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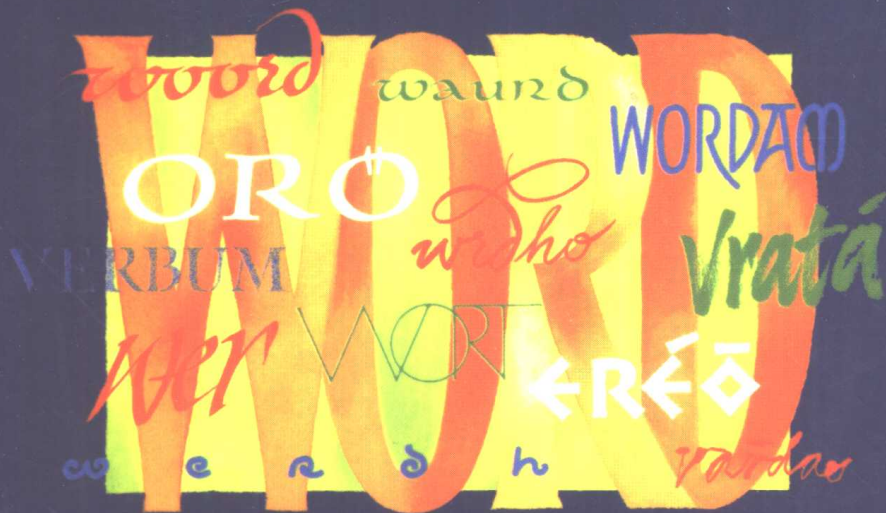
Oxford

CONCISE DICTIONARY OF

ENGLISH

ETYMOLOGY

牛津英语词源词典



上海外语教育出版社

SHANGHAI FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION PRESS



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English Etymology

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T. F. HOAD



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随着改革开放的不断深入以及国际交流的日趋广泛,外语学习已经不仅仅局限于语言技能的培养。通过英语获取专业知识、提高专业水平、跟踪学科的最新发展已经成为时代的要求。因此,目前国内急需一批用英语编纂的专业词典。

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该系列词典可作为大专院校各专业的学生以及专业技术人员学习专业知识、提高专业英语能力的参考书。

本社编辑部

F. C. H.

AND

D. M. H.

Introduction

THIS dictionary is based upon the *Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology* (1966), compiled by C. T. Onions with the assistance of G. W. S. Friedrichsen and R. W. Burchfield. It was the late Dr Friedrichsen who first produced a draft for a concise version of that dictionary, and the present editor took over the work in 1977. In general, the book remains faithful to Dr Friedrichsen's plan, although a good many changes of detail and of a broader kind have been made, for which the present editor is alone accountable.

The intention is that each entry should give a concise statement of the route by which its headword entered the English language, together with, where appropriate, a brief account of its development in English.

In each case, the headword is followed by a figure in Roman numerals indicating the century in which the word is first recorded in English, or if definitions are provided these are followed by figures in Roman numerals indicating the centuries in which the various senses are first evidenced. In the case of words or senses recorded from the Old English period (c.700-c.1100), however, these are labelled simply 'OE.' (or at most 'late OE.'), since the nature of the surviving materials usually makes any closer dating impracticable.

Definitions have not been provided for words whose senses have undergone no major change in English, and whose meanings are likely to be readily ascertainable by most readers. The same practice has been adopted in the case of many technical and scientific words, whose senses may be quickly discovered by recourse to a small English dictionary. No attempt has been made to record all the modern senses of words for which definitions are provided, since these are frequently of secondary importance in tracing the etymology and history of the words in question.

A good many early spellings of words have been included, usually after the relevant Roman numeral denoting the century of first occurrence. Such spellings have in particular been included where they help to elucidate the origin and development of particular words.

This dictionary distinguishes three principal kinds of process in the evolution of words:

(1) The normal development of a word within a given language, according to the regular processes of change in that language. Thus, English *goose* is explained as the normal development of the word **gans* in the pre-literary Germanic language from which English is

descended, and Gmc. **zans-* is in turn the normal development of an earlier Indo-European **ǵhans-*.

(2) The adoption of a word from one language into some other language. Thus, Eng. *brave* is explained as an adoption ('borrowing') of French *brave*, which in turn is an adoption of Italian *bravo*.

(3) The formation of a word on some existing word or element by means of a derivational device, or by compounding. Thus, Eng. *alleviate* is explained as having been formed on the past participial stem (*alleviāt-*) of the late Latin verb *alleviāre*, by means of the derivational suffix *-ate*, while *alleviāre* is in turn formed on the Latin adjective *levis* by means of the derivational prefix *al-*. The Eng. compound *nightmare* was formed by the combining of *night* and Middle English *mare* 'incubus'.

