. 61 The effect of multiple discharges due to failure of the quencher is included... but will be negligible for a good tube operating at the proper plateau voltage. 1971 *Nature* 13 Aug. 444/3 It is well known that paramagnetic ions are efficient quenchers of electronically excited states. 1976 *Sci. Amer.* June 472 (Adv.). This is because the excitation energy of O_2 is unusually low; a quencher molecule to relieve O_2 of this energy must have an even lower excited state.

b. *collog.* Something to quench thirst; a drink.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxv. Mr. Swiveller replied... that he was still open to a 'modest quencher'. 1856 T. HUGHES *Tom Brown* i. i. A pleasant public, wherest we must really take a modest quencher. 1857 KINGSLAY *Tom Y. Ago* xviii. Treboze... now offers Tom a 'quencher', as he calls it.

†**quench-fire**. *Obs. rare-1*. An apparatus, or substance, for extinguishing fires.

1667 EVELYN *Diary* 10 July, I went to see Sir Sam. Morland's inventions and machines, arithmetical wheels, quench-fires, and new harp.

quenching ('kwɛnʃɪŋ), vbl. sb. [f. QUENCH v. + -ING.]

1. a. The action of the vb. in various senses.

c. 1200 *Eng. Leg.* 207 Dat is soule drink, sinnes quenching. c. 1290 S. Eng. Leg. l. 1. 315/55 þer þanne selde wete to maken quencheing of fyre. 1328 TENNYSON *Barth. De P.R.* v. xxx. (1495) 141 Quenching and denyng of the herte is in the nayles most openly schewed. 1544 PHAER *Ragm. Life* (1553) 14. Stinking thinges, as seas fectid, and the quenching out of candles. 1664 MARVELL *Corr. Wks.* 1872-5 ll. 176 Engins, such as are used frequently in the quenching of great fires. 1730 SAVERY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 307 Steel hardened by quenching. c. 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) l. 222 A quenching of the sunshine. 1908 J. A. FLEMING *Elem. Man. Radioteleg.*

Quenching 338 (Index). Quenching noise of an electric spark: 1928 *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* XIV. 849 (heading). The quenching of cadmium resonance radiation. 1942 B. F. WELLS *Radio-Technol.* iv. 114 Quenching may be effected by a separate valve, or the reacting detector valve may be arranged to oscillate at the quenching frequency, as well as the radio-frequency. 1943 B. F. WELLS *Radio-Technol.* iv. 114 Because of the need for 'quenching' in a Geiger-Mueller counter for example, its detailed design may be quite different from that of an ionization chamber. 1972 De Puy & Chapman *Molec. Reactions of Photochem.* iii. 37 Sensitization and quenching are important methods for determining the spin multiplicity of excited states responsible for photochemical reactions.

b. spec. The process of throwing water upon the molten metal in a refining-hearth or crucible, so that it may be removed in disks or 'rosettes'.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1847/2, 1084/1.
2. attrib. and Comb. as **quenching crack**, **medium rate**, **test**, **tough**, **hub**.

1926 A. SHUEVER *Metallog. & Heat Treatment of Iron & Steel* (ed. 3) xv. 220 Water quenching is to be preferred to oil quenching if it can be performed without producing quenching cracks. 1966 C. R. TORTORE *Sci. Engin. Materials* x. 224 The strain in the transformed martensite is tensile, in the circumferential direction, and so radial cracks form in the martensite to relieve the stress; these are known as quenching cracks. 1932 E. GAZCOY *Metallogr.* iv. 12 Water is obviously the cheapest quenching medium, and is invaluable for tools and purposes where an extremely hard surface is desired: 1946 *Nature* 31 Aug. 1946/1 Experiments with various iron-carbon alloys quenched in various ways tend to show that the amounts of ferrite, martensite and retained austenite obtained in the quenched specimen are independent of the quenching-rate so long as a certain critical rate is not exceeded. 1877 *Cutnell's Tech. Educ.* IV. 373/1 These conditions provide for the so-called 'quenching' and bending tests being applied to a piece cut from each plate and bar. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1847/1 Quenching-tub. 1864 F. S. MEYER *Handbk. Art. Smithing* ii. 19 In the front part of the forge are found, as a rule, a quenching trough, hollows and receivers for fuel and slack. 1973 *Canad. Antiquary Collector* May-June 7 (caption) The stone quenching trough from the oldest smithy in eastern Ontario.

So **quenching** ppl. a., that quenches.

1382 MYCLIF *Wid. xix*. 10 Water forþat his quenchende kinde. 1398 *Tarnish Barsh. De P.R.* x. ix. (1495) 379 Cinis is lyeill ashes left of quenchyng and spekyng matere. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* *George Plantag.* iv. Like quenching blastis, which off reuive the flame. 1612 *Bible* *Wid.* xix. 20 The water forþat his owne quenching nature. 1964 (see QUENCH v. 3d). 1958 W. K. MANSFIELD *Elem. Nucl. Physics* vi. 50 Positive ions arriving at the cathode are sometimes able to eject an electron. If this were to occur... a continuous series of pulses might be observed. This is prevented in a Geiger counter by the inclusion of a quenching agent. 1966 D. G. BRANDON *Mod. Techniques Metallurg.* iii. 154 The addition of a small amount of a second, 'quenching' gas... serves to prevent a secondary electron emission by the positive ion bombardment of the cathode.

quenchless ('kwɛnʃlɪs), a. [f. as QUENCHING vbl. sb. + -LESS.] That cannot be quenched; unquenchable, inextinguishable.

1557 *Foittell's Musc.* (Arb.) 137 These hellish boundes, with paines of quenchlesse fyre. 1632 *Cowley Elegy* *Ld. Caelidon*. An angry Fever, whose quenchless Thirst, by Blood was staid never. 1742 *Young* *Ni. Th.* vi. 473 In faculties of endless growth, in quenchless passions. 1816 *Byron* *Ch. Har.* iii. xlii. Fire... but once kindled, quenchless evermore. 1828 W. HOWITT *Rural Life Eng.* II. 1. 35 The Romances of Scott... have... piled quenchless fuel on this social flame: 1879 G. GRIEKE *Chilad* (1879) 691 A last sad look of quenchless pity. 1895 *Yeats* *Prayer* 12 And with quenchless eyes and fluttering hair A beautiful young man followed behind. 1953 G. DAY LEWIS *Virgil's Aeneid* iv. 78 And consecrated their quenchless flames. 1976 *New Yorker* 15 Nov. 59/1 Vaccaro and Jack Smith, the underground filmmaker, shared a quenchless passion for 'Siren of Atlantis', 'White Savage', 'Cobra Woman', and other nineteen-forties epics starring Miss Montez.

Hence **quenchlessly** adv.; **quenchlessness**.

1594 *Kyd Cornelia* v. 103 Sacred Temples quenchlessly enflam'd. 1848 *Chano. Quenchlessness*.

† **quenchour**. Obs. rare -1. Quenching.

1460-79 *Bk. Quintessence* 6 Look þat þe haue a sotille and a sleipe to quench þe dreyden þe fier. and whanne þe haue do þoure quenchour, þutte alle þe wattris togidere.

quency, obs. form of QUINCY.

† **quene**, obs. form of COIN sb.

1505 *Will of Lach* (Sopworth 1910). Expensis bielding of the church and making of my tombe w' such Quene as I shall lye in their hande.

quene, obs. form of QUEEN, WHEN.

quenelle (kə'neɪ). [F., of uncertain origin.] In Cookery, a seasoned ball, of which the chief ingredient, commonly meat or fish, has been reduced to a paste. Also **quenelle de volaille**, a ball made with chicken or other fowl meat.

1845 E. ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 180 *French Foreheat called Quenelles*. This is a peculiarly light and delicate kind of forcemeat. 1846 (see CRUTON). 1861 *Mrs. BEETON* *Bk. Househ. Managem.* 202 *Veal Quenelles*... If the quenelles are not firm enough, add the yolk of another egg. 1883 V. STUART *Expt* 196 Savoury quenelles of mutton enveloped in fernet leaves. 1888 *Queen* 15 Dec. 786/2 The insipid sweetbread, the pasty quenelle, the sticky jelly. 1899 J. WITTENBERG *Stendhal* 14: 420/1 *Richelieu* garnish, quenelles of chicken, coquebouds and slices of fat livers in brown onion sauce. 1936 *Lucas & Hume* *Au Petit Cour* 515 Decorate the tops of each quenelle with small fillets of anchovy and the quenelles with strips of anchovy. 1976

Punch 27 Oct. 737/1 Is it also prejudice... to prefer *quenelles* to fish cakes, to hate Coca-Cola and adore wine? 1977 C. McFADDEN *Serial* (1978) vi. 18/1 She could really dig *quenelles* about now.

† **quengeoun**, var. CONGEON. Obs.

1430 *Syn. Gener.* (Roxb.) 1339 Thou mysproutde quengeoun, Whi answerst thou not to my reason.

† **quenger**, obs. var. CONJURE.

1567 *Tales & Quiche Anno.* (Berthelet) *Contents* lxxx. Of the olde man that quengered the boy oute of the apietre with stones.

† **quenqueste**, obs. form of CONQUEST.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret.*, Priv. Priv. 171 l'hon de curcy, and many ptheres of the quenqueste of Irland.

quenselite ('kwɛnsəlɪt). *Min.* [ad. G. *quenselit* (G. Flink 1925, in *Geol. Föreläsning i Stockholm Förh.* XLVII. 377). f. the name of P. D. Quensel (b. 1881), Swedish mineralogist: see -ITE.] An oxide of lead and manganese, PbMnO₄(OH), found as black, tabular, monoclinic crystals.

1926 *Mineral. Abstr.* III. 110 Quenselite, another new mineral from Långban, Sweden, occurs as small (1 mm.) pitch-black crystals with calcite and barite in crevices of the granular haematite ore. 1958 *Proc. Ngt. Inst. Sci. India* A. XXIV. 95 This is probably the first reported occurrence of quenselite in manganese ores of metamorphic origin. 1971 *Zeitschr. für Krist.* CXXIX/1. 331 The significance of the quenselite structure lies in its role as a connecting link between certain of the Pb oxides and the lithiophorite-chalcophanite group. In addition to red and yellow PbO, quenselite has structural similarities to Pb₂O₃.

quenstedtite ('kwɛnstɛdɪt). *Min.* [Named in 1888 after Prof. F. A. von Quenstedt: see -ITE.] Hydrous sulphate of iron found in Chile.

1888 *Amer. J. Sci.* XXXVI. 156 The name quenstedtite is given to a salt occurring in reddish-violet, tabular crystals.

† **quent**, sb. Obs. rare. [ad. Sp. *quento*, *cuento* = It. *conto*, OF. *conte*, COUNT sb.] A million (of maravedis).

1555 *EDEN Decades* 314 Luyz of S. Angell... septe mynt syx centes of maravedis. 1577 *HELLOWES Gubnata's Fam. Bp.* 68 A... gentleman of more than a Quent of rent.

† **quent**, v. Obs. rare. Also 6 quent. [error. f. *quent*, obs. pa. pple. of QUENCH v.] *trans.* and *intr.* To quench.

1557 *Tottell's Musc.* (Arb.) 262 Set about my herse, Two lampes to burne and not to quent (*prime* spelt). 1567 *TURPIN* *Epi.*, etc. *Myrr. Fall of Pride*, He thought forth with his thirst to quent. But there he found or ere he went a greater drough.

† **quent**, Sc. f. a(c) *quent*, ACQUAINT ppl. a.

1536 *BELLENDEN Cron. Scot.* (1821) l. 149 New servandis ar in derisoun among the quent servitoris.

quent, obs. f. QUAIN a.; obs. pa. pple. of QUENCH v.

quantance, -ise, var. QUAINANCE, -ISE.

quenthing, error. f. QUETHING.

† **quentin**. Obs. rare -0. [a. F. *quentin* 'French Laune' (Cotgr.). Cf. QUINTIN.] 'A sort of French Linnen-cloth that comes from S. Quentin in Picardy' (Miege 1687; also in Phillips 1706, Bailey 1721).

queor, obs. form of CHOIR.

quep, error. archaism for *quep*: see GUP.

1823 *Scott* *Nigel* iv. Marry quep of your advice. 1825 — *Betrothed* iv. Marry quep, my cousin the weaver.

† **quequer**, late var. COCKER, a quiver. Obs.

1500 *Robin Hood & Putter* 51 in *Chilad* *Ballads* III. 112 To a quequer Roben went, A god bolt owthe he toke.

quer, obs. form of CHOIR; WHERE.

† **queral**, obs. form of CORAL.

1533 *Gau Rich* *Vay* 85 Mony prayis ye psalter of our ladie with vthral bedis.

† **querant**. Obs. rare -1. [a. F. *querant*, pple. of *querir* to inquire (cf. QUERE v.).] = QUERENT sb.

1591 SPARRY tr. *Castan's Geomancie* 81 The questions touching the siluer of the brother or sister of the querant.

† **querbole**, obs. form of CUIR-BOUILLI.

1453 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees, 1855) II. 190, 1 par of tables... case of querbole.

quercetin ('kwɜːtsɪn). *Chem.* [Arbitrarily f. L. *quercus* oak + -IN- (cf. L. *quercetum* an oak-wood).] A yellow crystalline substance widely distributed in the vegetable kingdom, but usually obtained by decomposition of quercitrin; 3, 3', 4', 5', 7-Pentahydroxyflavone, C₁₅H₁₀O₇.

1857 *MILLER Elem. Chem.* III. 512 When quercitrin is boiled with dilute sulphuric or hydrochloric acid, it is decomposed into glucose and quercetin. 1874 *WATTS Dict. Chem.* 1st Suppl. 982 Gintl, has found quercetin in the leaves of the ash-tree. 1949 *Thorpe's Dict. Appl. Chem.* (ed. 4) IX. 300/2 Quercitrin gives red-brown, brown-orange, bright orange and olive-black shades on wood mordanted with chromium, aluminium, tin, and iron, respectively.

1962 T. R. SESHADRI in T. A. Geissman *Chem. Flavonoid Compounds* ii. 9 Quercetin and its glycosides can be conveniently extracted by borax and can be liberated by acidification.

Hence **quercetamide**, an amide obtained from quercitrin in the form of an amorphous orange-yellow powder, **quercetic** (kwɜː'stɪk) a., derived from quercitrin, as in **quercetic acid**.

1868 *WATTS Dict. Chem.* V. 3 On adding ammonia to the acid filtrate, quercetamide is obtained. *Ibid.* 5 Quercitrin heated with potash yields quercetic acid and other products. 1893 T. E. THORPE *Dict. Chem.* III. 324 If the melting is continued longer than necessary to obtain quercetic acid, then quercimeric acid is obtained.

† **querch** (e. obs. forms of CURECH, *kerchief*).

1375 *St. Leg. Saints* ii. (Paul) 265 With þe querch [he] hid his face. *Ibid.* 295 Paule myn querche gaf to me.

quercimeric (kwɜːsɪ'mɛrɪk), a. *Chem.* [f. *querci-*, comb. form of L. *quercus* oak + Gr. *μῆκος* part + -IC-] **quercimeric acid**, an acid derived from quercitrin or quercetic acid.

1868 *WATTS Dict. Chem.* V. 5 Quercimeric acid... Produced by the action of melting potash on quercetic acid. 1893 T. E. THORPE *Dict. Chem.* III. 324 Quercimeric acid... is isolated in the same manner as quercetic acid, from which it differs by being much more soluble in water. [See also QUERCETIC.]

quercin ('kwɜːsɪn). *Chem.* [f. L. *quercus* oak + -IN-] (See *quots*).

1845 *Penny Cycl. Suppl.* I. 349/2 *Quercin*, a neutral crystalline substance procured from the bark of the oak. 1894 *Watts Dict. Chem.*... *Quercin*... occurs in oakbark, being obtained from the mother-liquors in the preparation of quercite.

quercine ('kwɜːsɪn), a. [ad. L. *quercin-us*, f. *quercus* oak: see -INE².] Of or pertaining to the oak; made of oak, oaken.

1656 *BLOUNT Glossogr.* *Quercine*, oken, make of Oken. 1658 *PHILLIPS Quercine*, belonging to an oak. 1854 B. TAYLOR *Lands Sargeant* XXXVII. (1853) 440 The mast... was as sweet and palatable as chestnuts, with very little of the bitter quercine flavour.

quercitanin (kwɜːsɪ'tænɪn). *Chem.* [f. L. *querci-* oak- + TANNIN.] A form of tannin obtained from oak-bark: So **quercitannic** a., in **quercitannic acid** = **quercitanin**.

1845 W. GIBCOY *Outl. Org. Chem.* 416 *Tannic Acid*. Syn. *Quercitanic Acid*, *Tannine*. This acid occurs chiefly in oak-bark and in nut-galls. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning and Currying* (1853) 78 The tannin of tea is similar in properties to quercitanin. 1856 *Naturalist* 25 A tannin, which is probably quercitanin.

quercite ('kwɜːsɪt). *Chem.* [f. L. *quercus* oak + -ITE⁴.] A sweet crystalline alcohol obtained from acorns.

1857 *MILLER Elem. Chem.* III. 72 *Quercite*... from acorns. Transparent prisms. 1862 *FOWNES Chem.* 434 The juice of the acorn is submitted to fermentation. The fermented liquor, on evaporation, yields small prisms of quercite.

Hence **quercitine** (e) = QUERCITIN (Webster 1864, citing Gregory). **quercitol** = QUERCITE (Watts *Dict. Chem.* 3rd Suppl. 1881).

quercitron ('kwɜːsɪtrɒn). [Abbreviated for *querci-citron*, f. L. *quercus* oak + CITRON. Named by Dr. Bancroft about 1784.]

1. a. The black or dyer's oak of N. America (*Quercus tinctoria*): also called **quercitron oak**. b. The inner bark of this, used as a yellow dye and in tanning; also **quercitron bark**.

1794 *BANCROFT Philol. Perianth. Colours* xii. The Quercitron bark is one of the objects of a discovery, of which the use and application for dyeing, calico-printing, &c. are exclusively vested in me... by an Act of Parliament passed in the 25th year of his present Majesty's reign. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 100 The black, or quercitron oak, is a large tree found throughout the United States. *Ibid.* 101 The quercitron, so much used in dyeing, is obtained from the cellular integument.

attrib. 1823 *URS Dict. Chem.* (ed. 2) 398/1 Cloth... subjected to the quercitron bath.

2. Special Combs. **quercitron lake**; **yellow**, the yellow pigment obtained from quercitron bark, yielding quercetin and rhamnose on hydrolysis; **quercitrin**.

1886 H. C. STANDAED *Artists' Man. Pigments* iv. 45 *Yellow Lakes* (Modern Yellow... Quercitron Yellow or Lake). 1918 PERKIN & EVERETT *Natural Org. Colouring Matters* ix. 628 *Quercitron-yellow lake*, *Flavin-lake*, or *Dutch pink* can be made... by precipitating a decoction of quercitron bark containing alum with chalk. 1932 *Quercitron lake* (see *Italian pink*). 1947 L. S. FRATT *Chem. & Physics Org. Pigments* vii. 65 *Quercitron lake* is a yellow coloring matter made from the inner bark of a species of oak, *Quercus tinctoria*, that is indigenous to North America.

Hence **quercitrin**, a product of quercitrin. ? **Quercitrin** a., derived from quercitrin, as in **quercitrinic acid** (Watts *Dict. Chem.* 1868). **quercitrin**, the yellow crystalline colouring matter of quercitron bark.

1833 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) VIII. 320/2 To this coloring matter Chevreul has given the name of *quercitrin*. *Ibid.* 321/1 Yellow crystals possessing the characters of quercitrin. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 211/1 The tannin which quercitrin contains... gives a green colour with peroxide of iron. 1845 *Ibid.* Suppl. I. 349/2 On boiling a solution of

quercitrin, it becomes turbid, and deposits a quantity of small acicular crystals of quercitrin.

quercivorous (kwɜːˈsɪvərəs), *a.* [f. *L. quercus* oak + *-vorus* devouring.] Feeding on oak-leaves.

1858 *Zoologist* XVI. 6154 An individual [caterpillar] which had already become quercivorous.

quereck, obs. form of **QUIRK** *sb.*¹

†**querculane**, *a.* Obs. rare⁻⁰. [ad. mod. *L. querculanus*, *f. quercus* oak.] = **QUERCINE** *a.*
1856 *BLOUNT Glossogr.* [Hence in some later dict.]

querdlyng: see **CODLING**¹.

†**quere**, *v.* Obs. rare. Also **quire**. [a. OF. *quer-re* (in conq. *quer*, *quer-*, mod. *F. querir*): — *L. querere*: see **INQUIRE**.] To ask, inquire.

13. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv. num. Spr.* LXXXI. 3197 He wolde wite and quere What-manner mon pat he were. 1400-50 *Alexander* 1703 His qualite, his quantite, he quiers [Dabl. MS. enquires] all-to-gedire. 1425 *Cursor M.* 15611 (Trin.) As he pus went to quere [Cott. sek.] & aske... he fuyr of helle him smot. c. 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 692 Alas! that thou grevest the so sore, Or thou haddyst querd more. [c. 1810 *Merry-Go-Round* vii. in *Child Ballads* (1888) III. v. cliv. 250 And if my play-fellows come to quere for me, Tell them I am asleep.]

quere, obs. form of **CHOIR**, **QUERE**, **QUEER**.

quereboly, obs. form of **CUIR-BOUILLI**.

†**querelatory**, *a.* Obs. rare⁻¹. [f. ppl. stem of mod. *L. querelare* to complain (see **QUERELE**) + *-ORY*.] Of the nature of a complaint.

1553 in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1741) III. i. ii. 23 [Bonner did present his libel called in the instrument] a certain appellatory and querelatory Libel.

†**querelle**, *sb.* Obs. [Orig. form of **QUARREL** *sb.*¹ (q.v.), occasionally employed (prob. under influence of *L. querela*) after *quar(r)el* had become the usual form.]

1. A complaint; an action. = **QUARREL** 1.
1404 *FABYAN Chron.* ab. 1123 To go before the king with a lamentable querelle expressing how with true despites he was deformed. 1542 *UDALL Erasmus*. Apoph. 146 Such persons, as dooce by a wrongfull querelle obiecte vnto me, that [etc.]: 1628 *COKE On Litt.* 292 If a man release all Querels... all actions real and personal are released. 1726 *AVLINGS Parerg.* [189] Not in Causes of Appeal, but in Causes of first instance and simple Querelle only.

2. A cause, affair, etc. = **QUARREL** 2.
1552 *Order St. Bartholomew's* v. Av. So sufficiently... set forth this enormite of the Citizene, as seemed behouffull for the querelle of charite. 1660 *GRINDAL Lett. to Sir W. Cecil* Wks. (Parker Soc.) 289 All ministers, now to be deprived in this querelle of rites.

So †**querelle** *v.* = **QUARREL** *v.* Hence †**quereler**, quarreller, objector. Obs.
1542 *UDALL Erasmus*. Apoph. 306 The faultie fynder or quereler. 1548... *Par. Luke* xv. 133 The elder sonne... proudly quereled and reasoned the matter with his father.

querelle, -all, obs. forms of **QUARREL** *sb.*¹

†**querelous**, *a.* Obs. rare. [ad. late *L. querelōsus*, *f. querela* **QUERELE**.] = **QUERULOUS** (q.v.).

For earlier examples of the form see **QUERULOUS**.
1581 J. HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 84 Thir ar murmurers, querelous [L. querulosis]. 1614 B. HALL *No Peace with Rome* 42 That querelous libell of the Macedonians. a 1661 *FULLER Worthies*, Kent ii. (1662) 74 Though generally the Irish are querulous of their Deputies... yet Sir Henry left a good memory. 1751 *Affecting Narr.* of *Wager*. 32 A Midshipman... of an insolent querulous Temper.

Hence †**querelousness**. Obs. rare⁻¹.
1643 *PAYNE Open. Gi. Seal Ep.* The querelousnesse of the clamorous Opposites.

†**querencia** (ke'renθja). [a. Sp. *querencia* lair, haunt, home ground, *f. quere* to seek, desire, *f. L. querere* to seek.] 1. **Bullfighting**. The part of the arena where the bull takes his stand; stamping ground.

1932 E. HEMINGWAY *Death in Afternoon* xiii. 150 A querencia is a place the bull naturally wants to go to in the ring; a preferred locality. That is a natural querencia and such are well known and fixed, but an accidental querencia is more than that. It is a place which develops in the course of the fight where the bull makes his home. 1957 R. CAMPBELL *Portugal* vi. 115 He [sc. the bull] may choose his querencia for some strategical advantage—near the body of a dead horse, for instance. 1964 *Listener* 27 Aug. 347/1 It is when the bull leaves his querencia—the place where he feels safe—that he falls a victim to delusion. 1974 F. NOLAN *Oshawa Project* i. 3 Some taunted fighting bull seeking its querencia.

2. *fig.* A (person's) favourite place; home ground, refuge.

1952 R. CAMPBELL *Lorca* i. 8 Andalusia is Lorca's querencia. 1977 A. SCHOLEFIELD *Venom* iii. 98 Returning always to the centre of the gold carpet for there, like a bull in a ring, he had instinctively made his querencia, his territory.

querent ('kwɜːrənt), *sb.*¹ Also 7 **quer-**. [ad. *L. querent-em*, pres. pple. of *querere* to inquire: cf. **QUERANT**, **QUERIST**.] One who asks or inquires;

spec. one who consults, or seeks to learn something by means of, an astrologer.

1598 F. WITHER tr. *Dariot Astrol. Judg.* O 3, By this means the Querent shall not have his desyre. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* vi. 49 [see **QUESTED**]. 1653 SIR G. WHARTON *Comett* Wks. (1683) 141 Many Querents, which I have answered... to my own and the Querents admiration. 1696 *ASHLEY Misc.* (1784) 129 The Magicians now use a crystal-sphere, which is inspected... sometimes by the Querent himself. 1705 BOSMAN *Guinea* 132 If the Priest is enfolded to oblige the Querent, the Questions are put. 1845 *Whitehall* xxi. 151 The astrologer, fixing his keen, cunning eyes on the querent. 1881 [see **QUESTED**].

'querent, *sb.*¹ and *a.* rare. [ad. *L. querent-em*, pres. pple. of *queri* to complain.]

a. sb. 'A complainant, plaintiff' (J.). *b. adj.* Complaining.

1727 in *BAILLY*, vol. II. 1845 *Whitehall* li. 363 A process in which Joyce assisted with manifest silliness, and many a querent glance at his young commander.

quereour, **queresouer**, **querester** (e, querf, querfore, obs. ff. **QUARRIER**¹, **WHERESOEVER**, **CHORISTER**, **WHARF**, **WHEREFORE**.

Queres, var. **KERES**.

†**Querflöte** ('kverflɔ:tə). *Mus.* [a. G. *querflöte* cross-flute, *f. quer* transverse + *flöte* flute.]

1. A transverse flute, blown through an opening at the side; = *cross-flute* s.v. **CROSS** B.

1896 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 373/1 *Querflöte* (Ger.). The flute played sideways, as opposed to the flute which was blown at one end, and held straight in front of the performer. 1924 H. M. FITZGIBSON *Story of Flute* iii. 30 (caption) *Prestorius* Bass. *Encycl.* 525/1 *Querflöte*, 'Cross' or 'transverse Flute', i.e. the modern flute as distinct from the recorder or *Blockflöte*. 1976 D. MURROW *Instruments Middle Ages & Renaissance* 53/3 Back in medieval times the different playing positions of the two instruments had provided a means of distinction... hence the use of... *Querflöte*, or *Querpfife* (German, cross flute) for the transverse flute.

2. An organ stop that emits a sound resembling that of a flute.

1921 G. A. AUDLEY *Organ-Stops* 217 *Querflöte*... The name... has been frequently used by German organ-builders to designate the stop which, in its voice, imitates, as closely as practicable in organ-pipes, the tone of the Flute of the orchestra. 1966 P. WILLIAMS *European Organ 1450-1850* 286 *Querflöte* (Ger. 'cross flute'), properly, an open cylindrical metal or wood flute stop (usually 4'), over-blowing to the first or second overtone due to the pipe's narrow scale, large foot-holes and fairly low cut-up.

†**querical**, *a.* and *sb.* Obs. rare. [f. *quere* **QUERE** *sb.*, or **QUERY** *sb.* + *-ICAL*.] *a. adj.* Of the nature of a query or queries. *b. sb.* A query.

1699 (title). *Querical Demonstrations* writ by Prince Butler Author of the Eleven Queries [etc.]. *Ibid.* 24 Don't disdain, My Querical Strain, and I... have yet in store, Of such Quericals more, At least a whole Score.

†**querida** (ke'riða). [Sp. *querida*, pa. pple. *querer* to seek, desire, *f. L. querere* to seek.] A sweetheart, darling; freq. used as a term of address. Also *querido* (-do), the male equivalent.

1846 R. FORD *Gatherings from Spain* xx. 274 His short-petioated *querida*. 1926 W. N. BURNS *Saga of Billy the Kid* xiv. 185 In every *placeta* in the Pecos some little *señorita* was proud to be known as his *querida*. 1963 E. LINGINGTON *Death of Bushyhead* i. 9 Be careful now, *querida*. Lock both doors on your way home. 1970 KOENIG & DIXON *Children are Watching* iii. 23 Did her *querido* have to go back to work at the restaurant? 1976 'S. WOODS' *My Life is Done* 40 Everything will be well, *querido*.

querie, obs. var. **QUERRY** (q.v.).

queried, *ppl. a.* [f. **QUERY** *v.* + *-ED*.] Called in question; marked with a query.

1774 *Ann. Reg.* 341/4 You have insisted... that you should not have rejected the queried votes, if you had not been convinced... that they were all corrupted.

quierer ('kwɜːrə(r)). [f. **QUERY** *v.* + *-ER*.] One who queries; also *slang*, a chimney-sweep who asks for work.

1672 *PENN. Spir. Truth-Vind.* 93 That would have been no Answer to their weighty Question, nor any allay to that earnest Enquiry... the Queriers were under. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 377 The knaveller is also styled a 'quierer', a name derived from his making inquiries at the doors of the houses as to whether his services are required.

querimonious (kwɜːrɪ'mɒniəs), *a.* Also 7 *quere-*. [ad. late *L. querimōnīus-us*: see next and -ous. Cf. obs. *F. querimonieux* (Godef.).] Full of, addicted to, complaining.

1604 in R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Epigr.* xxxvi. Wks. ii. 266/1 Querimonious pines Doe puluerise the concave of my braines. 1658 OSBORN *Adv. Son* (1673) 206 Querimonious accusations of his best Servants. 1792 COLLINSON *Hist. Somerset* 608 It was on this solitary island that Gildas... composed his querimonious treatise. 1848 MOZLEY *En. Luther* (1878) i. 354 That passionate and querimonious temper.

Hence *querimoniously* *adv.*; *querimoniousness* (Bailey vol. II. 1277).

a 1668 DENHAM *A Dialogue*, Most querimoniously confessing That I of late have been compressing.

querimony ('kwɜːrɪmɒni). [ad. *L. querimōnia*, *f. queri* to complain: cf. *F. querimome* (16th c.).] Complaint, complaining.

1529 in *Froude Hist. Eng.* (1866) I. 217 By way of querimony and complaint. a 1548 *HALL Chron.* *Edw. IV* 239b, The king... troubled with hya brothers' dayly querimony. 1610 B. HALL *Apol. Brownists* 30 *marj.*, To which vniust and triuiall querimony, our most iust defence hath bene [etc.]. 1897 BLACKMORE *Springhaven* (ed. 4) I. viii. 61 The scholars of the Virgil class... had recovered from the querimonies of those two sons of Ovid.

†**querism**. Obs. rare⁻¹. [f. as next + *-ISM*.] The practice of inquiring or asking.

1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* iv. 88 Your engagement against querism or seeking... will come to nothing.

querist ('kwɜːrɪst). [f. *L. quer-ere* to ask + *-IST*: cf. **QUERENT**, **QUERY**.] One who asks or inquires; a questioner; interrogator.

1633 EARL MAMCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 147 Those Querists who must have a reason for every thing in Religion. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 5. 31 This Querist thinks himself... very reasonable in the Questions. a 1774 GOLDEN, *Surrey. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 2 Were we asked... what is air, we should refer, the querist to his experience alone. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2), III. 92 A troublesome querist comes and asks, 'What is the just and good?'

querister, variant of **CHORISTER**.

querity, **querk**, obs. ff. **QUERITY**, **QUIRK** *sb.*¹

querken ('kwɜːk(ə)n), *v.* Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 *querkyn*, *querken*, -yn, 6 *quarken*, 7 *quirk*, *whirken*, 8 *dial. quacken*, 9 *dial. wirken*, *quöcken*, 5-6 (8-9 *dial.*) *querken*. [— OFris. *querka* (mod. *querke*, *quirke*), ON. *kviþka*, *kyrka* (Da. *kvarke*, *kyrke*), *f.* OFris. *querk*, ON. *kværk* (MSw. *qværk*), OHG. *querca* throat.] *trans.* To choke, suffocate, stifle. Hence 'quarkening' *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 420/2 *Querkenyd*, suffocatus. *Querkenyng*, suffocacio. *Querkyng*, idem quod quellen. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Lady* 249 The byrnesme of sorowe querkynde & stopped... the virgin's heart. 1540 *FALSGR. Acolastus* Hij. I have a throte bolle almoste strangled, snarled, or querkenynd with extreme hunger. 1547 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest*: *Chirug.* *Maner exam. lezars*, Qiv. Yf there apere any straitynes of breth, as yf wolde querken [sic]. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 124 It will send up such an ascending fume that it will be ready to quirken and stifle vs. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Noyer*, to drowne, to whirken, or stifle with water, etc. *Mod.* *Suffocation*, a suffocation... whirkening. 1703 *LANSON Eng. Etym.*, *Querkened*, sometimes written, and pronounced quackened. 1708 *Evans Gloss.*, *Querkened*, suffocated. 1848 A. B. EVANS *Leicesterh. Words* s.v., The wild was so high... that I was welly quokened. 1886 in *Cheshire Gloss.* (1886), *Wirken*.

querl (kwɜːl), *sb.* U.S. Also *quiel*. [? var. of **CURL**, or a: G. *querl*, *quirl* from MHG. *twirl* **TWIRL**.] A curl; twist, twirl.

1854 B. F. TAYLOR *Jan. & June* 23 [The grape vine's] aspirations were manifested in the display of divers mermaidish-looking ringlets, with two or three dainty 'quirls' therein. 1871 L. M. ALCOTT *Little Men* v. 78 Sally, loading her pie with quirls and flourishes. 1886 in *WESTER Suppl.* 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Dec. 201/1 The forms are grotesque beyond comparison: twists, quierls, contortions. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* LXX. 219 The crooks and quierls of the branches on the floor. 1890 R. T. COOKS *Seafast* xv. 162 A hundred resolute little quirls above the low forehead. 1950 *Publ. Amer. Dial.* Soc. xiv. 95 *Quirl*, a curl, as on a watermelon vine. A melon is supposed to be nice when the quirl is dead.

So *querl*, *quirl* *v.*, to twirl, coil, etc. (Knowles, 1835); *querled ppl. a.*, 'quirling' *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1787 *Amer. Museum* II. 571/1 She thought there was something alive in her side, for, to use her own expression, she plainly perceived a tickling and quirling in it. *Ibid.* 574/1 She next complained of a quirling pain, that would last three or four hours with the utmost violence. 1830 *Northern Watchman* (Troy, N.Y.) 30 Nov. 3/4 We... come out of the plagid lock, wrong end foremost, all quirled up in a h— of a twist. 1840 J. F. COOPER *Paidfinders* I. xiii. 206 One of his hands coiled a rope against the Sun, and he called it quierling a rope, too, when I asked him what he was about. 1890 *Dialect Notes* I. 75 'Quirled way up'. 'Quirl', both noun and verb; is familiar to me. 1893 H. A. SHANDE *Some Peculiarities of Speech in Mississippi* 32 *Quirl*, 'this word is largely used by negroes, and to some extent by white people, for curl. It is also thus used in New England. In Mississippi a snake is nearly always said to be quierled or quilled up, instead of curled or coiled up. 1944 *Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc.* II. 30 *Quirl*, to curl. 'Does hit quirl like a pig's tail?'... Common.

quern ('kwɜːn). Forms: 1 *cweorn*, *cwyrn*, (cœrn, cœrn), *cweorne*, *cwearne*, 4 *quœrn* (e, quœrne, quœrn, 4-7 *querne*, 5 *queren*, 5-6 *qwer*, 6 *quærn*, (wherne, wyrne), *Sc. quærn*, 7 *quarn*, 8 *Sc. quirn*, 7- *quern*. [OE. *quærn*, *cwærn* str. fem., *cweorne* wk. fem. = OFris. *quern*, OS. *quern* (or *querna*, MDu. *queren*, Du. *kweern*), OHG. *quærn*, *churn* and *chuirna* (MHG. *kurn*, *kürne*), ON. *kvern* (Icel. *kvörn*, Sw. *qvörn*, Da. *kværn*), Goth. *-qairnus*, from a pre-Teut. stem **gʷern-*, variations of which appear in synonymous forms in other Aryan languages, as Lith. *girmoti*, OS. *krūni* and *krūnūv*, Russ. *zhernov*, Pol. *żarna*, OIr. *bró* (gen. *broon*), W.

bream, etc.] A simple apparatus for grinding corn, usually consisting of two circular stones, the upper of which is turned by hand; also, a small hand-mill for grinding pepper, mustard, or similar substances (see *pepper*, *mustard-quern*).

1990 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xxiv. 41. Tuu wif gegrundon on coerne [Kushu. wt cweorne]. c. 1200 *Ælfric's Acol.* xi. 5. þære wifne . . . þæt sitti æt þære cweorne. c. 1300 *Pilate in E.E.P.* (1862) 11. 1. Bi a meowendes douter he lat. And biæt on hire vnder þe querne þe libeþe beaþ. 1240 *Æven* 181. Samson . . . uil into þe honden of his yad, þe him deden grinde æt querne. c. 1370 *CHAUCER Former Age* 6 Onknowyn was þe querne and ek the melle. c. 1420 *Pallad. on Hush.* 1. 831. Eek as for hail a russet seede is To q'hest vpon the querne. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* i. iv. 39. For skant of victuall the cornes in querneis of stane Thai grund. 1577 *B. GOSSES Heresbach's Hush.* (1586) 10 A Querne or a hand Mill doth but a little good. 1647 *LILLY Chir. Atrol.* i. 354. Some necessary thing . . . to use in his house, as a Furnace or Quern, or such like. 1649 *Evangel. Acetona* (1789) 148. The seeds are pounded in a Mortar, or . . . ground in a Quern contriv'd for this Purpose. 1771 *PENNANT Tour in Scat.* (1794) 228. Saw here a Quern, a sort of portable mill made of two stones. 1848 *S. C. Hall's Ireland* 11. 296. Two women generally worked the Quern, one sitting facing the other, the quern between them. 1884 *J. COLBORNE Hicks Patha* 66. The circular querns of Lower Egypt, which are turned by means of a wooden handle.

b. attrib. and Comb., as quern-chant, -house, -mill, -picker, -song, -staff, quern-like adv. See also *QUERN-STONE*.

1898 *Edinb. Rev.* Apr. 440. In the North, where he often heard the rhythmic quern-chant. 1925 in *Southwell Visit.* (1891) 125. It leads that stapes in querne-house. 1991 *SYLVESTER Du Barts* v. 595. Two small ranks of Orient Pearls. ("Quern-like" grinding small Th. imperfect food. 1600 *HOLLAND Ley XXXIII.* lvi. 706. Troughs and querne mile. 1442 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 256 [The will of William Toly]. quernepykler. [1442, is in Lib. Oshern, f. 247]. 1828 *W. TAYLOR in Monthly Rev.* LXXXI. 73. We will now subjoin the Grota-Saung or quern-song. 1883 *Cath. Angl.* 2971. A quern-staff, molarum.

† **quern¹.** *Obs. rare⁻¹.* In 5 querne, qweryn. App., a large piece of ice.