The symbols used, for brevity, to denote these three processes are listed below. It is, of course, not always possible to reduce the account of the origins and development of words to a simple formula, and where necessary further explanation has been given.

A large number of related and derivative forms has been included, at the ends of the various main entries, although it would be impossible in a dictionary of this size to offer anything like a comprehensive treatment of such forms. In the explanation of derivatives, etc., 'So . . .' normally implies that the source-language(s) of the derivative and of the headword of the entry are the same; the language(s) are not usually named again, nor are the specific forms from which the related or derivative words in English descend usually cited. 'Hence . . .' implies that the derivative is formed on the English headword, or a previously cited English derivative.

No one could compile an adequate etymological dictionary of English on the basis of his or her individual knowledge alone, and the present dictionary is heavily dependent on the work of the editors of many other dictionaries in a wide range of languages, and on that of the authors of a large number of scholarly books and articles. A number of individuals have, furthermore, been generous in answering questions and giving advice. Grateful acknowledgement is here made to the following, for assistance of various kinds: Professor L. V. Berman, the late Professor A. J. Bliss, Professor T. Burrow, Dr D. H. Evans, Professor T. Light, Professor W. B. Lockwood, and the late Professor Sir Ralph Turner. Apology is offered to anyone who should have appeared in the list but is not named here.

Particular thanks are due to three people. Dr R. W. Burchfield, CBE, and Professor E. G. Stanley have been constant sources of advice and support. And Sir Edward Playfair has been of exceptional assistance in supplying information and answering enquiries, principally (but by

no means exclusively) on Arabic matters. To these persons, as to all who have contributed to the completion of this dictionary, warmest thanks are extended.

St Peter's College, Oxford
November 1985

T. F. H.

Abbreviations

In the following list, 'etc.' means that the abbreviation in question may be used to represent, in addition to the word cited, some related form. Thus 'alt.' may represent both 'alteration' and 'altered', and 'sb.' may represent 'substantival' and 'substantivally', as well as 'substantive'. Abbreviations such as '(O)F.' indicate that a word so labelled occurs in the same form in both the 'Old' and the 'Modern' period of the language in question.

a.	ante	archit.	architecture, etc.
abbr.,	abbreviation, etc.	arith.	arithmetic, etc.
abbrev.		Arm.	Armenian
abl.	ablative	art.	article
absol.	absolute	A.-S.	Anglo-Saxon
abstr.	abstract	assim.	assimilated, etc.
acc.	according; accusative	assoc.	associated, etc.
accus.	accusative	astrol.	astrology, etc.
act.	active	astr.,	astronomy, etc.
add.	addition	astron.	
adj.	adjective, etc.	attrib.	attributive, etc.
adv., advb.	adverb, etc.	augm.	augmentative, etc.
Aeol.	Aeolic	Austral.	Australia, etc.
Afr.	Africa, etc.	Av.	Avestan
agric.	agriculture, etc.	A.V.	Authorized Version
AL.	Anglo-Latin	Balto-Slav.	Balto-Slavonic
Alb.	Albanian	biochem.	biochemistry, etc.
alch.	alchemy, etc.	biol.	biology, etc.
alt.	alteration, etc.	bot.	botany, etc.
Amer.	America, etc.	Bret.	Breton
AN.	Anglo-Norman	Bulg.	Bulgarian
anal.	analogy, etc.	B.V.M.	Blessed Virgin Mary
anat.	anatomy, etc.	c.	<i>circa</i>
Angl.	Anglian	Cat.	Catalan
Anglo-Ind.	Anglo-Indian	Celt.	Celtic
Anglo-Ir.	Anglo-Irish	cent.	century
anthrop.	anthropology, etc.	cf.	<i>confer</i> , 'compare'
antiq.	antiquities, etc.	CGmc.	Common Germanic
aor.	aorist	Ch.	Chaucer
Apocr.	Apocrypha	chem.	chemistry, etc.
app.	apparently, etc.	ChrGr.	Christian Greek
Arab.	Arabic	ChrL.	Christian Latin
Aram.	Aramaic	classL.	classical Latin
arch.	archaic, etc.	cogn.	cognate
archaeol.	archaeology, etc.	coll.	collective, etc.