1400-50 *Alexander* 3003. Alexander . . . rydis To þe grette floode of Granton & it on a glace flynde. Or he was soyt to þe side sit sondir þe qweryns [*Dubl. MS. qwerne*].

querna, obs. variant of *KERN* v. 1

quernal, *a. rare.* [f. *L. quern-us*, f. *quercus* oak + *-al¹*].

† 1. Made of oak-leaves; oaken. *Obs. rare⁻¹.* 1599 *TYNNE Animals* (1875) 49. The Quernal strowe gyven to those whiche had sused a cytizen.

2. **Bot. quernal alliance**, Lindley's name for his 'alliance' of diclinous exogens, containing the orders *Corylaceae* and *Juglandaceae*.

1846 *LINDLEY Veget. Kingd.* 289. If it were not for the minute embryo . . . it might take its place in the Quernal Alliance.

† **querne**. *Obs. rare⁻¹.* [a. OF. *querne* (Godef.) for *quaterne*, after *terne*.] A quater or four in dice-playing (in quot. fig.).

13. *Coer de L.* 2009. Richard . . . gave him a stroke on the molde. . . Terne and quernes he gave him there.

quernell, square. see *QUARNELL*.

querner, obs. form of *CORNER* sb. 1

'quern-stone. [Cf. ON. *quernsteinn*.] One of the two stones forming a quern; a millstone.

1990 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xviii. 5. Behofas him þæt he zehongra coern-stan . . . in suire his k 1006 *Ag. Gosp. cwyrm*, cweorn-stan. 1308 *Wyclif Num.* xi. 8. And the pule yede aboute, and gaderide it, and brak with a querece stone. 14. *Now* in W. Wülcker 725/24 *Hec mola*, a quernstone. 1582 *STANYHURST Æneis* i. (Arb.) 23. Theyre come in quernstones they doe grind. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* 1760. Round stones as much as millstones or quernstones. 1664 *Ireland. Stat. at Large* (1765) II. 416. Quern-stones, large, the diam. (13. to 18. in. SMYTH *Fract. of Customs* (1821) 242. Quern Stones under three feet in diameter, and not exceeding six inches in thickness. 1875 *W. McILWRAITH Guide Wigtownshire* 43. Opposite the east gable of the Church a quern-stone . . . has been stuck up.

querof, obs. form of *WHEREOF*.

† **queror**. *Obs. rare⁻⁰.* [a. OF. *queror*, -eur, agent-n. f. *querre*, *querir* QUERE v.] An inquirer. 14. *Voc. in W. Wülcker* 610/18 *Seitor*, a querour.

querpo, variant of *CUERPO* *Obs.*

querquedule ('kwskwdjul). *Ormith.* [ad. *L. querquedula* a species of duck.] a. 'A genus of ducks, one species of which is the common teal' (Worcester, 1860). b. 'The pin-tail duck' (Webster, 1864, citing *Eng. Cyc.*).

querre, var. *QUAR* v.; obs. f. *QUARRY* sb. 1

querrell, querriater, querrou, query, obs. ff. *QUARREL* sb. 1 and v., *CHORISTER*, *QUARNIER* 1, *EQUERRY*.

quert: see *QUART* a. and sb. 1

† **querulation**. *Obs. rare⁻¹.* [n. of action f. med. *L. querulari* to complain, f. *querul-us*: see *QUERULOUS* a.] Complaint, complaining. So also

(from stem *querul-*) *querulental*, -'lential a., *querulous*, *queruling* vbl. sb., complaining. *querulist* one who complains. *querulity*, *querulosity* (cf. *QUERULOUS* a.), habit or spirit of complaining.

1614 *T. ADAMS Simmer's Passing Bell* Wks. (1629) 264. Will not these mourning, men . . . querulations, stirre your hearts? 1784 *R. CUMBERLAND Observer* No. 103 P3 A lady, rather capious and querulental. 1806 *Mem.* 17. Walpole had . . . a plea for being capious and querulental, for he was a martyr to the gout. 1828 *S. BELLAMY Betrayal* 94. The Devil give thee heed! Haply he'll better care thy queruling Than He I follow mine. 1788 *T. TOUCHSTONE Trifler* 431. I have carefully examined the various subjects of complaint. . . If my third fair querulist would [etc.]. 1923 *C. E. MONTAGUE Disenchantment* iv. 32. The querulist of the book took it hard . . . that more kind words did not come to the men. 1866 *Pall Mall G.* 27 June 1. The Premier had . . . very insufficient grounds for his querulosity. 1882 *F. T. PALGRAVE in Grosart's Spenser's Wks.* IV. p. lxiv, Unreasonable querulosity.

querulous ('kwɜrjələs), a. Also 6-ose, 7-quer. [ad. late *L. querulos-us*, f. *querulus*, f. *queri* to complain: cf. *QUERULOUS*, *QUARRELOUS*.]

1. Of persons: Complaining, given to complaining, full of complaints, peevish.

In first quot. possibly for *querulous* *QUARRELOUS*; a certain confusion between the words is also suggested by some 17th c. quote, which at least do not imply peevish or whining complaint.

? a 1500 *Mankind* (Brandl 1896) 46/200. My body wyth my soull ys euer querulose [rime] house. 1594 *Hooker Eccl. Pol.* iii. xi. 59. A people . . . by nature hard-hearted, querulous, wrastful. a 1620 *HEALY Theophrastus* (1636) 63. These are the manners of a querulous wardman. 1653 *BAXTER Inf. Bapt.* 242. I would have no godly man be ever querulous, when God hath done so much for us. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambler* No. 73 P. 1. The querulous are seldom received with great ardour of kindness. 1807 *WHEWELL Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) II. 149. He was naturally querulous and jaundiced in his views. 1879 *FROUDE Carlyle* xvi. 445. His sons and nephews were equally querulous and dissatisfied.

b. Of animals or things: Uttering or producing sounds expressive or suggestive of complaint.

1635 *SWAN Spec. M.* viii. 82 (1643) 409. The Lapping . . . is a querulous bird. a 1649 *W. CARTWRIGHT Poems, Corinna's Tomb* 18. Hither and Lutes they nightly bring, And gently touch each querulous string. 1749 *POMEROY Pastoral Ec.* 174. Ye purling querulous brooks! exchanged with grief. 1872 *DICKENS Haunted Man* (C. D. ed.) 305. One querulous rook, unable to sleep, protested now and then.

2. Of the nature of, characterized by, complaining.

c 1540 *tr. Pol. Very Eng. Hist.* (Camden) 100. Querulous reputation, as well of late as of almost forgotten faults. 1642 *HOWELL For. Trav.* (Arb.) 110. French . . . hath a whining kind of querulous tone. 1714 *Spec. No.* 618 P2. His Verification . . . should be soft, and all his Numbers flowing and querulous. 1783 *JOHNSON Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 10 June. I am almost maimed of this querulous letter. 1824 *DICKENS Dombey* xxiv. She uttered a querulous cry of disappointment and misery. 1874 *L. STEPHEN Hours in Library* (1892) II. vii. 225. The querulous comments of old ladies.

'querulously, *adv.* [f. prec. + *-ly*.] In a querulous manner.

1624 *GAUL Magastrom* 147. Querulously accusing her for playing with her own gifts. 1728 *YOUNG Love's Fame* vi. 138. His wounded ears complaints eternal fling, As unpol'd hinges, querulously shrill. 1812 *H. & J. SMITH Reg. Addr.* x. Objections . . . capiously urged and querulously maintained. 1883 *SIR T. MARTIN Let. Lyndhurst* xiv. 366. [They] complained almost querulously of the bitterness of Lord Lyndhurst's invectives.

'querulousness. [f. as prec. + *-NESS*.] The state or condition of being querulous.

1652 *J. AUDLEY Engl. Commonwealth* Dedd. To answer the querulousness of some persons. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambler* No. 50. 7 P. The querulousness and indignation which is observed so often [etc.]. 1828 *D'ISRAELI Chas. I.* i. 23. That impatient querulousness, which betrays its moments of weakness. 1884 *Expositor* Feb. 87. Querulousness and the capitiousness of despair took possession of them.

query ('kwɜri), sb. 1. Also 7-querre, querece, 7-8 quary. [Anglicizing of *querre*, *QUERE*.]

b. Introducing a question: = *QUERE* 1. Now rarely written in full, being usually expressed by the abbreviation *q.* (gr. q.) or the sign ?.

1607 *Perry's Diary* 23 Aug. Query, whether a glass-coach would have permitted us to have made the escape? 1732 *SWIFT Cor.* (1766) II. 690. That . . . the subscription be . . . paid into the hands of query. Mr. Thorn, . . . a very proper person? 1763 *HOYER Black-gammon* 200. Query, Whether the Probability is for his gaining more, or not? 1828 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. V. 185/2. It was afterwards repurchased by that monarch (but query if purchase money was ever paid).

2. a. A question: = *QUERE* 2.

a. 1648 *R. SYMONDS Diary* (Camden) 270. The cowardly commissioners . . . put queries. Where shall we have winter quarters? 1658 *J. DURHAM Exp. Revelation* (1680) vii. 342. This is the scope of the Quere. 1692 *BENTLEY Boyle Lect.* vi. (1735) 203. We are now enabled to give Answers to some bold Queries and Objections of Atheists. 1767 *A. YOUNG Farmer's Lett.* to People 270. It may . . . admit of a query, Whether the above expences are not too great for the crops to repay? 1813 *SCOTT Rokeby* i. x. [He] forced the embarrassed host to halt. By query close, direct reply. 1866 *Geo. ELIOT F. Holt* (1868) 22. She had prepared herself . . . to suppress all . . . queries which her son might resent.

b. a 1620 *CONYER Poems* (1897) 63. He that is guilty of no query here. Out-lasts his epitaph. 1648 *JENKYN Blind Guide* iv. 96. My first querece, is whether grace be an adjutory. 1684 *T. BURNET Thy Earth* ii. 218. A great many

queries and difficulties might be proposed relating to the millennium. 1719 *D'URSEY Pills* (1872) II. 99. What News, in the Query.

b. *spec.* In the Society of Friends, an item in a formal list of questions issued for the guidance of Friends; now freq. in phr. *Advices and Queries* (see quot. 1954).

1654 *BURNHOOD & HOWELL (style)* Answers to several queries put forth to the despised people called Quakers. 1701 *G. KEITH Answer to 17 Queries Quarterly Meeting Quakers, Oxford* 3. Those seventeen Queries ye sent me being only Queries, contain little or nothing Affirmative or Negatively, by way of position. 1768 in *Extracts Minutes Yearly Meeting Friends, London* (1783) 269. This meeting directs, that the 11th query remain as it now stands. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 737/2. At the quarterly-meeting are produced written answers from the monthly-meeting, to certain queries respecting the conduct of their members, and the meeting's care over them. 1898 *Friends' Q. Bazaar* 483. For about a century it was uncertain whether the interrogations addressed to the meetings of Friends should be termed 'questions' or 'queries'. The former term was chiefly employed up to 1762, but 'queries' has held the field since 1783. 1921 *R. M. JONES Later Periods of Quakerism* i. iv. 134. At first the Queries were formal questions asked for the sake of securing information in reference to the number of members suffering under persecution. *Ibid.* 135. As fresh moral issues arose . . . the list of Queries enlarged. They grew in number and in importance until they embodied almost all the essential aspects of the Quaker moral ideal, and they furnished a kind of silent confessional for each individual member, as well as a moral measuring rule to guide the Overseers in their work of looking after the flock. 1928 *Advices & Queries* (Society of Friends) 3. The Queries being directed in recent years to arouse the thought and conscience . . . rather than to obtain specific information. 1954 *H. LONGMANS Friends Face Reality* viii. 107. Quakers have performed this process of moral illumination of each other, while at the same time guarding against the danger of setting up an external moral code, by a system of 'Advices and Queries', moral and spiritual reflections couched in the form most calculated to set the individual searching his own heart.

3. A mark of interrogation (?), used to indicate a doubt as to the correctness of the statement, phrase, letter, etc. to which it is appended or refers; the abbreviation *q.* etc. used for the same purpose. Also written out as a quasi-adj. or -adv., preceding the word(s) to which it refers.

1836 in *SMART*. 1882- in *OGILVIE*, etc. 1922 *Jrnl. R. Naval Med. Service* XXVIII. 22. Admitted with a diagnosis of 'query' septicaemia. 1953 *R. LEHMANN Echoing Grobe* 61. 'You reminded me of someone I once knew. . . (Query her sister?) 1967 *G. F. FINNIES I tried to run a Railway* vi. 21. It would have had to be an unwary Hun that let me get near him with my mike-design. Circa 1500: origin query Birmingham Small Arms Company. 1972 *J. McCLURE Sunday Hangman* x. 109. 'Murders . . . snapped Colonel Muller. 'Query murders', corrected Kramer, recognising an urgent need . . . to treat the situation as routinely as possible.

† **query**, sb. 2. *Obs. rare⁻¹.* [App. f. *L. queri* to complain.] ? Complaint.

13. *E.E. Allit* P. A. 802. As a schep to be alast þer lad was he, & as lombe . . . So closed he hys mouth fro vch query.

query ('kwɜri), v. Also 7-querre. [f. *QUERY* sb. 1 Cf. *QUERE* v.]

1. a. *trans.* To put as a question. ? *Obs.*

1657 *Narr. late Parli. in Select. Fr. Hist. Misc.* (1793) 400. The like may be queried concerning the swordsmen's capacity to sit. 1661 *GLANVILLE Van. Dogn.* 188. It's queried whether there be any Science in the sense of the Dogmatists. 1726 *BERKELEY Let.* 12 Oct. in *Fraser Life* iv. (1871) 176. I do . . . entreat you to answer all that I have queried on that head. 1755 *B. MARTIN Mag. Arts & Sc.* 130. I shall suspend what I have further to query 'till To-morrow.

b. With interrogative clause or direct speech as obj.: To ask, inquire, put a question (whether, if, what, etc.). 1657 *S. PURCHAS Theat. Pol. Flying-Ins.* 13. Some query whether a living creature can subsist without the head. 1658 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep. v.* xxii. (ed. 3) 228. We shall not proceed to query, What truth there is in Palmistry. 1681 *E. MURPHY State Ireland* 440. The Deponent . . . queried if Captain Butler was come thither. 1756 *H. WALPOLE Lett.* to Mann 17 Oct. (1846) III. 245. Should not one query whether he had not those proofs in his hands antecedent to the cabinet? 1812 *SCOTT Hri. Mill* xiii. 'Shall we remove Mr. Butler?' queried the assistant. 1866 *WHITTIER Marg. Smith's Jrnl.* Fr. Wks. 1889 i. 64. On my querying whether any did find treasures hereabout, my aunt laughed. 1905 *Swampy Set* Sept. 119/2. 'Been here long?' I queried. 1976 *B. FRANKS The November Man* iii. 38. 'The elections?' queried Hollis.

c. *absol.* To ask a question or questions.

1651 *T. FLATMAN Heracles Rides* No. 4 (1713) i. 23. Nay! you be for that Spot, e'en Query by your self. 1720 *S. PURCHAS Bibliotheca Biblica* i. 394. He queried, and reason'd thus with himself. 1726 *FORB Dunc.* ii. 349. Each prompt to query, answer, and debate. 1824 *BYRON Lara* i. 1. note. A passenger queried as to the author.

2. To question, interrogate (a person): Now chiefly U.S.

1854 *GAYTON Pleas. Notes* 97. The Don . . . assaults the first pitiful Scout . . . whom he should have queried in this manner. 1690 *CHILD Eccl. Trade* (1698) 47. So I have been assured by many ancient men whom I have queried particularly as to this matter. 1890 *A. MURDOCH Yoshinara Epitaph in Fr. Austr. to Japan* (1892) 40. He began to query her about the financial part of the business. 1943 *Sun* (Baltimore) 30. Nov. 10. 'He queries me concerning the passage. 1952 *Time* 14. Apr. 17. Before an issue of Time goes to press . . . a twin-bed position may be dummed, a stringer queried for a checking point. 1974 *Spartanburg* (S. Carolina) *Herald* 18 Apr. 16/2. College

Students... who were queried at Iowa State University, have some curious ideas about what 'academic freedom' means. 1977 *Daily Times* (Lagos) 11 Jan. 20/2 When these officers were queried, they felt unhappy.

3. a. To call (a thing) in question; to mark as doubtful.

1772 *Ann. Reg.* 54/2 The returning officer... had queried 76 (votes). 1839 D'ISRAELI *Chron.* Lit. (1849) II. 254 Sir John... afterwards came to doubt it with a 'sed de hoc quare' query till 1961 (see BAR sb. 5).

b. To question, doubt, if, etc.
1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribblemania* 140. I very much query if two, and sometimes three of Sonini's Alpine pictures were not condensed into one by the author.

Hence 'querying' *vbl. sb. and ppl. a.*; 'queryingly' *adv.*; 'queryist' = *QUESTIST*.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 107 One able physician being asked... The querying person returned, that [etc.]. 1706 W. JONES *Synop. Palmar. Matheseos* 140 The Querying Term in the 3d. Place. 1863 *Reader* 19 Dec. 730 A queryist in the American Publishers' Circular. 1865 E. SUMMITT *Walk to Land's End* 286 A pair of baby-eyes, peering upward with querying wonder. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* July 275/1 The queryings of philosophy. 1890 *JEAN MIDDLEMORE* *Two Pale Moves* I. xv. 226 He looked at her queryingly.

queryster, obs. form of CHORISTER.

quesadilla (kesa'díla). [Sp.] A variety of turnover, usu. with a cheese filling.

1944 E. ZELAYÉA *Elena's Famous Mexican Sp. Recipes* iv. 33 Quesadilla. Tortilla Stuffed with Cheese. Take fresh tortillas... place generous piece of Monterey cream cheese... in the center, and fold it over as you would a turnover... Cook lightly, turning often until cheese is melted. 1957 *House Beautiful* Sept. 176/4 Quesadillas. Small, soft tortillas made into turnovers and filled with cheese or squash flowers or sometimes chicken *moll.* They are baked or deep-fat fried. 1963 *Sunset* Jan. 70/1 Quesadillas (Fruit and Cheese Turnovers). 1965 *House & Garden* Sept. 221/3 Quesadillas. These 'turnovers' are made with unbaked tortillas stuffed with a variety of fillings. 1978 *Chicago* June 240/1 Start with nachos... and quesadillas (miniature tortillas filled with guacamole or thick white cheese and onions—60c).

quesal, variant of QUTZAL.

quesing, question, obs. ff. COUSIN, CUSHION.

quested (kwí'satid), a. and sb. [f. mod.L. *questi-*, *quisi-*, ppl. stem of *querere* to seek + *-ED*. Cf. *QUESTUM*.]

†1. *adj.* Sought for, asked about, etc. *Obs. rare*.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* vi. 49 Significator of the Querent or thing quested. 1674 *JEAKE Arith.* (1696) 20 The remains are the Numbers quested.

2. *sb.* *Astrol.* The thing or person inquired about.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xx. 123 The Quested is he or she, or the thing sought and enquired after. 1881 *SHORTHOUSE* *J. Inglesant* I. xv. 282 A very good argument that the querent should see the quested speedily.

So 'questitious' a. = *QUESTED* is a *Obs. rare*. 'questive' a., interrogative. 'Questitive quantify, quantity expressed by an interrogative numeral' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1674 *JEAKE Arith.* (1696) 334 As in Extraction of Roots and Equations, A. is called the Suppositious or Questitious Root. 1690 *LEYBOURN* *Chr. Math.* 241 Multiplying the assumed Root b. + c in the place of the Questitious Root a.

quesomen: see QUEASOM.

quest (kwést), sb. 1. Also 4 *quiste*, 4-6 *queste*, 5-6 *wheat*, (qw-), 6 *queste*. [a. OF. *queste* (F. *quête*) = Prov. *questa*, *quista*, Sp. *cuesta*, It. *chiesta*:—póp. L. *questa*, pa. ppl. of *querere*, L. *querere* to seek, inquire: cf. *INQUEST* sb.]

1. 1. An official or judicial inquiry. = *INQUEST* sb. c. *Obs. exc. dial.* (cf. *CROWNER*).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5508 berof schal Gode take a quest. c.1320... *Chron.* (1810) 238 Of clippers, of rounners, of suilk takes he questis. 1377 *LANOL. P. Pl.* B. 161 Her syre was a syssour... ateynte at vch a queste. c.1440 *Gesta Rom.* I. lxx. 387 (Addit. MS.) When the lustice was comyn, he ordeyned a false queste. 1845 *BRINKLOW* *Lament.* (1874) 91 There is a custome in the Cytie, once a yeare to have a quest called the warmall queste, to redrease vices. a.1577 Sir T. SMITH *Commw.* Eng. (1609) 73 Enquest or quest is called this lawful kinde of trial by twelve men. 1694 *LITTRELL* *Bruf. Rel.* (1873) III. 447 The lord mayor and aldermen of London have forbid feasting at the quests. 1876—In dial. glossaries (Yks., Chesh., Som., etc.).

2. The body of persons appointed to hold an inquiry. = *INQUEST* sb. 2. Now *rare*.

13... *Beang. Nicod.* 243 in *Archio* new. Spr. LIII. 396 He chased a quest, on him to pas. c.1440 *Jacob & Well* 197 bou schalf... afterward be pougryd out with a quest of clerks. 1470-85 *MALORY* *Arthur* III. viii. By ordeunance of the quene there was set a quest of laydes on syr galuayn. 1549 *LATTIMER* *5th Serm. bef. Edw.* VI. (Arb.) 153 The quest comes in and says not guilty. 1579 *FULKE* *Hebbs* Parl. 499 He shoulde have twelve which make a quest, to give verdict in this matter. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* III. 1 Which is as if a theife should be tried by a quest of cup-purses. a.1661 *FULLER* *Worship* (1840) II. 483 One quest of gentlemen, another of yeomen passed upon him. 1706 (see *QUESTMAN* 1). a.1745 *HOOD* *To Tom Woodgate* vi. Twelve brave meymen for a quest. 1882 Sir J. James's *Case* 4 Jan. 3/2 The coroner's quest pronounces 'in accordance with the evidence'.

fig. c.1600 *SHAKS.* *Sonn.* xlv. To side this title is impannelled A quest of thoughts, all tennant to the heart.

†b. *transf.* A dozen (cf. quot. 1579 above). *Obs.*

1589 *Almond for Parrot* 14 He haue a spare fellows, shall make mee a whole quest of faces for three furlinges.

3. Any inquiry or investigation made in order to discover some fact; also, the object of such inquiry.

1598 *FLORIO* *Dict. Ep. Ded.* 3. I in this search or quest of inquirie haue spent most of my studies. 1627 *Lisander & Cal.* III. 39 The quest ended with no more knowledge than it began. 1737 *SWIFT* *To Earl of Oxford*. In quest, who might this person be. 1831 *CARLYLE* *Sart. Res.* II. viii. Let us not forget the great generality, which is our chief quest here. 1878 *Masque Poets* 191 The quest Half paused to ask in idle quest.

II. 4. Search or pursuit, made in order to find or obtain something. *Const. of, for.*

13... *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 39 Hit arit fettilled in on forme... & by quest of her quoyntye enquylen on mede. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1537) 60b. Peace & brotherly concord dissolve this quest & assaute of enuy. 1605 *SHAKS.* *Learn* I. 1. 106 What... Will you require in present Dowd with her, Or cease your quest of Love? 1693 H. VAUGHAN *Silks Selint.* I. Search (1838) 34 My Quest is vain. He'll not be found where he is slain. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 128 To rouse People into a Quest of Health. 1816 *BYRON* *Ch. Har.* III. lxxvi. Whose desire Was to be glorious; 'twas a foolish quest. 1874 *GREEN* *Short Hist.* viii. 14. 491 Luckily the quest of gold proved a vain one.

b. *Freq.* in phr. in quest of (after, or inf.). 1575 *CHURCHYARD* *Chippel* (1817) 24 In quest of solace, he retired to Bath. c.1600 *SHAKS.* *Sonn.* cxxix. Had, having; and in quest to haue. 1650 *BUTLER* *Hum.* I. iii. 233 He went in quest of Hudibras. 1705 *HARRIS* *Collect.* 6 Oct. (O.H.S.) I. 52 He is in quest after other Pieces. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch* II. 349 The ghost rides about to the scene of battle in nightly quest of his head. 1880 *GOULBURN* *Pers.* Rel. iv. i. (1873) 256 Eager running-to and fro in quest of worldly wealth.

†c. A person (or set of persons) employed in searching. *Obs. rare*—1.

1604 *SHAKS.* *Oth.* I. ii. 45 The Senate hath sent about three several Quests.

5. In mediæval romance: An expedition or adventure undertaken by a knight to procure some thing or achieve some exploit; the knights engaged in such an enterprise. Also *transf.*

c.1384 *CHAUCER* *H. Fame* III. 648 They that have do noble jesses And achieved all hir questes. c.1450 *Merlin* 503 Thei entered in to many questes forto knowe which was the beste knyght. 1470-85 *MALORY* *Arthur* xvi. xii. They supposed he was one of the quest of the Sangreal. 1590 *SPENCER* *F. Q.* III. vii. 53 Her well besettes that Quest. 1813 *SCOTT* *Treasure* I. xi. Rather he chose, that Monarch bold, On vent'rous quest to ride. 1880 *KINGSLEY* *Alb. Locke* xl. You are my servant now, by the laws of chivalry, and you must fulfil my quest. 1876 *GREEN* *Stray Stud.* 262 The Quest of *Aeneas* is no self-sought quest.

6. a. The search for game made by hounds. b. The baying of hounds in pursuit of game; a peculiar barking uttered by dogs when in sight of game. *Obs. exc. dial.*

13... *Gem. & Gr. Mat.* 1150 At be fyrst quethe of be quest quaked be wyldie. c.1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 40 Withe gret questes and quelles Bothe in frethes and felles. 1513 *DOUGLAS* *Aeneis* v. v. 26 For hundra quest it semyt the lift rife wald. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (Chetham Soc.) 12 Thus it stood to heare this merry quest I heard the natives of houndes that hunted best. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinith.* Hen. IV. lxxix; 'Twas not counsell d; vpon the doubtfull Quest The Game gets to safe Cover; or cry; of the Dogs when they have found the scent. 1790 *SWINBURNE* *Erchthou* 1306 Lo, night is arisen on the noon, and her hounds are in quest by day. 1878 *Cumblid. Gloss.* Quest, the early morning search for a hare by the scent of the hounds. 1886 *ELWORTHY* *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v. He don't never give no quest 'bout he's right 'pon it.

transf. 13... *S. Erkenbold* 133 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1891) 406 be masse he begynnes... With queste questis of queste with ful questis notes. a.1633 G. HERRERT *Temple*, *Comment* II. Gad not abroad at ev'ry quest and call Of an untrained hore or passion.

7. R.C.Ch. The collection of alms or donations for religious purposes.

1528 *ROY* *Rede me* (Arb.) 76 The observantis no people do spare, Makinge their quest every where With most importune cravynge. 1691 T. D'Emilliane's *Frands Romish Monks* 262 The Farmer (of Purgatory money) sends some of his Emmissaries into the Fields, to carry on the Quest there for the said Souls. 1748 *Earthquake Persu.* I. 85 If we consider the extraordinary Product of the Quest (for the Franciscans). 1873 *Brown* *Red Cott. Nr.* cap 971 When Marquise jokes 'My quest, forsooth! Each do it I scrape together goes for Peter-pence.'

8. *Comb.* as *quest-ale*, prob. ale of special quality (cf. *audit-ale*); *quest-ditter*, -*ganger*. = *QUEST-MONGER*. Also *QUEST-HOUSE*, -*MAN*.

c.1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxii. 24 All fals endytars, Quest-gangers, and lurers... Ar welcome to me. 1644 xix. 185 These rolles Ar of bakytars And fals quest-dytars. c.1704 T. BROWN *Pleas. Epistle* Wks. 1730 I. 116 Private deliberations over brawn and quest-ale.

†quest, sb. *Obs.* [Related to *QUETH* v., as *bequest* (q.v.) to *bequeath*.] A bequest.

c.1300 *Howell* 210 He made his quite swithe wel. c.1400 *Garnelyn* 64, I bysyke you... For gamelynes love, that my queste yonde. 1418 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 35 After my dettis payde and my questes fulfilled. 1478 *Crocombe Church-w. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 8 And Bryngs in of the quest of Water Bigge xijd.

So †questword. *Obs. rare*—1.

1792 *Archæologia* X. 197 The legacies or questword of the deceased supplied the rest.

quest (kwést), v. 1. [a. OF. *quester* (F. *quêter*), f. *queste* *QUEST* sb. 1.]

1. a. *intr.* Of hunting dogs, etc. To search for game. Also with *about*.

c.1350 *Ipomadon* (Kölbing) 619 A brachet of three beas, That ever wold trewly queste And security pursuew. c.1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 49 pay questede and quells By fryth and fellis. 1523 *SHELTON* *Garl. Laurell* 1460 The howndes bugan to yerne and to quest. 1567 *TORRELL* *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 133 Such [Dogs] as delight on the land, play their parts, either by swiftness of foot, or by often questing, to search out and to spring the bird. 1760 *BUTLER* *Rem.* (1759) II. 88 If they prosper they... give the Jackal some small Snip for his Pains in questing. 1826 *SCOTT* *Woodst.* xxxi. Bevis, questing about, found the body. 1854 J. F. LLOYD *Boasting* 142 *Quest*, draw for a hare. 1869 *M. Frost* *Last Place* Left 1. 60 We heard the shot then saw the spential questing. 1878 *Shooting Times & Country Mag.* 16-12 Dec. 275/2 Two short snoots on the horn... had howls questing among the tufts of coarse grass and gorse bushes.

fig. 1890 *SOUTHWELL* *M. Magd. Funeral* *Treasures* 173 Why doth thy sorrow quest so much upon the place where hain? 1668 *DRYDEN* *Euen's* *Love* II. 1. Cast about quickly! Range, quest, and spring a lie immediately.

b. Of animals: To search about for food.

1796 *Peterson* *Althorn.* (1809) 137 It would be natural for them (the whales) to quest about (or) that jelly they live upon. 1879 *JERRENS* *Amateur Pochet* III. 236 There was the pheasant not fifteen yards away; quietly questing about.

2. a. Of hunting dogs: To break out into a peculiar bark at the sight of game; to give tongue; to bark or yelp. *Obs. exc. dial.*

c.1420 in *Rel. Arth.* II. 7 Kennetis questede to quells. 1430 *brene* so any belle. 1470-85 *MALORY* *Arthur* III. xxi. This fyal bracher... lepte vpon hytt and whyned VI. 47. 1577 *STANVHURST* *Dact.* *Ind.* III. *Hobbes* VI. 47. The hunter may perceive the beast vesting out the one bank; the dogs questing on the other brim. 1716 *SWIFT* & *Milnes*. *Country* *Parry* 681 You shall then take care, that not at any time... he dare to quest or open his mouth; but that he keep so silent and mute as is possible. 1681 *ORWAY* *Soldier's* *Fort.* IV. (1735) 84 Lie still, you know, close, close... you had best quest, and spoil the Sport; you had. 1831 *MITFORD* in *L. Estrange* *Life* (1870) II. xiv. 328 Just before the coursing season began, he [a dog] began to dream of going out and 'quested' in his sleep. 1886 in *ELWORTHY* *W. Somerset Word-bk.*

†b. *transf.* Of frogs: To croak. *Obs. rare*—1. 1607 *TORRELL* *Serpents* (1658) 725 I mean the little Frog questing hoarse voyce again.

3. a. Of persons: To go about in search of something; to search or seek. Also with *about*, and *constr. after, for*. (Chiefly *transf.* from sense 1.)

1644 *HEYWOOD* *Captives* i. l. in *Bullen O. Pl.* IV. The too yeares I have quested to his home. 1686 F. SPENCER *to Varilla's* *Ho. Madris* 281 The young Lord had won the prize of a Tournament, and by questing after a pageantry. 1701 *COLLIER* *M. Arid.* (1726) 68 They went questing with flambeaux. 1864 *Miss Yonge* *Trials* I. 91 One of the bridal pairs... was seen questing about as if disposed to invade our premises. 1882 *STEVENSON* *Ment. & Portents* xvi. (1887) 288 Neither Mr. James nor the author... has ever gone questing after gold.

b. R. C. Ch. To ask for alms or 'donations'. 1748 *Earthquake Persu.* III. 303 If the Friars go into the Country, a questing for their Monastery. 1867 R. PALMER *Life Philip Howard* 104 There were not to be more than thirteen religious, who were pover, to quest or beg alms.

4. *trans.* a. To search for, pursue, seek out. 1751 *BYRON* *Enthusiasm* in *Poems* 1773 II. 34 *Avers* to Heav'n... They quest Annihilation's monst'rous Theme. 1842 *MISS MITFORD* in *Friendship*. *Mits Mitford* (1887) II. 9. 77 Flush found a hare, and quested it for two miles. 1855 *SINGLTON* *Virgil* I. 104 In noontide heats Quest out a shady dell. 1882 Sir E. ARNOLD *Pearly of Faith* xxviii. (1883) 99 A wild bee questing honey-buds.

b. To Thompson, request, demand. *rare*. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 35. [I] quested its secret of the sun.

†quest, v. *Obs. rare*. [cf. L.G. *questen*, var. *questen*, *quessen* (G. *quetschen*, Du. *kwetsen*) to press, squeeze,] *trans.* To crush.

1647 *HARVEY* *Schola Cordis* xv. 8 If Thy prease, stand, Mine heart may chance slip out. O quest it into nothing. 1694-92 *RAY* *N. C. Words* s.v. Pies are said to be quested, whose sides have been crushed by each other.

quest, variant of QUEST, ring-dove.

questane, obs. form of WHETSTONE.

†questant. *Obs. rare*—1. = *QUESTER*.

1601 *SHAKS.* *All's Well* II. i. 16 You come Not to woe honour, but to wed it, when The bravest questant shrinks.

quest-dove: see *QUEST*.

†quester (kwést(r)). [f. *QUEST* v. 1 + *-ER*.] One who quests, in senses of the vb.

a. 1350 *Image Hypocr.* IV. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1845) II. 440 Redy regesters, Pardoners and questers. 1707 J. STEVENS *Quested's* *Com. Wks.* (1709) 208 The wicked Quester tuck'd to his robe. 1718 *ROWE* *Lucan* IV. (R.). The questers, to the wood they loose, Who silently the tainted track pursue. 1875 *Downes* *Shakespeare* 10 It is the aesthetic quester, Galahad... who beholds the mystical Grail.

questeroun, variant of CUSTRON. *Obs.*

†questful, a. *rare*—1. [f. *QUEST* sb. 1 + *-FUL*.] Full of questing or searching.

1869 *LOWELL* *Invita Minerva* 246 The summer day he spent in questful round.

†**quest-house**. *Obs.* The house at which the inquests in a ward or parish were commonly held.

1571 *Acc. St. Giles, Cripplegate in MS. Addit.* 12222 [cited by Halliwell, s.v.]. 1007 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* i. D. v. Wks. 1571. 111. 12 Are all the Quest-houses broken vp? 1668 *Par. Diary* 20 Jan. At the Quest-house, where the company meets to the burial of my cousin Joyce. 1696 *Land. Gaz.* No. 3439/A At the Quest-house on Little-Tower-Hill is a Grammar-School. 1823 NARES *Let. to A. Dyce*. A Quest-house was the chief Watch-house in a parish. Some parishes in London still have them, e.g. St. Giles's Cripplegate.

†*fig.* 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* 102 It is a world, whose Work... Is vanity, and vexation: A Quest-house of complaint. attrib. 1628 SPELMAN *De Sepult.* (1647) 22 A Parish Audit, or a Quest-House dinner.

questing ('kwɛstɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. QUEST v. + -ING¹.] The action of the vb. in various senses.

1479-85 MALORY *Arthur* i. xix. The noyse was... lyke vnto the questing of xxx couply houndes. 1549-51 ELYOT *Image Gov. Pref.* (1561) 10. After two or three questynges, he lepte to the great Olyphant. 1609 FLOUKE *Montaigne* ii. xi. (1632) 238 A long questing and beating for some game. 1700 *Jen. COLLIER and Def. Short View* 118 All this questing has sprung but very little Game. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1853) 109 Nothing is more, certain than Dais's questing... for a better spaniel never went into the field. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* vi. (1848) 63 Must thou still Revel in bootless questings? 1923 M. SADLER *Desolate Splendour* iv. 72 From externals only need the weary questing of a stranger mind seek teaching or enlightenment.

questing ('kwɛstɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That quests, in senses of the vb.

1213 DOUGLAS *Æneid* xiii. li. 25 That the remanent of that questing sort... Wythdrawis. 1600 DRAVTON *Mistress Q. Margaret* xlvii. When they heare the questing Spaniels gone. 1714 *Earthquake* Peru i. 80 Even the Questing-brothers presume to interrupt People at their Prayers. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* iii. 211. Thred the brake like questing hound. 1880-P. FITZGERALD *Peter Zero* xxvii. 168 That questing, roving eye... that looks out of the corners sharply.

questingly, *adv.* [-LY¹.] In a questing manner.

1926 R. CLEMENTS *Stately Southerner* 89, I looked questingly right and left.

question ('kwɛstɪən), *sb.* Also 4 question, 4-6 -oun, question, (4 qw-, 5 -one, -oun), 5 whestion.

[a. AF. *questiun*, OF. *question* (Godef.), ad. L. *questiōn-em*, n. of action from *querere* to ask, inquire: cf. QUERE, QUERY.]

I. The action of inquiring or asking.

1. a. The stating or investigation of a problem; inquiry into a matter; discussion of some doubtful point. †to make question, to raise discussion or talk, to express or entertain doubt (whether, of, about). *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 249 Than mayis clerkis questioun... Quethir he his lordis. neid suld let. 1438-60 GUAICHAM *Kn.* t. 7. 1056 Peples. holdyng his questioun Duthynne of these Theban knyghtes two. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seynys* (Roxb.) 2 If be what or why Be questioun maad of this tretych [etc.]. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Prois.* i. 594 Questioun was made therof before the marshalles. 1599 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. 1. 6 The... quiet time Did push it out of farther question. 1628 R. BAKER *tr. Balzac's Lett.* II. 102 Let us... never make question whether we ought to call them infirmities of age, or fruits of reason. 1776 F. BURNES *Æneid* xxiv. 140 To consulting you... it was out of all question. 1824 J. MARSHALL *Const. Opin.* (1839) 311 We cannot perceive how the occupation of these vessels can be drawn into question. 1886 RUSKIN *Proterita* i. vi. 185 [My father] allowed it without question.

b. In adverbial phrases, as beyond (all) question, out of, past, without question: Unquestionably.

1586 T. B. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* 189 Out of question we will judge those men verie blinde. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* i. iii. 104 And why wouldst thou have mended my hair? To Past question. 1680-90 TAYLOR *Life*, *Heroic Virtue* Wks. 1731 f. 212 He was without Question, a Great and Heroick Genius. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc. Wks.* 1842 l. 571 The state of nature, without question, mankind was subjected to many and great inconveniences. 1818 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. viii. 684 He is beyond all question the most efficient of the chief rulers. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* v. 118 The Damocd... is beyond all question full of coarse abuse.

c. †in question, in dispute, in controversy, in a doubtful or undecided state. *Obs.* So also with into and in = into; chiefly, and now only, in phr. to call in question: see CALL v. 18.

1390 in *Rec. Coldingham Priory* (Surtess) 65 That whour righte be no more put in question. 1494 FARNHAM *Chron.* (1533) vii. cxxxiix. 138 b. Alonge whyte this fyghte stode in question, whether party shulde obteyne victorye. 1573 MORE in *Grafton Chron.* 1568 l. 11. 769 If it fortune the Crowne to come in question. 1599 *Dyaloge* l. Wks. 123/2 The thyng standinge in debate and question. 1598 JEWELL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 324 How could these so doubtful matters ever have fallen in question amongst your fellows. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sheriffs* 13 It hath bene in question and ambiguity. 1683 DRYDEN *Æneid* i. P. 4 Lines (1700) l. 18 The Pyrrhoniens... who bring all certainty in Question. 1720 WATERLAND *Eight Serms.* 138 Withm... supposing the Thing in Question. 1768 T. P. POWELL *Adm. Brit. Col.* (1774) l. 3 A right to call into question some... exertions of power.

d. in question, under consideration, forming the subject of discourse. †to come into question, to be thought of as possible.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* i. 1. 24 His Father... had (besides the Gentleman in question) Two other Sonnes. 1653 DOROTHY

OSBORNE *Let. to Sir W. Temple* (1888) 100 After dinner we sit and talk till Mr. B. comes in question, and then I am gone. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* i. i. He does not think his friend... ever saw the lady in question. 1831 MACINTOSH *Hist. Eng.* II. 96 The very ill-fated man in question was John de la Pole. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* i. 6. 7 The succession of masters was too rapid to allow a change of language to come into question among the greater... part of the people. 1893 TRAILL *Soc. Eng. Introd.* p. xxvii. Discoveries of a far-reaching... character, have during the period in question been made.