colloq.	colloquial, etc.	esp.	especially
comb.	combining, etc.	etym.,	etymology, etc.
comm.	commerce, etc.	etymol.	
comp.	compound	euph.,	euphemistic, etc.
compar.	comparative	euphem.	
concr.	concrete	Eur.	European
conj.	conjugation, etc.; con- junction	ex. (exx.)	example (examples)
cons.	consonant, etc.	exc.	except
contemp.	contemporary, etc.	excl.,	exclamation
contr.	contracted, etc.	exclam.	
Corn.	Cornish	expl.	explained
corr.	corresponding, etc.	ext.	extended
correl.	correlative	F.	French
Cotgr.	Cotgrave	f.	formed on
cryst.	crystallography, etc.	fem.	feminine
CSl.	Common Slavonic	fig.	figurative, etc.
d.	dative; died	Finn.	Finnish
Da.	Danish	fl.	<i>floruit</i> , 'lived'
dat.	dative	Flem.	Flemish
decl.	declension, etc.	folll.	following, etc.
def.	definite	fortif.	fortification
dem.,	demonstrative	Frank.	Frankish
demonstr.		freq.	frequent, etc.
deriv.	derivative, etc.	frequent.	frequentative
dial.	dialectal, etc.	Fris.	Frisian
dim.	diminutive	fut.	future
dissim.	dissimilated, etc.	G.	German
dist.	distinct	g.	genitive
disyll.	disyllabic, etc.	Gael.	Gaelic
Du.	Dutch	Gallo-Rom.	Gallo-Roman
E.	East, etc.	Gaul.	Gaulish
E. Angl.	East Anglian	gen.	general, etc.; genitive
eccl.	ecclesiastical	geog.	geography, etc.
ecclGr.	ecclesiastical Greek	geol.	geology, etc.
ecclL.	ecclesiastical Latin	geom.	geometry, etc.
EFris.	East Frisian	Gmc.	Germanic
e.g.	<i>exempli gratia</i> , 'for example'	Goth.	Gothic
el.	element	Gr.	Greek
electr.	electricity, etc.	gram.	grammar, etc.
ellipt.	elliptical, etc.	Heb.	Hebrew
emph.	emphatic	her.	heraldry, etc.
Eng.	English	HG.	High German
ent.,	entomology, etc.	Hind.	Hindustani
entom.		hist.	history, etc.
equiv.	equivalent	Hung.	Hungarian
erron.	erroneous, etc.	ib., ibid.	<i>ibidem</i> , 'in the same book or passage'

Icel.	Icelandic		<i>abbr. for any language name)</i>
id.	<i>idem</i> , 'the same'		
i.e.	<i>id est</i> , 'that is'	medGr.	medieval Greek
IE.	Indo-European	medL.	medieval Latin
imit.	imitative	metaph.	metaphysics, etc.
immed.	immediate, etc.	metath.	metathetic
imper.	imperative	meteor.	meteorology, etc.
imperf.	imperfect	Mex.	Mexican
impers.	impersonal, etc.	MHG.	Middle High German
ind., indic.	indicative	midl.	midland
indecl.	indeclinable, etc.	mil.	military, etc.
Indo-Iran.	Indo-Iranian	min.	mineralogy, etc.
inf., infin.	infinitive	MIr.	Middle Irish
infl.	inflected; influenced, etc.	mistr.	mistranslation, etc.
		MLG.	Middle Low German
instr.	instrumental	mod.	modern (<i>also preceding the abbr. for any language name</i>)
int.	interjection		
interrog.	interrogative, etc.		
intr.	intransitive, etc.	monosyll.	monosyllable, etc.
Ir.	Irish	MS.	manuscript (manuscripts)
iron.	ironic, etc.	(MSS.)	
irreg.	irregular, etc.	MSc.	Middle Scots
It.	Italian	MSw.	Middle Swedish
Jap.	Japanese	mus.	music., etc.
joc.	jocular, etc.	myth.	mythology, etc.
L.	Latin	N.	North, etc.
lang.	language	n.	neuter
Lapp.	Lappish	nat. hist.	natural history
Latv.	Latvian	naut.	nautical
law-L.	law-Latin	N.E.	north-eastern
leg.	legal, etc.	NEF.	north-eastern French
LG.	Low German	neg.	negative, etc.
lit.	literal, etc.; literary	Nhb.	Northumbrian
Lith.	Lithuanian	nom.	nominative
liturg.	liturgy, etc.	north.	northern
loc.	locative	Norw.	Norwegian
LXX	Septuagint	N.T.	New Testament
M	Middle (<i>preceding the abbr. for any language name</i>)	N.Z.	New Zealand
		O	Old (<i>preceding the abbr. for any language name</i>)
magn.	magnetism		
m., masc.	masculine	obj.	object, etc.
math.	mathematics, etc.	obl.	oblique
MDu.	Middle Dutch	OBret.	Old Breton
ME.	Middle English	OBrit.	Old British
mech.	mechanics, etc.	obs.	obsolete
med.	medicine, etc.; medieval (<i>also preceding the</i>	occas.	occasional, etc.
		ODa.	Old Danish