2. a. The action of questioning, interrogating, or examining a person, or the fact of being questioned, etc.; thence, talk; discourse.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* i. 1013 Fern he let the Prestes take... He put hem into question. 1456 SIR G. HAYL *Law. Arms* (S.T.S.) 185 He sw nocht to be stoppt, bot frely to have passage: shrou all realmes bot question. 1596 SHAKS. *March.* V. iv. 1. 346 Ie stay no longer question. 1609... *March.* iii. iv. 118 Ros. What sights, my Lord! L. I pray you speake not... Question enrageth him. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* ii. ii. 513 One Man... may do, whatever he pleases, without the question or controll. 1829 M. ARNOLD *Sonnets, Shaks.*, Others abide our question. Thou art free. 1869 TENNYSON *Coming Arthur* 311 Fixing full eyes of question on her face.

b. *spec.* The application of torture as part of a judicial examination.

1583 EXCE. *for Treason* (1675) 12 No one was called to any capital or bloody question upon matters of Religion. 1651 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) i. 275 A malefactor was to have the question, or torture, given to him. 1689 BURNET *Tracts* i. 80 The common Question that they give... is, that they tye the Hands of the suspected Person behind his back [etc.]. 1763 HUME *Hist. Eng.* III. li. 116 He urged too, that Felton should be put to the question in order to extort from him a discovery of his accomplices. 1871 H. AINSWORTH *Tower Hill* iii. xix. Let him be submitted to the question, ordinary and extraordinary.

c. in question: Under judicial examination; on trial. *Obs. rare.*

1599 HOMER *Trav.* (Hakluyt Soc.) App. 350 John Chapele... was symphonised almost a year, in question to have bene executed. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. ii. 68 He that was in question for the robbery.

d. to call in (for info) question: To examine judicially, bring to trial; to take to task, call to account.

1611 BIBLE *Acts* xix. 40 We are in danger to be called in question for this dayes uprore. 1641 BR. MONTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 90 Socrates... was called into question, and had sentence of death pronounced against him. 1647 J. CARTER *Nail & Wheel* 78 Presently he was called in question as a delinquent.

II. What is asked or inquired (about).

3. a. The interrogative statement of some point to be investigated or discussed; a problem; hence, a matter forming, or capable of forming, the basis of a problem; a subject involving more or less difficulty or uncertainty: the question; the precise matter receiving or requiring deliberation or discussion: to beg the question: see BEG v. 6.

1300 *Curior M.* 26104 bar-wit-al sum questiones we sal vndo pe merk reons. 1387 T. RYMER *Hagen* (Rolls) i. 15 Wel nyh al problems and questionis of the wise men. 1467 in *Rymer Foedera* (1710) XI. 579 ff. any Difficulte or Question in the Lawe happen to rise. 1510 MORE *Picus Wks.* 3/2 Some good simple folk, that should of see to the faith... impugne those questionis, as new thinges. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. 1. 227 But that is not the question: the question is concerning your marriage. 1665 BUTLER *Hud.* i. 1. 465 It was a Question, whether he Or's Horse were of a Family More, worshipful. 1768 T. POWELL *Adm. Brit. Col.* (1774) l. 7 This American question... must now come forward. 1824 KINGSLEY *Let.* (1878) i. 416 This is a question involving the lives of thousands and tens of thousands of human beings. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* II. xxv. 219 The Eastern Question it was that disturbed the dream of peace.

b. *spec.* A subject for discussion; a proposal to be debated or voted on, in a meeting or deliberative assembly, esp. in Parliament; the putting of this proposal to the vote. From the 18th cent., *spec.* a question put in Parliament by a Member to the Government or to a Minister. *question!*, used (a) to recall a speaker, to the subject under discussion, †(b) to demand that the vote be taken (quot. 1817). *previous question*: see PREVIOUS.

1549 *House of Commons Jral.* 28 Mar. 21/1 In the Question, it is agreed, That the Number, which said No to the Bill, be the greater Number by One Person. 1559 *Ibid.* 17 Apr. 60/1 Carnesew declared to the House, that Thrower, Servant to the Master of the Rolls, did say against the State of the House, that if a Bill were brought in for Womens Weyrs in their Pantes, they would dispute it, and go to the Question. 1624 *Ibid.* 13 Apr. 46/1 Mr. Hackwell:—That nothing to pass, by Order of the House, without a Question; and that no Order, without a Question Affirmative and Negative: And that ordered to be upon the Question. 1658-9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 37 The persons concerned must withdraw when any question is. 1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 24 Whereupon the greater number called for the Question, and had it in the Affirmative, that the Debate should be laid aside. 1778 *Parl. Rec.* 16 Dec. 181 Lord Newhaven put a variety of questions to the gentlemen belonging to the board of ordinance. 1791 *Debate Abokt.* Slave-Trade 119 A loud cry [being] kept up a considerable time for the question. 1817 *Harvard's Parl. Debates* XXXV. 758/2 Lord Cyprian rose, amidst reiterated cries of question, to state [etc.]. 1844 T. E. MAY *Treat. Law, Privileges, Proceedings & Usage of Parl.* viii. 166 Any member may propose a question, which is called 'moving

the house', or, more commonly, 'making a motion'. *Ibid.* 171 In the commons, when the motion has been seconded, it merges in the question, which is then proposed by the speaker to the house, and read by him. 1863 H. COX *Justit.* i. ix. 139 The Speaker... when it, has been seconded, proposes it to the House, and then the House are said to be in possession of the question. *Ibid.* 140 If it be wished to avoid a question, it is usual to move that the chairman do leave the chair. 1908 A. E. STEINTHAL *tr. Redlich's Procedures House of Commons* II. vii. vi. 241 Requests for information, 'Questions' are regularly addressed by members of the House to the Government, and at times to the Speaker or to private members. 1909 G. F. M. CAMPION *Introd. Procedures House of Commons* iv. 124 Oral Questions are by far the most numerous. To them is allotted the whole of 'Question-time' proper, i.e. from not later than three o'clock to not later than a quarter to four. 1926 P. HOWARTH *Questions in House* i. 17 Apart from the procedural reasons, there were also reasons of a political or a constitutional nature why the custom of asking parliamentary questions developed slowly. 1928 S. HYLAND *Who goes Hang?* xvi. 72 As the only office-holder present, he knew about the Colonial Secretary's statement due at the end of Questions. 1971 P. D. G. THOMAS *House of Commons in 18th Cent.* ii. 30 The eighteenth century saw the evolution of the Parliamentary question. *Ibid.* 32 Questions in the House proper may well have been established practice long before the first instance found of a question put to and answered by a minister. 1976 *Ann. Rep. Howard League for Penal Reform* 1975/6 6 On the Bill Bill... the two organizations suggested a number of amendments... We are grateful to several MP's who asked Questions, some at our suggestion.

c. Const. (of the subject-matter or sphere). Now freq. in phr. it is a question of = what is required or involved is, etc.

1382a WYCLIF *Acts* xviii. 15 If questions ben of the word, and names of the lawe. 1596 TINDAL *Acts* xviii. 15 If it be a question off wordes or off names or of yourte lawe. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Reg. Addr.* *Living Letters* li. The question of Houses I leave to the jury. 1896 J. GILBERT *Ch. Atoms* ix. (1852) 275 The recovery of transgressors is no question of mere power. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) i. iv. 223 It was a question of time.

d. Phr. out of the question, foreign to the subject; hence, not to be considered or thought of.

1700 COLLIER *2nd Def. Short View* 122 His Objection... is out of the Question. 1815 B. NISS BUNSEN in *Hare Life* (1879) i. iii. 88 To go on describing the different effects... is out of the question. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carriage* 210 The third alternative was no longer open... for retreat was out of the question. 1930 G. B. SHAW *Apple Cart* i. 17 You cant. You mustn't. Of course not. Out of the question. 1977 A. ECCLESTONS *Staircase for Sticks* iv. 76 Anything like an attempt to impose a parochial structure, new or old, was out of the question.

4. A subject of discussion, debate, or strife between parties, or of one party with another.

OF question occurs freq. in the sense of 'difference', 'dispute', 'quarrel'.

1382a WYCLIF *John* iii. 25 A question is, mind of Johnis discipulis with the Jewis, of the purgacion. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* vii. 4148 A question betwix the two Tuo Thus written in a bok I fond. 1456 SIR G. HAYL *Law. Arms* (S.T.S.) 115 It refers to the constable to here all questionis, querrels and compleynis of his menze. 1484 CARTON *Robins of Scop* v. 2. Tell me your reons and caas... that the better I may styre the sentence of your dyferent and question. 1534 BELLENDEN *Livy* iii. xxv. Be amyn place & kind, of quillk now pe questionis occurris [cf. infra for quillk pe debate occurris]. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr.* 2 *Cr.* ii. ii. 18 Since the first sword was drawe about this question. 1828 CAUVIS *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 249 A question arose between the heir at law and the younger children, whether it passed by the will.

5. a. In negative expressions, if is no (or not a) question, there is no question, for simply no question: There is no room for dispute or doubt (but, that), to make no question: To raise or entertain no doubt (of or about a thing, but or inf.).

1583 W. FULKE *Def. Tr. Script.* Pref. 5 We make no question but that it is Apotolitical. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. ii. 61. I am able to endure much. No question of that. 1598 — *March.* V. i. 1. 184. I no question make To have it. 1605 VERSTERMAN *Dec. Intell.* ii. (1628) 35 That our Saxon ancestors came out of Germanie. is no question. 1625 BURGESS *Pers. Tithes* 2 My Purpose is not here to fall upon that Question, (for I make no Question of it) Whether [etc.]. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 59 P. 3. I make no Question but it would have been looked upon as one of the most valuable Treasures of the Greek Tongue. 1825 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* i. ix. I cannot make a question... about that; it is a certainty. 1845 McCULLOCH *Taxation Introd.* (1852) 212/2 It is no longer a question that the disgust occasioned by this inequality... mainly contributed to throw France into a flame.

b. No question (used parenthetically): No doubt, without question. *Obs.*

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 27. We have set at naught... the poore... whose accusations, no question, are gone vp into heauen. 1621 BR. MONTAGU *Diatribe* 273 Alluding, no question, vnto that of the Psalmist. 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 260 This no question is his meaning. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1884) 125 There were, no Question, Accounts kept of their Charity.

c. No questions asked: with no need to give an account of oneself or one's conduct.

1948 M. LASKI *Tory Heaven* ix. 121 Under the old system, I could have had the pair of them and no questions asked. 1962 WOODHOUSE *Service with Smile* x. 160 Give him a skipper and a little daughter... and he could have him straight for the reef of Norman's Woe, and no questions asked. 1968 *Listener* 4 July 30/2 They can... sign a contract with a sports or tobacco firm and will then be... able to play lawn tennis for profit 365 days in the year—and no questions asked.

6. a. A sentence of interrogative form, addressed by one person to another in order to elicit information; an interrogation, query, inquiry: *a good question*: see GOOD a. 14c.

1300 *Cursor M.* 22891 (Cort.) An crafti clerk... asked him a question of a wolf and a leon. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 8288 Now may you ask me. A question, and say: Salle pai [etc.]? 1400-50 *Alexander* 1110 Inquire me night pi question, I queth it be neuer. c. 1485 *Digby Myst.* iv. 1311 Ye askit hym... a wheation. 1580 *Sidney Ps.* xlii. ii. Their daily questions. Where is now thy God so good? 1665 *Boyle Ocas. Refl.* iv. xvii. Before we could answer that Question, we must ask one of him, which was, what he had been doing. 1773 *GOLDSM.* *Stoeps to Cong.* iii. 111 Ask me no questions and I'll tell you no fibs. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 731a If you do not give plain answer to a plain question, you will be committed. 1869 *Q. Rev.* July 211 Go and put that question to the great armies of Austria.

†b. *questions and commands*, the name of a game in which one person addressed ludicrous questions and commands to each member of the company. *Obs.*

1673 *WHENERLEY Gentl. Dancing-Master* ii. ii. He is as dull as a country-squire at questions and commands. 1799 *STERLE Teller* No. 144. ¶ Just as one is chosen King at the game of Questions and Commands. 1731 *FIELDING Grub St. Opera* iii. vii. Unless when we have [jessed] at questions and commands.

c. *Sc. in pl.* The catechism (cf. *question-book* in 7). Also *transf.*

1795 *BURNS Election v.* The billie is gettin' his questions, To say in St. Stephen's the morn. 1893 *STEVENSON Catriona* 31. I judged... he would think the better of me if I knew the questions.

d. In various proverbial phrases and expressions, as *ask me no questions and I'll tell you no lies* and *varr.*; a *civil question deserves a civil answer* and *varr.* Also *ask a silly question and you get a silly answer*: see SILLY a.

1773 *GOLDSMITH She stoeps to Cong.* iii. 51 Ask me no questions and I'll tell you no fibs. 1828 *SCOTT Hi. Midl.* i. 247 If ye'll ask me questions, I'll tell ye nae lies. 1844 *T. C. HALLIBURTON* *Despatch* and *Ser.* ii. iv. 62 Let me give you a piece of advice:—Ask me no questions, and I'll tell you no lies. 1853—*Sam Slick's Wise Sawy* ii. 48 Give a civil answer to a civil question. 1858 *S. A. HAMMERT* *Piney Woods Tavern* xxvii. 285 The Squire there asked me a civil question, and that depraves a civil answer,—at least that's my manner where I come from. 1906 *H. LAYSON* *Over Sliprails* 135 'Where did you buy the steer, father?' she asked. 'Ask no questions and hear no lies.' 1965 *W. C. MACDONALD* *Destiny Danger* xii. 140 Quait smiled. 'Ask me no questions, I'll tell you no lies.' 1970 *V. CANNING* *Great Affair* xii. 221 'What has happened to Sarah?' 'Ask no questions hear no lies.'

III. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.*, as *question-box*, *-howr*, b. *objective and objective gen.*, as *question-answerer*, *-answering*, *-asking*, *-beggar*, *-begging* (see BEG v. 6), *-putting*, *-raising*, *obj.* or *adjs.*; c. *phrasal*: see QUESTION AND ANSWER; d. *question-book Sc.*, a catechism (formerly often containing also the alphabet or a spelling-book); *question-master*, the chairman of a discussion panel (FANEL sb. 5 b), by whom the questions are put; *question pitch*, the rising intonation of an interrogative sentence; †*question-sick*, having a mania for questioning; *question-stop*, = QUESTION MARK; *question time*; *spec.* a time set apart in Parliament for Members to question Ministers; †*question-wise adv.*, as a question; *question word*, an interrogative pronoun, etc., used to introduce a question.

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Jan. 9/2 (Adv.). It is also a great question-answerer, or work of reference. 1972 *Computers & Humanities* VII. 9. Simmons is particularly good in describing the extensive progress made in second-generation question-answering systems. 1977 *Daridals* Fall 123 The Various attempts to process natural language by machine—analysis and synthesis of speech, automatic translation, question-answering... and the like. 1824 *E. YATES* *Recoll.* (ed. Tauchh.) II. vii. 350 Much is said of... their constant question-asking. 1938 *Ann. Rev.* 1937 CLXXIX. 263 To the same melody of generations in England belong Mr. Richard Aldington's *The Crystal World*, and Mr. W. H. Auden's question-asking *Spain*. 1973 *Jrnl. Social Psychol.* LXXXVII. 9 English praise delivered to small groups of these children by a familiar Anglo adult exerted some degree of reinforcing effects on their question-asking behavior. 1935 *A. P. HENBERT* *What a Word!* viii. 229 The chief kind is the Question-beggar, the epithet or phrase which assumes or imputes that the question under discussion has been conclusively answered already. 1824 *J. BENTHAM* *Book of Fallacies* iv. i. 213 (heading) Fallacies of Confusion, the object of which is, to perplex. When Discussion can no longer be avoided... Question-begging appellatives. c. 1860 *WHATELY Comm-pl. Bk.* (1864) 263 What Jeremy Bentham calls 'question-begging appellatives'. 1865 *Geo. ELIOT Romola* III. xiii. 130 There was no argument more widely convincing than question-begging phrases in large type. 1920 *A. SIDOWICK* *Application of Logic*, vii. 317 Question-begging in the extended sense... occurs just as far as any attempt is made on the part of either disputant to prevent question-raising. 1911 *H. G. WELLS* *New Machiavelli* i. iv. 113. I scoffed at that pompous question-begging word 'Evolution'. 1957 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Dec. 782/4 He is not above question-begging in the most ingenious way. 1979 *C. MOULZ* in *M. Coulter* *Incarnation & Myth* v. 138 Evidence of this kind in no way depends upon question-begging theories of scriptural authority. 1970 in *Wodrow's Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1828) II. 34 Having a mind to learn to read, I bought a Question Book. 1946 *L. MACNEICE* *Dark Tower* (1947) 165

Listeners will have the privilege of hearing a number of experts on Truth, all of them equally infallible: our question-master is the March Hare. 1924 *Gloucestershire Echo* 3 Oct. 6/2 It has become traditional for the Festival to end... with a Brains Trust. With Gilbert Harding as question-master and... a varied team. 1977 'E. CRISPIN' *Climpse of Moon* ii. 36 The bright, uncommitted fashion of a television question-master... in a quiz. 1933 *L. BLOOMFIELD* in *Saporta & Bastien Psycholinguistics* (1961) 244/2 *Yaah!* and *Is that so!* with a peculiar modification of the question-pitch, have been used as facetious vulgarisms expressing disbelief. 1964 *C. C. FRIS* in *D. Abercrombie et al.* *David Jones* 244 Formal yes-or-no questions, along with question-pitch. 1884 *E. W. HAMILTON* *Diary* 30 July (1972) II. 663 My main points are:... 2. Confinement of question-putting to Private Members' nights [etc.]. 1910 Question-raising [see question-begging above]. 1959 *Times* 25 Sept. 8/4 Curious and question-raising as they are, the megapodes are worth a more serious... programme of research. 1647 *TRAPP* *Comm. Acts* viii. 24 All Christ's scholars are questionists, though not question-sick. 1862 *T. A. TROLOPE* *Marietta* I. xi. 200 Looking at her like a question stop. 1852 *Mrs. GASKELL* *Let.* 4 Sept. (1966) 107 (heading) Saty schoolroom, Question-time. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 28 Feb. 6/1 Sitting apathetically through a rather lively question time. 1892 *W. Member for Essex* *Diurnal* of his Day: 281 Colonel Makins, the... afternoon about a Disolution. I repeat 'Oh, nonsense!' This was during 'Question-time'. 1926 *H. NICOLSON* *Diary* 3 Dec. (1966) 281 Members crowd in as question-time draws to its end. 1976 *H. WILSON* *Governance of Britain* vii. 132 Harold Macmillan, a highly successful performer at Question time. 1642 *R. HARRIS* *Sermon* 29 If we follow Chrysostom's sense... and read the words Question-wise, Will he suffer long? 1924 *H. E. PALMER* *Gram. Spoken Eng.* 263 In Direct Questions, the question-words are said to be interrogative; in Indirect Questions, they are said to be conjunctive. 1964 *E. ULDAHL* in *D. Abercrombie et al.* *David Jones* 274 Question-word question: 'What did he think they were doing?' 1976 *Language* LIV. 86 In English, questions are typically initiated by question words or verbs, so as to distinguish them from declarative sentences.

question ('kwestion), v. Also 5-6-*yon*, (5-*one*). [a. OF. *questionner* (13th c.); f. *question* QUESTION sb.]

1. a. *trans.* To ask a question or questions of (a person or fig. a thing); to interrogate. †Also with double object (quot. 1604).

1490 *CAXTON* *Exordium* v. 38 Fame... sette herself... with the porters and mynysters for to questione theym. 1600 *SHAKS. A.Y.L.* ii. iv. 64 One of you question yon d man, If he for gold will give vs any foode. 1604—*Oh.* i. iii. 129 Her Father... Still question'd me the storie of my life. 1754 *SWIFT* *Imit. Hor.* ii. vi. And question the of this and that. 1814 *CARY* *Dante, Paradise* iii. 133. I to question her became less prompt. 1863 *Geo. ELIOT* *Romola* Introd. 'The night-student, who had been questioning the stars or the ages... for that hidden knowledge.'

b. To examine judicially; hence, to call to account, challenge, accuse (of). Now *rare*.

1637 *HEYLIN* *Ann.* *Burton* 60 When you were questioned publicly for your misdemeanours. a 1641 *Br. MOUNTAGU* *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 240 *Scrammell* was questioned and condemned at Athens. 1656 *BARNWELL* *Replic.* ii. 96 He had rather his own Church should be questioned of Idolatry. 1789 *Constitution U.S. Art.* i. § 6 For any speech or debate in either house [members of Congress] shall not be questioned in any other place. 1839 *MACAULAY* *Ess.* (1843) II. 458 [He] cannot be questioned before any tribunal for his baseness and ingratitude.

c. To challenge, defy (one) to do something. *Obs. rare*—1.

1643 *Sir T. BROWN* *Relig. Med.* i. § 27. I cannot see why the Angel of God should question Eadras to recall the time past, if it were beyond his own power.

†2. *intr.* To question with: To ask questions of; to hold discourse or conversation with; to dispute with. *Obs.*

1470-85 *MALORY* *Arthur* x. iv. These two knyghtes mette with syre Tristram and questioned with hym. 1585 *Emm. Decades* 10. I questioned with hym as concerninge the elevation of the pole. 1614 *JACKSON* *Crad* iii. i. § 5 Little would it boote vs to question with them about their meaning. 1760-72 *H. BROOKS* *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 97. I was not far from murmuring and questioning with my God.

3. a. *intr.* To ask or put questions.

1584 *LYLY* *Campaspe* v. ii. The sighs when he questioned, may breed in him a jealousy. 1933 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* iii. ii. 122 Goe wee... to the man that took him To question of his apprehension. 1606 *D'EWEIS* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. III. 217 Others hearing not well what he said hindred those by questioning which might have heard. 1725 *Pope* *Odyss.* xxiii. 110. I scarce uplift my eyes, Nor dare to question. 1828 *LOWES* *M. Standish* ix. 53 Questioning, answering... and each interrupting the other.

b. *trans.* with clause stating the question, ?*Obs.*

1592 *GREENE* *Upsl. Courtier* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 237. I... was so bound as to question what they were, and of their businesses. 1612 *SHAKS. Wind.* T. ii. 433 'Tis safer to Asoid what's growne, then question how 'tis borne. 1653 *Thomas Lovell*, II. xxi. 119 They never questioned what crime he had done.

†c. *intr.* To inquire or seek after. *Obs. rare*—1.

1606 *G. WOODCOCKE* *Hist. Justice* xxxi. 105 Which flattery... so much delighted him that them which before his affection hated, now his desire earnestly questioned after.

4. a. *trans.* To make a question of, to raise the question (whether, if, etc.); hence, to doubt, hold as uncertain.

1533 *FIRTH* *Ann.* *Mure Wks.* (1572) 33 Whether it be so or not it may be questioned. 1699 *BLUNDELL* *Diary* (1836) 356. I sent you a letter... but I question whether you received it. 1748 *P. THOMAS* *Jrnl. Astro.* Voy. 286. I much question if those who left them had once fired them. 1758 *JOHNSON*

Idler No. 4. ¶ No man can question whether wounds and sickness are not really painful. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 408/1 Whether the request... can be complied with... may be questioned.

b. In negative expressions, as *I do not question* (but, etc.) = I have no doubt, I am sure (that); also *pass.* (cf. §) *it cannot be questioned* = it is certain; etc.

1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* ii. iv. 50 It will not be to question'd, That they had gather'd a five shilling Council. 1687 *T. BROWN* *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 82. I... question not but you'll do me and these two martyrs justice. a 1720 *SEWEL* *Hist. Quakers* (1793) I. Pref. 23 Some cases which I did not question to be true. 1749 *FIELDING* *Tom Jones* xviii. ii. He did not in the least question succeeding with his daughter. 1866 *HUXLEY* in *Sci. Opin.* 21 Apr. 464/3 Not can it be questioned that [etc.]. 1878 *SIMPSON* *Sch. Shaks.* I. 120 He did not question but the native Irish would join him.

5. a. To call in question, dispute, oppose.

1622 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 278 Wee question the truth of your information. 1647 *N. BACON* *Disc. Govt.* Reg. v. Ex. (1739) 112 This the wilful Archbishop never questioned. 1811 He questioned all Authority. 1781 *GIBSON* *Decl. & F.* xxviii. III. 3 The worthless delegates of his power, whose merit it was made sacrifice to question. 1832 *H. MARTINEAU* *Life in Wilds* vii. 96 There would be no true humility in questioning your decision. 1883 *FROUDE* *Short Stud.* IV. ii. i. 164 Any one who openly questioned the truth of Christianity was treated as a public offender.

b. To bring into question, make doubtful or insecure. *rare*.

1637 *HEYWOOD* *Royall King* iii. Wks. 1874 VI. 43 This emulation Begrets our hate, and questions him of life. 1763 *SUCKLING* *Gobline* v. (1646) 58 Behold (grave Lords) the man Whose death questioned the life of these. 1879 *G. MERRETT* *Egoist* III. xiv. 201 At the game of Chess it is the dishonour of our adversary when we are stale-mated; but in life... such a winning of the game questions our sentiments.

†c. To state as a question. *Obs. rare*—1.

1643 *Sir T. BROWN* *Relig. Med.* i. § 21. Myself could shew a Catalogue of doubts, never yet imagined nor questioned.

†6. To ask or inquire about, to investigate (a thing). *Obs. rare*.

1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* ii. iv. 142 Dispatch vs with all speed, least that our King Come here himselfe to question our delay. a 1633 *AUSTIN* *Madir.* (1635) 133 When they Question such things, as the Holy-ghost is silent in. 1859 *STANLEY* *Hitt. Philos.* iii. (1701) 87/1 Socrates asked them if... he might be permitted to question what he understood not.

questions' bility, = QUESTIONABILITY.

1845 *CARLYLE* *Cromwell* (1871) V. 135 Widenning into new dressings, new questionability. 1966 *Lutetian* i Sept. 317/3 It is in the fact that only one of this grossly neglected composer's works has appeared that the questionability lies. 1969 *R. HARRIS* *World of Thriller* ii. 51 Only occasionally for most men is life reduced to total questionability by any particular situation.

questionable ('kwestionəb(ə)l), a. [f. QUESTION v. + -ABLE.]

†1. a. Of a person: That may be interrogated; of whom questions may be asked. b. Of a question: That may be asked or put. c. Of a place: Where questions may easily be asked. *Obs. rare*.

1590 *C. S. Right Relig.* i It is a question, scarce questionable. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* i. iv. 43 Those com'st in such a questionable shape, That I will speake to thee. 1607 *MIDDLETON* *Five Gallants* ii. iii. In such public as a tavern, such a questionable place. [1878 *SIMPSON* *Sch. Shaks.* II. 119 (tr. *Prodigal Son*) Holihi! boy... Stay still and be questionable. Tell me [etc.].]

†2. Of persons or acts: Liable to be called to account or dealt with judicially. *Obs.*

1630 *GENTILIUS* *Servius' Inquis.* (1676) 833 The delinquent shall be sent to the place where he is questionable for spiritual Matters. 1660 *Trial* Regic. 51 Whatever was done by their Commands, or their Authority, is not questionable by their Lordships. 1685 *COTTON* tr. *Montaigne* (1877) I. 60 Many have thought we are not fairly questionable for anything but what we commit against our conscience.

3. Of things, facts, etc.: That may be questioned or called in question (rarely const. by); open to question or dispute; doubtful, uncertain. Freq. in phr. it is questionable (whether, if, etc.).

1607 *TOPPALL* *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 96 It is questionable, whether they have any Hindees or females. 1643 *PRYNNE* *Treach.* 8 *Disloyalty* iii. 127 (R.) Making it a thing not questionable by our Prelates and Clergie. 1685 *LADY REMELL* in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) i. 34 The Queen, is not at all well... the questionable if she can endure the ceremony of the Coronation. 1772 *JUNIOR* *Lett.* Dec. 6 The right of juries to return a general verdict, in all cases whatsoever is... not, in any shape questionable by the legislature. 1790 *BURKE* *Fr. Rev.* 63 Whatever rendered property questionable, ambiguous, and insecure. 1828 *CRUIK* *Dyest* (ed. 2) IV. 147 This doctrine is very questionable. 1882 *SIMPSON* *Treas. Dev.* Ps. xxvii. Introd. They have ventured upon so many other questionable statements that we are not bound to receive this dictum. 1883 *Sir J. C. MATTHEW* in *Law Rep.* 12 *Queen's Bench* Div. 502 It was very questionable whether the words used were defamatory per se.

b. Of doubtful or obscure meaning. *rare*.

1724 *RICHARDSON* *Pamela* III. 408 When I cannot answer for myself, to render anything dark or questionable in it. 1835 *J. TAYLOR* *Spir. Despot.* iv. 119 In the lapse of ages, the phraseology of law may become first obsolete, and then questionable.

c. of qualities, properties, etc.: About the existence or presence of which there may be question.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. vii. The propriety of importing any of our school books from Great Britain... is very questionable. 1856 KANE *Amer. Expl.* I. xii. 123 The questionable privilege of having as many wives as he could support. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 5/1 Either its object is of questionable expediency, or its work is imperfectly done.

d. Of doubtful nature, character, or quality; dubious in respect of goodness, respectability, etc.

1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* II. 261 There are a thousand questionable thoughts rushing at once upon my mind. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas.* I. ii. 203 Stick not even at questionable means. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* iii. 79 A coolness ensued between the principal and his partners in consequence of these questionable dealings.

'questionableness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The state of being questionable; doubtfulness, etc.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xxii. (1713) 158 *marc.* From the questionableness whether there does not as much good redound to the Universe. 1827 DR QUINCY *Keats Wks.* 1862 V. 270 The questionableness of its particular statements. 1867 C. J. SMITH *Syn. & Antonyms* s.v. *Apparent*. The adverb apparently admits the sense of questionableness still more strongly.

'questionably, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY².] In a questionable manner.

1859 WILSON & GEIKIE *Mem. E. Forbes* i. 8 This dim prehistoric dawn, through which the shadowy figures of... Druids questionably hover. 1885 *Mag. of Art* Sept. 443/1 An eccentric and questionably drawn performance.

†'questional, *a.* *Obs. rare* -1. [f. QUESTION *sb.* + -AL¹.] Relating to questions.

1607 R. C. tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* xxxix. 327 The Decretals have had their part... the Questionall, Distinctionall, Quodlibetall bookes... theirs.

question and answer. A dialogue consisting of alternate question and answer. Also (with hyphens) *attrib.*; occas. also **question-answer**.

1817 KEATS *Let.* 10 Sept. (1931) 39 My dear Fanny, Let us now begin a regular question and answer... a little pro and con. 1839 *Let. fr. Madras* (1843) 255 The question-and-answer lessons on Scripture History. 1908 Mrs. H. WARD *Diana Mallory* II. xii. 237 The trivial question-and-answer of the tea-making. 1940 N. MARSH *Surfeit of Lamprays* (1941) xiii. 187 She maintained a question-and-answer attitude, replying in the most meagre phrases. 1941 L. MACNICKE *Poetry of W. B. Yeats* i. 14 He may be answering quite different questions from mine but the question-answers which he evolves are the same kind of organism, and result from the same kind of activity as my own question-answers. 1945 C. S. LEWIS *Great Divorce* 41 That question-and-answer conception of thought only applies to matter of fact. 1957 E. BOTT *Family & Social Network* II. 42 The question-and-answer pattern of fact-collecting. 1960 *Guardian* 9 June 9/1 Police interrogators... now hold a daily question-and-answer session with the former Nazi. 1965 *Language* XL.1. 387 The question-answer pair *What does he do? He draws cartoons* can be analyzed in the same way. 1977 *Oxford Diocesan Mag.* Oct. 20/2 It was decided to organise... a question-and-answer programme on an electronic screen. 1980 *English World* 'ide I. 1. 28 It is not easy to elicit syntactic information by using the short direct question-answer technique.

†'questionary, *sb.* *Obs. rare*. Also 9 *quæst.* [ad. med. L. *questionāri-us*: see QUESTION and -ARY¹.] 1. = QUESTIONIST.

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 3. I trowe pies pinges here contenyd, of pies questioners... may not be vnderstandyd. 1563 FOX *A. & M.* 589/2 Then did he rede openly... Paules Epistles, and put by Douns and Dorel, & yet he was a questionary him selfe. 1787 *Minor* II. xi. 141 Are you become a questionary at this time of day?

2. = QUESTION I.

1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxvii. A questionary or pardoner, one of those itinerant who hawked about... reliques.

'questionary, *sb.* ² [ad. med. L. *questionārium*; or, in mod. use, ad. F. *questionnaire*: see -ARY¹.] A list of questions; *fr.* a treatise in the form of questions, a catechism. Also *attrib.*

Now largely superseded by QUESTIONNAIRE, exc. in *Med.* use.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Pref. This lyttell questionary & formulary... have ben often requyred and sought for. 1887 *Athenaeum* 10 Sept. 345/3 Answers to the society's questionnaire of sociology and ethnography. 1951 *Lancet* 7 July 23/1 The questionnaire method used in this particular study has certain limitations. 1957 *Brit. Med. J.* 7 Sept. 750/2 The clinical concept of the disappointed undergraduate is therefore given some support by the answers to a general questionnaire. 1959 *Times* 5 Sept. 10/2 The proposed Welsh dialect atlas, information for which was gathered by means of a questionnaire of about 1,000 items. 1970 *Jrnl. Gen. Psychol.* Jan. 97 How did you answer when the item was difficult? And why did you answer in such a manner? (verbalization questionnaire). 1977 *Lancet* 27 Aug. 417/2 After 21 days, the patient was interviewed by one of us... using a standard questionnaire.

questionary ('kwɛstjənəri), *a.* [ad. late L. *quæst-*, *questionāri-us* (Boethius): see QUESTION and -ARY¹.]

1. Having the form of a question; consisting of questions; conducted by means of questioning.

1653 MANTON *Exp. James* iii. 13 The questionnaire proposal intimates the rare contemporaneity of these two qualities. 19175 BURNET *Owen Time* (1724) 1. 35 The questionnaire trial came last, Every Minister asking such

questions as he pleased. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 60 The reply confirms the meaning of the questionnaire salute. 1838 CHALMERS *Wks.* XIII. 75 Let us institute a questionnaire process upon the doings.

2. That asks questions. *rare* -1.

1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 80 ¶6 Let those two questionnaire Petitioners try to do thus with their Who's and their Whiches.

†'questionatively, *adv.* *Obs. rare* -1. [Perh. on anal. of *interrogatively*, *imperatively*, etc.] As a question.

1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 7 These words are put questionatively.

questioned ('kwɛstjənd), *ppl. a.* [f. QUESTION *v.* + -ED¹.] That is questioned, in senses of the *vb.* Also *absol.* as *sb.*

1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillf.* xxxiv. 58 The little difference of our questioned Assemblies. 1753 H. JONES *Earl of Essex* (1756) 26 Clear Your question'd conduct from disloyal guilt. 1881 *Times* 18 May 11/5 At other times questioner and questioned agree in seeking an occasion to state a fact.

questio'nee. One who is questioned.

1838 CARLYLE *Let. to Mill &c.* (1923) lix. 164 Your answer is according to your question, and your questioner, -as the fool thinks the bell clinks. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 12 May 564 Questioner and questionee will soon lose each other in the wilderness of words. 1905 *Grand Mag.* Feb. 131 The questionee does not overlook the fact that [etc.]. 1953 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Delegated Legislation* 27/2 in *Parl. Papers* 1952-3 IV. 115. I am not sure that the questioner could not answer that rather better than the questionee. 1971 J. WAINWRIGHT *Last Buccaneer* II. 183 He... murmured his questions in a very low voice. This forced the questionee consciously to listen.

questioner ('kwɛstjənə(r)), [f. QUESTION *v.* + -ER¹.] One who questions; an interrogator, inquirer; *fr.* an interrogative form of speech; *erote*ma.

1551 CRANMER *Answ. Gardiner* 73 The curious questioner, the foolish answerer. 1580 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* III. xix. (Arb.) 220 This figure I call the Questioner of inquisitive. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. (1851) 228 (Matt. xix. 7-8) God... was making hel for curious questioners. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 41 ¶6 He was a Questioner, who... is one who asks Questions, not with a Design to receive Information, but with an Affectation to show his Uneasiness for Want of it. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* v. xvi. Stranger, in thy throat... who art thou, the questioner? 1890 H. S. SALT *Thoreau* 20 He was... a fearless thinker and questioner on... matters social and religious.

†'questionful, *nonce-wd.* [f. QUESTION *sb.* + -FUL¹.] A full reply to a question.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 30 If any body comes to me for a question-ful or two about fashions, they never complain of me for giving them hard measure, or under-weight.

questioning ('kwɛstjənɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. QUESTION *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the *vb.*, in various senses.

a 1635 STUBBS *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 94 The ministerial questioning of sinners. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 208 The questioning of their true endowments. 1776 JOHNSON in *Bowell* Mar. (at Lichfield), Questioning is not the mode of conversation among gentlemen. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* 48 Silas now told his story under frequent questioning.

attrib. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* I. 25 The vigour and confidence of the questioning spirit.

2. With *a* and *pl.*: An instance of this.

1609 HIERON *Wks.* I. 266 An aduised questioning with himselfe, touching the value of this offered treasure. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 303 Unseemly questionings of his goodness and compassion. 1803-6 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* 142 Those obstinate questionings Of sense and outward things. 1885 SIR R. BAGGALLAY in *Law Rev.* 15 *Queen's Bench Div.* 59 There are four species of questionings to which the debtor is to be subject.

questioning ('kwɛstjənɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] That questions, in senses of the *vb.*

1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Let. Solit. Wand.* I. 234 Under the questioning eye of his father. 1818 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* v. xii. Earnest countenances on me shed The light of questioning looks. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* vi. 31 Like a ghost that is speechless, Till some questioning voice dissolves the spell of its silence.

Hence 'questioningly *adv.*, in a questioning manner; inquiringly.

1863 B. TAYLOR *H. Thurston* I. 87 As he looked keenly and questioningly at the little figure.

questionist ('kwɛstjənɪst). Also 7 -est. [f. QUESTION *v.* + -IST¹.]

1. A habitual or professed questioner, *spec.* in theological matters. (In early use applied to certain of the schoolmen, as Aquinas and Duns Scotus.)

1523 (COVERDALE) *Old God & New* (1534) R ij. Opiniators & questionists braulynge and stryuing among them selues. 1528 ROY *Rede Me* (Arb.) 43 They sent their Thomas and Scote With wother questionistes, a 1568 ASCHEW. *Scholem.* (Arb.) 137 The worst of all, as Questionistes, and all the barbarous nation of scholemen. 1660 INGELIO *Benit. & Ur.* I. (1682) 142 They let alone the trifling niceties of Questionistes. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 84 Your respectable rendezvous of curious questionistes. 1812 COLERIDGE *Let.* to his Wife (1895) 581 He is a fearful questionist, whenever he thinks he can pick up any information. 1874 SYLVESTER in *Proc. Roy. Instit.* VII. 184 note, A questionist in the 'Educational Times'.

2. Formerly, at Cambridge and Harvard: An undergraduate in his last term before proceeding to the degree of B.A.

1574 M. STOKES in *Peacock Stat. Cambridge* (1841) App. A. p. iv. The Questionists shall gye the Bedels warnynge... that they may proclayme... theyntryng of their Questions. 1650 [see INCEPTOR 1]. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 95 A Petition of Questionists to Mr. Frost for their degrees. 1772 JESS *Remarks* 20 The Examination of the Questionists; this being the appellation of the Students during the last six weeks of their preparation. 1887 *Cambridge Univ. Cal.* 64 If any Questionist have ben prevented by illness from keeping all his terms, a Certificate must be delivered.

questionless ('kwɛstjənləs), *a.* and *adv.* [f. QUESTION *sb.* + -LESS¹.]