OE.	Old English	pp.	past participle, etc.
OF.	Old French	ppl.	participle, etc.
OFris.	Old Frisian	Pr.	Provençal
OHG.	Old High German	prec.	preceding
OIr.	Old Irish	pref.	prefix
OL.	Old Latin	prep.	preposition
OLF.	Old Low Franconian	pres.	present
ON.	Old Norse	prim.	primary
ONF.	Old Northern French	prob.	probably, etc.
ONhb.	Old Northumbrian	pron.	pronoun, etc.
OPers.	Old Persian	pronunc.	pronunciation, etc.
OPg.	Old Portuguese	prop.	proper, etc.
OPol.	Old Polish	pros.	prosody, etc.
opp.	opposed to; opposite	prp.	present participle
OPruss.	Old Prussian	Ps.	Psalm
orig.	origin; original, etc.	psych.,	psychology, etc.
ornith.	ornithology, etc.	psychol.	
OS.	Old Saxon	pt.	past (tense)
OSl.	Old Slavonic	q.v.	<i>quod vide</i> , 'which see'
OSp.	Old Spanish	R.C.Ch.	Roman Catholic
OSw.	Old Swedish		Church
O.T.	Old Testament	redupl.	reduplication, etc.
OW.	Old Welsh	ref.	reference, etc.
P.	proprietary term (<i>see note below</i>)	refash.	refashioned, etc.
palaeogr.	palaeography, etc.	refl.	reflexive, etc.
pass.	passive	rel.	related (to); relative
path.	pathology, etc.	repl.	replacing, etc.
perf.	perfect	repr.	representing, etc.
perh.	perhaps	rhet.	rhetoric, etc.
pers.	person; personal	Rom.	Roman; Romance
Pers.	Persian	Rum.	Rumanian
pert.	pertaining	Russ.	Russian
Pg.	Portuguese	S.	south, etc.
pharm.	pharmacy, etc.	S.Afr.	South Africa, etc.
philol.	philology, etc.	S.Amer.	South America, etc.
philos.	philosophy, etc.	sb.	substantive, etc.
phon.	phonetics, etc.	sc.	<i>scilicet</i> , 'understand'
photogr.	photography, etc.		or 'supply'
phr.	phrase	Sc.	Scots, Scottish
phys.	physics, etc.	Scand.	Scandinavian
physiol.	physiology, etc.	scholl.	scholastic Latin
pl.	plural	S.E.	South East
poet.	poetic, etc.	Sem.	Semitic
Pol.	Polish	Serb.	Serbian
pop.	popular	sg.	singular
popL.	popular Latin	Sh.	Shakespeare
poss.	possessive; possibly, etc.	sing.	singular
		Sinh.	Sinhalese

Skr.	Sanskrit	trans.	transitive, etc.
Sl., Slav.	Slavonic	transf.	transferred, etc.
sl.	slang	trisyll.	trisyllabic, etc.
south.	southern	Turk.	Turkish
Sp.	Spanish	typogr.	typography, etc.
sp.	spelling, etc.	ult.	ultimate, etc.
spec.	specific, etc.	uncert.	uncertain
str.	stress, etc.; strong	unexpl.	unexplained
subj.	subject; subjunctive	Univ.	University
subseq.	subsequently, etc.	unkn.	unknown
superl.	superlative	unstr.	unstressed
surg.	surgery, etc.	U.S.	United States
s.v.	<i>sub voce</i> , 'under the word'	usu.	usually, etc.
Sw.	Swedish	var. (varr.)	variant (variants)
s.w.	south-western	vb.	verb
syll.	syllable	vbl.	verbal
syn., synon.	synonym, etc.	viz.	<i>videlicet</i> , 'namely'
Syr.	Syrian	voc.	vocative
techn.	technical, etc.	Vulg.	Vulgate
theatr.	theatre, etc.	W.	Welsh; west, etc.
theol.	theology, etc.	w.	with
Toch.	Tocharian	WGmc.	West Germanic
tr.	transitive, etc.; trans- lation, etc.	wk.	weak
		WS.	West Saxon
		zool.	zoology, etc.

NOTE ON PROPRIETARY TERMS

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SPECIAL SYMBOLS

- * = indicates a hypothetical form
- † = obsolete
- = = corresponding to
- f. = formed on, as 'L. *discipulus* learner, f. *discere* learn'
- = adoption of, as 'OE. *discipul* - L. *discipulus*'
- :- = normal development of, as 'ME. *mesel* leper (- OF. *mesel* :- L. *misellus*, f. *miser* wretched)'

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