A. adj. 1. Not admitting of question; unquestionable, indubitable.

1532 MORE *Confort. Tindale* Wks. 814/2 Thys questionlesse and cleare vndoubted church. 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* iv. 17 The conquest yet is questionlesse. 1662 J. EATON *Honey-c.* *Free Justif.* 81 It is questionlesse that all our sins are in Gods sight. 1862 LYTTON *Str.* *Story* II. 37 Refr from my senses are the laws which gave order and place to their old questionless realm. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 226 He... remained always its born and questionless master.

2. That asks no questions; unquestioning.

1880 L. WAGLACE *Ben Hur* 498 With the same clear mind and questionless faith.

B. adv. Without question, beyond all question; unquestionably; undoubtedly.

In common use from about 1550 to 1750; since then somewhat rare.

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. xix. And questionlesse reporte this of me That [etc.]. 1550 BALE *Eng. Histories* Qiv. Questionlesse theyr brutish heades are to blockish. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 107 If they... had not so soon returned, questionlesse the Indians would have destroyed the Fort. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 83 Each did questionlesse make a deep impression upon our Saviour. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 23 The first man who came into the world was questionlesse, the most perfect. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* vii. xiii. ¶6 Questionlesse, said I, talents like yours are convertible to every purpose. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* v. A young man... who can questionless write a good hand and keep books.

Hence 'questionlessly *adv.* (a) =

QUESTIONLESS B. (b) Without asking questions.

1658 EARL MONM. tr. *Pompey's Wars* *Cyprus* 169 The advantage of the League, which was questionlessly known, would be very great. 1865 Mrs. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* II. 175 To-day, still calmly, questionlessly, he did more. 1877 RUSKIN *For. Clav.* lxxx. 225 Being simply and questionlessly fair-laws from the beginning.

question mark. 1. A mark of interrogation, represented by the sign ?

1905 T. F. & M. F. A. HUSBAND *Punctuation* II. vi. 74 A question-mark is sometimes placed in the middle of a sentence. In such a position it concentrates attention on certain elements of the thought. 1930 M. A. PINK *Dict. Correct Eng.* 147 To complete the list of stops we may mention here that the Question Mark (?) is used at the end of direct questions. 1960 KIEZKEK & GIBSON *Macmillan Handbk. Eng.* II. 278 A question mark is used after a direct question but not after an indirect question. 1971 N. STACEY *Who Care?* xii. 207 We agreed that the article should be called 'A Mission's Failure'. But I thought it ought to have a question mark after it.

2. *fig.* A point about which there is uncertainty or doubt; an unresolved problem, an enigma. Also, a person whose character is unknown or unfathomable (usu. in some particular respect). *Freq.* in *phr.* a **question mark hangs** (etc.) *over* (something), there is doubt about (that thing).

1869 LOWELL *Cathedr.* This age, that blots out life with question-marks. 1924 R. MACAULAY *Orphan Island* xlv. 322 Across the future of Orphan Island... is scrawled a question mark. 1945 A. HUXLEY *Time must have Stop* xxi. 286 Contemporary science... is engaged in destroying, not only things and lives, but entire patterns of civilization. So we find ourselves faced with yet another set of question marks. 1952 M. ALLINGHAM *Tiger in Smoke* xv. 215 Luke was destined to become one of the great policemen... The man was a living question-mark. 1957 J. S. HUXLEY *Relig. without Revelation* (rev. ed.) iii. 62 The great question-mark of our continuance after death. 1958 *Daily Express* 23 July 4/3 It is a question mark which has been ringing in my mind. 1960 *Economist* 15 Oct. 215/2 Question marks now loom hugely over the future of the white-dominated states of southern Africa. 1963 *Listener* 24 Jan. 152/1 His death will take its place as one of the great question marks in English political history. 1971 A. PRICE *Alamut Ambush* viii. 95 Razzak, the unknown quantity... wasn't quite such a question mark since he'd turned up at the Ryle reception. 1973 *Times* 15 Oct. 22/1 The project... is near to completion of its first stage. But a question mark hangs over the second stage. 1974 *Plain Dealer* (Cleveland, Ohio) 19 Oct. 6-D/2 Caffery... could become a question mark if his knee does not respond to a couple of operations. 1978 G. GREENE *Human Factor* II. iii. 85 A question mark kept him awake for a long while: had there always been a taxi rank so close to Davis's flat? 1979 *Nature* 15 Feb. 506/1 The question mark hanging over the whole meeting was precisely what principle was at stake.

3. (With hyphens). *attrib.*

1962 *Listener* 15 Nov. 835/2 The effect of changing Byron's tragic question-mark ending to a kind of 'redemption'... is quite unconvincing. 1966 J. S. COX *Illustr. Dict. Hairdressing* 124/1 Question-mark curl, a stand up curl with a very long stem, like a quaver in music. 1973 M. AMIS *Rachel Papers* 130 Shaving-cream bubbled inside the nether of his question-mark ears.

Hence 'question-marked *a.*, accompanied by a question mark.

1950 G. BARKER *True Confession* vi. 33. I will not care who Or what you are, save palliation Of the question marked heart. 1975 C. WESTON *Suannah Screaming* (1976) x. 52 The guft was already sorted, checked where possible, question-marked where not.

questionnaire (kwɛstjə'neə(r)), ||kɛstjənər. [a. F. *questionnaire*, f. *questionner* to ask questions.]

a. A list of questions by which information is sought from a selected group, usu. for statistical analysis; a questionnaire.

The word was resisted by purists (see Fowler *Mod. Eng. Usage* (1926) 479/1) for many years after its first use in English. Some retained a Fr. pronunc. (kɛstjənər), whilst others preferred the Eng. word *QUESTIONARY* sb.¹ The anglicized pronunc. is now dominant.

1901 E. B. TITCHENER *Exper. Psychol.* i. 1. xii. 197 The questionnaire or 'questionnaire' is a series of questions bearing upon the matter to be investigated, and submitted to a large number of persons for introspective answer. 1920 *Glasgow Herald* 20 Aug. 7/1 Valuable information, never previously collected, is being obtained through a questionnaire by the Federation of British Industries concerning the fuel requirements of the great industrial centres. 1924 W. B. SKELBIE *Psychol. Relig.* i. 4 A careful study of the phenomena of religious experience derived mainly from biographies, introspection, and a systematic use of the questionnaire. 1931 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Feb. 126/2 There was issued recently the report of a study (by questionnaire) of two hundred marriages. 1952 *Shell Aviation News* June 9/2 The moment for the distribution of a printed questionnaire is obviously in flight, when passengers are frequently bored and glad of any distraction. 1975 *New Yorker* 21 Apr. 45/2 The reports involve the verification of routine information that has already been supplied by citizens in response to questionnaires included in application forms for insurance, for employment, for mortgages or apartment leases. 1978 S. BRILL *Teammates* viii. 312 Drivers responded to questionnaires placed as advertisements in trucking magazines.

b. attrib. 1924 R. M. ODEN *Th. Koffka's Growth of Mind* ii. 45 With the aid of Hall's questionnaire method, one of his students has collected a large mass of material concerning children's play. 1941 J. S. HUXLEY *Uniqueness of Man* xi. 231 The questionnaire method is widely used. 1949 M. MEAD *Males & Females* 457. I have had access to enormous varieties of original questionnaire blanks. 1964 L. L. HOROWITZ *New Sociology* 6 Specialized techniques of questionnaire design [etc.], make the interviewing process into the end of research rather than merely its instrument. 1978 *Regional Lang. Stud.-Newfoundland* viii. 31 The purpose of the project was to give experience in questionnaire design and administration.

questionous (kwɛstjənəs), a. rare. [f. *QUESTION* sb. + -OUS.] Given to asking questions; inquisitive.

1893 R. BRIDGES *Humours of Court* ii. i. 914 Of late you are grown questionous and prying.

'questman. [f. *QUEST* sb.¹ + MAN.]

1. A member of a 'quest'; one appointed to make official inquiry into any matter; *spec.* † a. a parish or ward official elected annually (see quot. 1706). Obs.

1548 *Geste Serm.* in H. G. Dugdale *Life* (1840) 188 All judges, all officers, all quest men which have sworn to speake the truth. 1599 *NARBE Lenten Stuffe* Wks. 1883-4 V. 239 They come to beare office of Questman and Scainger in the Parish where they dwell. 1631 *BRATHWAIT Whimzies, Questman* 145 This Questman becomes frequently versed in sundry ancient Presidents. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Quest or Quest-Men*, Persons who are chosen yearly in every Ward, and meet about Christmas, to enquire into Abuses and Misdemeanours committed therein, especially such as relate to Weights and Measures. 1762 *London & Environs* IV. 23 [The mob of 1381] levelled to the ground the houses of all lawyers and questmen.

b. *Ecll.* A churchwarden's assistant; a sidesman. Now only Hist.

1454 in T. Gardner *Hist. Dumfriesshire* (1754) 149 To the Quest Men for the Ton 12d. 1555 BR. HOPKIN in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. II. 189. I dyd send ymedyatie for the sayd Curate, the Church wardens, and the questmen. 1624 BR. HALL *True Peace Maker in Var. Treat.* (1627) 543 Who troubles the house?... In the Church... not the careless questman, not the corrupt official; but the clamorous preacher. a 1656 — *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 342 We have in every Parish... Churchwardens, Questmen, or Sidesmen, and Overseers for the Poor. [1732 *NEAL Hist. Purit.* i. 307 To give it in charge to their Quest-men to present the names of all Non-conformists. 1895 J. BROWN *Pilgrim Fathers* i. 35 He swore in six questmen to bring presentments against such as come not to church.]

†2. = *QUESTOR* 1. Obs. rare-1.

1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. c. 262) One of the Quest-men told her, That they would take care to make a little shift of it, for some small Soul in Purgatory.

†**questmonger**. Obs. Also 4-6 -mongere, 5 -manger, 6- -moonger. [f. *QUEST* sb.¹ + *MONGER*.] One who made a business of conducting inquiries.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. XIX. 367 Lyesers and questmongeres that were forsworn ofte. c 1449 *PBOCK Repr.* v. vi. 516 Vnpireful questmongers and forsworn iurers. 1494 *FABYAN Chron.* iii. 530 They slew as many men of lawe and questmongers as they myght fynde. 1553 *LATIMER Serm. Lord's Prayer* iv. 28 Above all thynges, these questmongers had neede to take heede. 1622 *BACON Hen. VII.* 211 Hauling ever a Rabble of Promoters, Questmongers and Leading lurers at their Command. [1776 *ENTICK London* i. 293 Lawyers, jurors, and questmongers.]

questor ('kwɛstə(r)). Also 6, 9 *questor*. [a. med. L. *questor* agent-n. f. *querere* = *querere* to ask (cf. *QUESTOR*): hence also It. *questore*, F. *questeur*.]

1. R.C.Ch. An official appointed by the Pope or by a bishop to grant indulgences on the gift of alms to the Church; a pardoner.

1387 *TREVISIA Hyden* (Rolla) IV. 49 Now cherles and pardoneres beep i-cleped questores. 1435 *York Myst. Intro.* 26 Escriueneres, Lum[i]ners, Questors [Pardoners written above], Dubbers. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) iv. xxi. 239 Yf he hath suffred wyttynly questours to renne thrughe his dyocese in prechynge false indulgences. 1580 *FULKE Agst. Allen* 168 Men pay monie to the Pope or his pardoning questours, for ledden bulle. 1748 *Earthquake Pers.* i. 85 The great Monastery alone has twenty-four Questors. 1823 *LINGARD Hist. Eng.* VI. 125 Ninety-five short theses on the nature of indulgences and the errors of the questors. 1895 *Month* July 447 The malpractices of the Questors.

2. a. In France: One of the treasurers of the National Assembly.

1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* i. 413 He arrived at the Palais Bourbon... went straight to the questors [etc.]. 1896 *Daily News* 28 Mar. 5/5 There seemed a danger yesterday... that the Questors would be obliged to call in the police.

b. In Italy: A commissary of police.

1865 *MARRE Brigand Life* II. 169 The indefatigable questor of Naples... says [etc.].

3. [? f. *QUEST* v.] One who seeks or searches.

1887 MISS BETHAM-EDWARDS *Nest of Kin Wanted* II. x. 117 Unhappy questors after something to their advantage. 1977 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 23 Dec. 149/8 The prosing of that coruscating bore Dr. Emily Brightman, a notator and questor of the first water.

questor, obs. variant of *QUESTOR*.

||**Questore** (kwɛst'ore). [It. *questore*, f. L. *questor*, contraction of *questor* investigator, f. *querere* to seek, enquire.] = *QUESTOR* 2 b.

1943 I. ORICO *Diary* 10 Dec. in *War in Val d'Orcia* (1947) 120 His family succeeded in speaking to the Questore, and inquired what charge there was against him. 1969 G. GREENE *Travels with my Aunt* II. vii. 296 If the Questors had described me as a rat, I would have had no objection. 1972 K. BENTON *Spy in Chancery* v. 36 The Questore of Rome had done his polished best to make the luncheon for the Interpol delegates a success.

questorian, -le: see *QUESTORIAN*, -Y.

†**questrel**, variant of *CUSTREL*, groom. Obs. 1551 *EOW. VI Lett.* in *Lit. Rem.* (Roxb.) 72 They had noe pages, questrels, nor demisunices, but al wel armed.

†**'questrist**. Obs. rare-1. [f. *QUESTER* + -IST.] One who goes in quest of another.

1605 *SHAKS. Lear* III. vii. 17 Thirty of his Knights Hot Questrists after him, met him at gate.

quest rope: see *GUEST ROPE*.

†**'questury**. Obs. rare-1. [f. *QUEST* sb., prob. after *jury*, *vestry*.] Only in questrymen, juryman.

1690 *Sir Hugh of the Grange* in *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) VI. 596 The Quest of Jury-men was call'd. Then other Questrymen was call'd.

questuary, obs. form of *QUESTUARY*.

||**Questura** (kwɛst'ura). [It. *questura*, f. L. *questura* the office of a questor: see *QUESTORE*] In Italy: the police station or headquarters; the police.

1907 *Daily Chron.* 22 Aug. 4/4 He had been kicked out of the Central Questura, whether he had gone to give information, because the Neapolitan city police were in the pay of Camorrist assassins. 1950 E. HEMINGWAY *Across River and into Trees* vii. 65, I fill out a slip there for the Questura. 1965 'W. HAGGARD' *Hard Sell* ii. 15 Charles Russell took a taxi from the questura back to his hotel. 1975 'D. RUTHERFORD' *Mystery Tour* vii. 149 No one leaves before the inspector from the Questura in Varese gets here.

questure: see *QUESTURE*.

questword: see *QUEST* sb.²

quet, variant of *QUED*(e, bad. Obs.

quetans, obs. form of *QUITTANCE*.

quetch, **quitch**, v. Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms: a. 1 cweccan, (cu-), 3 queccen, queche, 6 queech, queatche, 6-7 que(t)ch; β. (?) 3 cwich, quic), 5 qvycch-, qvych-, qvychyn, qycche, 6 quytch(e), quytche, quich, 6-7 quitch, 9 *dial.* quitchy; γ. 6 (9 *dial.*) quatch. Pa. t. 1 cwahte, 1, 3 cwehte, 3 quehte, qu-, cuhte, 4 quei(3) te, quazte; also 6 quitchied, 6-7 quetchied, 7 quatched, quitchit. [OE. *cweccan* = *cwacjan*, causative from the root *cwac-: see *QUAKE*, and cf. OS. *quehlik* glossing L. *versatilem* or *vibrabilem* (*gladium*). See also *AQUETCH*.]

†1. *trans.* To shake; to brandish; to drive, chase. Obs. (OE. and early ME.)

825 *Vesp. Psalter* vii. 13 Nenne se sien gecerde, sweord his [he] cweccet. c 1000 *Agst. Gosp. Matt.* xxvii. 39 þa wegferden... cwehton [or cwehton] heora heafod. c 1205 *LAV.* 23907 Heo quethen [c 1275 cwehten] heore scattes. *Ibid.* 31475 Higendliche he heom quethe ouer þere Humber.

†2. *intr.* Of things: To shake, tremble. Obs.

c 1205 *LAV.* 20141 þa corbe asen quehte [c 1275 cwehte]. *Ibid.* 26919 Quathen on hafden helmes hezen. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 607 So sterne strokes þa arauste... þat al þe erthe þer-of quaste a myle & more on lengthe.

†3. *intr.* To stir or move from one place to another; to go, run, hasten. Obs.

c 1205 *LAV.* 826 Ne lete se nenne quick quecchen to holte [c 1275 scapie to felde]. *Ibid.* 7271 þa heo weoren ouercumen þe quathen [c 1275 wenden] heo wide. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4344 þat werwoll... quete toward þe que.

4. *intr.* Of persons (or animals): a. To move the body or any part of it; to stir; in later use *esp.* to shrink, wince, twitch (with pain), and usually in negative clauses. Obs. exc. *dial.*

The phr. *cwich ne cweð* in *Leg. St. Kath.* 1261, *quic ne quod* in *Ancl. R.* 122 (two MSS.), app. belong here, meaning 'stirred nor spoke', though the form is difficult to account for.

c 1205 *LAV.* 25844 þa fond he þer ane quece quecchen hit hafde. c 1305 *Arth. & Merl.* 905 (Köbling) he stede he smot, þat it quete. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 421/1 Qvychyn, or meyn. 1530 *PALSGR.* 677/2 I quytche, I styrrer or move with my bodye. 1579-80 *NORTH Plutarch* (1676) 587 He... never stirred hand nor foot, nor quitched when the fire took him. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* v. ix. 33 With a strong yron chaine and collar bound, That once he could not move, nor quich at all. 1609 *HOLLAND Amm. Marcell.* xxix. i. 357 Simonides... endured the flames, and never quitched [i. *immobilis*]. 1636 *FEATLY Clavis Myst.* iii. 33 He who suffereth all this, quatcheth not, stirreth not, a 1664 *FRANK Sermons* (1672) 147 To... look up stedfastly still, not quick aside. 1685 *COTTON tr. Montaigne* i. 253, I have seen men... that would neither cry out, wince nor quitch, for a good swinging beating. 1886 *ELWORTHY W. Somerset. Word-bk.* *Quitchy*, to twitch; to make sudden, involuntary movements.

b. *intr.* To utter a sound. (Usually in negative clauses). Also with *against*, at. Obs. exc. *dial.*

1530 *PALSGR.* 601 She layde upon him lyke a mantle sacke and the poore boye durate nat ones quytche [F. *moza pas synter*]. 1531 *TINDALE Exp.* i. *John* (1538) 23 b. *Thy* doth *Paulus*... so confirme, that all the world can not quytch *against* it. 1567 W. MORICE *Coena quae Koury* Def. xvi. 256 To snatch their mouths full of earth, that they might not be heard to quetch or groan. 1679 *MARSHALL. Rel. Transp.* i. 159, I will speak always with so Magistral a confidence, that no modest man... shall so much as quetch at me. 1847-78 *HALLIWELL, Quatch*, to betray, tell... *Oxf.* 1888 *Berksh. Gloss.*, [? Not to] *Quatch*, to keep absolute silence as regards a certain subject.

†c. *Freq.* in phr. *one dare* (or *durst*) *not quetch*, implying fear or absolute submission. Also const. *against*, at. Obs.

13... *K. Alis.* 4747 Dar no man agein hym queche. 1496 *Dives & Simp.* (W. de W.) ix. viii. 358/1 Be he so solempne & so myghty, that no man dare quytche syent hym. 1528 in *Furnival's Ballads* from MSS. i. 359 Thow knowyste how... mortimer, in þis lande dyd Rule & Rayne, For whom no man durate quytche. 1565 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* v. (1593) 124 The scelle lamb that dares not stirre nor quetch, when he heares the howling of the wolfe. 1587 *FLEMING Com. Holinshed* III. 975/1 They durst not quetch in his presence, but were like a sort of timorous cattell. 1638 *FRATLY Strict. Lyndon.* i. 110 A most learned worke, against which never a Papist yet durst quetch. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xix. 67 Which put them in such a fear as they durst not so much as quetch.

Hence †*'quetching*, *'quitching* *vbl. sb.* Obs. 1676 H. MORE *Rem. Disc. Hale* 94 The quitching of the skin.

||**quête** (ket). [Fr., *quest*.] The traditional act of begging for food or alms to the accompaniment of folk-song; *spec.* as part of a folk-play. Also attrib., as *quête song*. Cf. *QUEST* sb.¹ 7.

1903 E. K. CHAMBERS *Medieval Stage* i. vi. 119 Hardly a rural merry-making... is without its procession; if it is only in the simple form of the *quête* which the children consider themselves entitled to make. *Ibid.* viii. 168 The rest... have either become... mere *quête* songs, or have taken on a Christian colouring. 1933 — *Eng. Folk-Play* 13 Structurally, the piece falls into three parts: the Presentation... the Drama... the *quête*. *Ibid.* 21 To his normal lines Father Christmas may add others which... are also found as independent *quête*-songs of the Christmas season. 1967 A. L. LLOYD *Folk Song in England* ii. 102 Here is another set of wassailing verses... The begging motive... is important... We call such pieces *quête* songs. 1979 R. PALMER *Eng. Country Song*: 15 A number of such songs... provided the opportunity for a *quête*.

quete, obs. form of *WHEAT*.

quetenite ('kwɛtənait). [Named 1890 (*Quetenit*) from *Quetena*, in Chile, its locality: see -ITE¹.] 'Hydrous sulphate of iron and magnesium, found in reddish-brown masses' (Chester).

1890 *Amer. Jnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XL. 259 Quetenite occurs at the Salvador Mine in Quetena.

queter, obs. form of *QUITTER* sb.¹

†**quethe**, sb. Obs. rare. Also 6 Sc. *queth*. [f. the vb.] Speech, address; sound, cry.

13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1150 At þe fyrst quethe of þe quest quaked þe wyld. 1513 *DOUGLAS Eneid* v. ii. 102 Quairfor Enece begouth again renew His faderis hic saull queth.

†**quethe**, v. Obs. (exc. in pa. t. QUOTH). Forms: *Inf.* 1 cweðan, (cweðan, cwifan, cuoða, etc.), 2 cwepen, 2-3 queðen, 5 queth(ya, (qv-, qw-). *Pres.* t. (1 sg.) 1 cweðe, (cweoða, cweðo, etc.), 4 quepe, 4-5 queth(e, 5 weth(e, 6 queythe. Pa. t. 1 cweð, etc., 1-2 cwed, 1-3 cweð, 2 cwet, quað, 3 cwaþ, qu(ū)ad, queð, 4 quape, quath, (queped, 5 ?

BASIC ii. 23 Multiplexors...checking for transmission errors, and storing and queuing the messages received.

c. intr. To stand in a queue; to form up in a queue; to take one's place at the end of a queue; also fig.

1933 *Observer* 5 Mar. 23/4 There were stuffs at the White City which made French buyers queue up. 1938 E. BOWEN *Death of Heart* i. iv. 71 They hung their hats and coats in the annex cloakroom, and queued up for the mirror. 1945 'TACKLINE' *Holiday Sailor* i. 5 Whilst we queued-up before him to have our cap-tallies...not cap-ribbons, we now discovered...secured. 1949 E. TAYLOR *Wraith of Roses* i. 11 They have to do all the wretched jobs not even a paid servant will do—queue for tomatoes, etc. 1955 *Times* 1 Aug. 8/7 Everywhere people are queuing—even at the bureau de change and of course at the cafeteria. 1964 L. DEIGHTON *General in Berlin* xxiii. 128 Do you think that the whole of Germany was queuing up to fight Bolshevism? 1976 C. DEXTER *Last Seen Wearing* xx. 155 The suspects are beginning to queue up, aren't they? 1978 D. FRANCIS *Triad Run* i. 17 We are damned lucky to have been given the few weeks' option. They've got other buyers practically queuing for it.

3. trans. To follow or track (a person's steps, etc.).

1906 HARDY *Dynasts* II. v. i. 254 Perhaps within this very house and hour, Under an innocent mask of Love or Hope, Some enemy queues my ways to my coffin me.

Hence **queuing** ppl. a.

1949 N. MITFORD *Love in Cold Climate* i. ix. 91 The large crowd in Park Lane was rewarded by good long stares into the queuing motor cars. 1976 M. RUSSELL *Double Deal* xi. 88, I don't happen to be the queuing type.

†**queué** a. *Her.* Obs. rare-1. [a. OF. *queué*, coe:—L. *caudat-um*, f. *cauda* tail, QUEUE] = next.

1673 PEACHAM *Painting* 170 The King of Bohemia bears Gules, a Lion double Queue.

queued (kju:ɪd), a. *Her.* Also 7 **queued**. [f. QUEUE sb. + -ED¹] Furnished with a tail; in comb. **double-queued**.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 450/2 A Lion double queued and crowned. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Queue*, If a lion have a forked tail, he is blazoned by double-queued. 1668 [see QUEUE sb. 1].

queueing, queuing ('kju:ɪn), *vbl. sb.* [f. QUEUE v.]

a. The action of waiting in a queue. Also const. up.

1927 *Brit. Weekly* 21 Apr. 55/3 When the public-houses opened their doors in the evening there was no queuing-up. 1965 G. MIKES *How to be an Alien* 44 Queueing is the national pastime of an otherwise dispassionate race. The English are rather shy about it and deny that they adore it. 1948 M. LASKI *Tory Heaven* ii. 28 James was delighted to see a row of taxis... There was none of that queuing he had been led to expect. 1951 *Jrnl. R. Statist.* Soc. B. XIII. 180 I assumed that a newly arriving vehicle could always find somewhere in the station yard to unload, so that the problem was in effect not one of queuing. 1956 L. H. C. TIPPETT *Statistics* (ed. 2) vii. 125 This is typical of a number of congestion problems that arise in telephony, in road and rail traffic, in the queuing of patients at a hospital, and so on. 1958 *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 22 May 15/4 Even with a Kinsella day or two of queuing was all you needed. 1967 *Times Rev. Industry* Aug. 28/2 These techniques include stock control, line-up programming and queuing. 1979 *Bookseller* 23 June 2816/3 To avoid queuing... we did not ask visitors to register attendance.

b. *attrib.*, as **queuing theory**, the mathematical study of the structure and behaviour of queues of people or articles.

1951 *Jrnl. R. Statist.* Soc. B. XIII. 168 The different people associated with a queuing system will assess its merits and demerits in different ways. *Ibid.* 181 The congestion should be measured at the peak, but this would need the non-steady solution of a complex queuing problem with non-steady traffic conditions. 1954 *Science News* XXXIV. 112 One particular application [of operational research] is the queuing theory. This was employed during the design of London Airport and has also been used for such diverse subjects as omnibus routing, toll gate staffing, and determining the number of grinding wheels required by a toolroom. 1966 *Listener* 3 Feb. 162/2 Queuing theory has in fact been used in this calculation in an attempt to relate the time on the waiting list to the number of beds made available, and the demand for these beds. 1974 GROSS & HARRIS *Fundamentals Queuing Theory* i. 1 'How long must a customer wait?' and 'How many people will form in the line?' Queuing theory attempts (and in many cases succeeds) to answer these questions through detailed mathematical analysis.

'**queue-jumping**. [f. QUEUE sb. + JUMPING *vbl. sb.*] Pushing forward out of one's turn in a queue; also fig. Cf. JUMP v. 10c. Hence (as a back-formation) 'queue-jump v.; also 'queue-jumper, one who jumps a queue.

1959 *Guardian* 22 Oct. 1/1 Mrs. Braddock... complained of Tory queue-jumping. 1960 *Ibid.* 17 June 2/3 There are three types [of private patients]—the snobs, the queue-jumpers, and the business executive. 1965 M. DRABBLE *Milstone* 67 Afraid that I would be accused of queue-jumping, I rose to my feet and went in search of authority. 1968 *Daily Tel.* 13 Nov. 14/7 A major hindrance to smooth traffic-flow is the queue-jumper, who invariably gets stuck. 1972 *Ibid.* 30 Mar. 16 Private patients in National Health hospitals... are widely regarded as rich queue-jumpers. 1973 *Listener* 6 Sept. 298/3 News reports of Asians who were trying to 'queue-jump' into Britain. 1975 J. PIDGEON *Flame* i. 7 Daniels, having queue-jumped up the crowded stairs... gazed out above the lowered, pebbled window. 1976 *Daily Tel.* 30 Dec. 3/8 The row started when shop stewards

complained that the women had queue jumped a union waiting list of people wanting to become ferry drivers.

queuer ('kju:ə(r)). [f. QUEUE v. + -ER¹.] One who waits in a queue.

1948 J. TEY *Franchise Affair* xxii. 260 This was fare that not even the most optimistic queue outside the court had anticipated. 1952 *Time* 6 Oct. 64/1 The queuers were hoping for standing room. Reserved seats had been gone since July. 1958 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Nov. 669/4 They become refugees somewhere across the border, queuers for charitable soup, squatters on alien school-room floors. 1960 V. JENKINS *Lions down Under* xv. 230 Some queuers who had been waiting from 3.30 a.m. 1976 *Times* 10 June 10/3 He watched a senior army officer walk straight to the head of a long taxi queue. The tired queuers grumbled curses.

Queuetopia (kju:'tɒpiə). [Blend of QUEUE sb. + UTOPIA; cf. SUBUTOPIA.] A humorous designation of Great Britain under Labour or Socialist rule, supposedly characterized by universal queuing. Also *transf.*

Said to have been coined by Winston Churchill. 1950 *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 2 Mar. 9/1 (heading) 'Queuetopia'. Few of our national disorders have made better campaign material than... the continual queues, the swelling bureaucracy... and the general mechanisation of the British Way of Life. 1975 S. POTTER *Changing Eng.* 82 London... has far too many queuetopias at its bus stops and supermarket checkouts.

†**queve**, for *queue*, obs. var. CUE sb.²

1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 317 They had no other queve to direct them, then the loud pronunciation [etc.].

†**quevéte**, a. *Her.* [For *quevéte* = QUEUÉ a.] Tailed, in comb. **double quevéte** (cf. QUEUED).

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 532 Supporters. Two lions double quevéte. 1840 H. AINSWORTH *Tower of London* i. A lion rampant, or, double quevéte, vert.

†**queven**, v. Obs. rare-1. [? Related to ON. *kvefja* (kefja) to put under water.] ? To plunge.

c. 1325 *Meir. Hom.* 128 Quen Satenas sal Jowes queuen [printed quenen; rime heuin] In ouer mirkenes.

quever, quew, obs. forms of QUIVER a., CUE.

||**que voulez-vous** (kə vule vu). [Fr., lit. 'what do you want?'] An expression denoting mild exasperation or resignation; 'what do you expect?', 'what can one expect?'

1830 C. CLAIRMONT *Let* 28 Mar. in J. Marshall *Life & Lett. Mary Shelley* (1886) II. xxi. 202 He [sc. Trelawny] receives all his impressions th: igh his heart, I through my head. *Que voulez-vous? La moyer de se reconforter* when one is bound for the North Pole and the other for the South? 1842 W. M. THACKERAY in *Britannia* 5 June 363/2 No doubt she was dancing away last night... and finished the morning at the Courtille. *Que voulez-vous?* it is her nature. 1878 H. JAMES *European* i. vi. 239 The Baroness gave a little philosophic shrug. 'Que voulez-vous? They are princes.' 1886 G. GISSING *Let* 21 Dec. in J. Korg *George Gissing* (1965) iii. 90, I fear they put me down for a prig, an upstart, an abominable aristocrat, but *que voulez-vous?* 1923 W. J. LOCKS *Moorland & Co.* xxi. 288 *Que voulez-vous, mademoiselle!* A train-omnibus stopping at every station is bound to be late. 1935 LADY FORTESCUE *Perfume from Provence* 35 Are there not floods... all over the world? *Que voulez-vous?* 1945 'O. MALET' *My Bird Sings* i. v. 37 The poor Comte is hopelessly in love... but *que voulez-vous?* She will not have him.

quey (kwei). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: a. 4 qwy, 5 qui, 5-6 qwy, 6 quy, 6-7 quye; 5 que, 5-9 quee; 8- quey; 6 koy, 6-9 quoy, 9 coy. *β. north.* 5-9 why(e, 6 qwhy, 7-8 whee, whie, 7-9 whey, 9 wye), etc. [a. ON. *kveiga* (Sw. *quiga*, Da. *kveie*), app. f. *kū* cow.] A young cow before it has had a calf; a heifer.

a. 1374 *Durh. Holm. Rolls* (Surtees) 124, xij stots et qwyie. c. 1425 *Voc.* in W. Wülcker 669/10 *Hec* quye, qce. 1485 *Will in Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 277 That Elnye Pke have 1 quye. 1508 DUNBAR *Flying* 142 Beggad koy and ox. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. ii. 19 Ane vntymyt young quye. 1673 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 196 A quye... which now pines away. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Shep.* II. ii. Ye... sauld your crummock, and her bassand quye. 1768 A. ROSS *Fort Shepherdess* III. 112 The beef of the new slaughter'd quoy. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* XXXIX, If Gowans, the brockit cow, has a quye. 1884 STREATFIELD *Lincoln & Dunes* 263 The gertman... will be proud to show you... the stots and quees. b. 1283 *Cath. Angl.* 416/1 A Why, bucula, jueneca. 1565 *Will & Inq. N.C.* (Surtees 1835) 230, vi oxen xijij kye or whyes. 1624 *Inv. in Trans. Cumbl. & Westmld. Arch. Soc.* III. 113, 20 stotts, 5 whies, 14 younger neuts. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3), *Whie* or *Whie*, a Word us'd in Yorkshire, for an Heifer. 1802 in Anderson *Cumbl. Ball.* 23, I carried our whye to the bull.

b. *Comb. quey-calf* [= ON. *kveigaklf*, Sw. *quigaklf*, Da. *kveikalf*], a female calf.

1568 *Will & Inq. N.C.* (Surtees 1835) 293, I qye vnto... my dowgher one quye calf. 1775 in R. Welford *Hist. Newcastle* (1885) II. 405 The first whye calf that God sends him. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Shep.* III. ii, Twa quye cawfs I'll yearly to them give. 1855 STEPHENS *Be. of Farm* (ed. 2) 1. 506/2 The quey-calf occupies the rear, and the bull-calf the off-side horn.

Hence 'queycock (also 6 quiock, 7 quoy-, quayach, 9 queyoch, etc.): = QUEY.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. iv. 76 In the cave... a quoy lowie. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. iv, The quiocks war newir slane quhill they wer with calfe. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 2b, Item for the Serjant, ane colpindach (ane quyach, ane young kow).

queyd, var. QUED(E, bad.

queyere, obs. f. CHOIR.

queynose, obs. f. QUINSY.

queynt: see QUAIN¹ a., QUENCH v.

queynt-a(u)n(e), -ise, varr. QUAIN¹TANCE, -ise.

queyr, obs. f. CHOIR sb., QUEER a.

queyse, var. QUEASE v.

queysie, obs. f. QUEASY a.

queythe, var. QUETHE v.

||**queyu** ('kweiu:). Also *keweyu*, *kuyu*, *kway*, *queyow*, etc. [Guyana Creole, app. from a Cariban language.] In Guyana and neighbouring regions, a small apron-like garment worn by the women of certain Amerindian peoples, consisting of a panel of coloured beads set in intricate geometrical patterns and surrounded by a fringe of cotton.

1796 J. G. STEDMAN *Narr. Five Years' Exped.* I. xv. 386 The women wear an apron of cotton, with party-coloured glass beads strung upon it, which they call *queyu*. This covering is no great size, being only one foot in breadth by eight inches in length... but being heavy... it answers all the purposes for which it was intended. 1806 G. PINCKARD *Notes on West Indies* II. 444 Sometimes, instead of the band, the women use a small apron about three or four inches square, which being tied around the waste [sic], and left to hang loose before, serves by way of a fig-leaf. These aprons they call *kways*. 1866 R. DUFF *Brit. Guyana* xi. 261 The only covering which the females wore was the queyow, an article of dress, worked out of seeds of trees, about ten inches long, and six or eight broad, hung in front of the person by a string fastened round the loins. 1867 W. T. VERNES *El Dorado* 141 'Cuyus', or 'Queyus', the entire dress of Indian women, of the Accawai tribe. 1895 *Timshir* June 124 The queyus too were remarkable owing to their small bead surface, the greater extent being taken up by wide cotton fringes. 1904 W. H. HUDSON *Green Mansions* v. 71 Oalava herself would be ready to bestow her person—queyow, worn fig-leaf-wise, necklace of accouri teeth, and all—on so worthy a suitor as myself. 1912 J. RODWAY *Guyana* 216 Geometrical patterns of most intricate lines are found on basket-work, old pottery, queyus or aprons, and on their [sc. the Indians'] painted faces. 1923 W. E. ROTH *Tr. R. Schomburgk's Trav. Brit. Guyana, 1840-1844* II. xii. 379 The queyu of the woman was made out of seed pipes. 1924 38th Ann. Rep. U.S. Bureau Amer. Ethnol. xxi. 446 The Creole terms *kway*... queyu, *kuyu*, etc., applied to the glass-bead apron, is [sic] apparently identical with that of the original cotton loincloth *guyayoo* of the Orinoco Indians. 1964 V. G. C. NORWOOD *Jungle Life in Guyana* v. 99 The commonest form of covering adopted by Indian women generally is a small apron made from... coloured glass beads strung on cotton strands, this latter form originally Accawian, called a 'quayow'. 1965 J. YOE *Material Culture of Warau* 199 The bead apron, *keweyu*, is as indispensable a garment to the women as is the *kamisa* to the men.

quezal, var. QUETZAL.

queziness, obs. f. QUEASINESS.

quezzen, dial. var. QUEASOM.

quh-, an obs., chiefly Scottish, variant of the initial combination *wh-* (OE. *hw-*), as in *quhan*, *quhat*, *quhele*, *quhete* = when, what, wheel, wheat. (Also *quhou*, *quhow*, *quhu* = how.) The use of *quh-* for original *qu-* is much rarer, in most cases perhaps accidental. See the introductory note on the letter Q.

qui, obs. form of QUEY, WHY.

||**quia timet** ('kwi:ə 'timet). *Law.* [L., lit. 'because he fears'.] An action brought to prevent a possible future injury. Also as *attrib.* or *adverb. phr.*

1628 E. COKE *First Part of Institutes of Lawes of Eng.* II. vi. 100 There be 6. Writs in Law that may be maintained quia timet, before any molestation, distress, or impeding. 1697 *Cases Argued & Decreed in High Court of Chancery* 223 It was objected, that the Daughter is not of Age, and so this Bill is quia timet only... and the Court would be vexed with vain Suits if any one might be admitted to sue only quia timet, to prevent a remote Possibility. But the Court answered, that Suits quia timet only were proper in Law and Equity. 1815 H. MADDOCK *Treat. on Princ. & Pract. High Court of Chancery* I. ii. 178 The denomination of Bills Quia Timet was borrowed, probably, from the Title of some ancient Writs at the Common Law. 1860 J. S. WHARTON *Law-Lexicon* (ed. 2) 619/1 Quia Timet Bill, it is filed for the purpose of quieting a present apprehension of a probable or possible future injury to property. 1927 P. G. OSBORN *Conc. Law Dict.* 41 Bill Quia Timet, a proceeding in the old Court of Chancery for providing against an apprehended injury. Now replaced by the injunction. 1961 *Times* 14 Feb. 5/1 Dismissing with costs the quia timet claim for an injunction. 1971 [see LIE v. 12].

†**quib**, sb. Obs. Also 6 -be, 7 -bbe. [App. ad. (orig. in pl.) L. *quibus*, dat. or abl. pl. of *qui* 'who', which', as a word of frequent occurrence in legal documents and hence associated with the 'quirks and quilllets' of the law.

For other allusive uses of the L. word, cf. F. *quibus* money, cash; Du. *quibus* fool, watercock.]

1. = QUIBBLE sb. 2.