The Vocabulary of English

Recommended Literature

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English Linguistics
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Overview histories of the English language
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CHARLES BARBER
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The Stories of English

‘A marvellous book … for anyone who loves the English language(s) it will be a treasure-house’

Philip Pullman
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Manfred Görlach
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Words Words Words

'A joyful journey, full of teasing and word play . . . delightful’ Publishing News
BLOOMING ENGLISH

KATE BURRIDGE

Observations on the roots, cultivation and hybrids of the English language

CAMBRIDGE
Weeds in the Garden of Words
Further observations on the tangled history of the English language
WORDS in the MIND

An Introduction to the Mental Lexicon

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Fowler's MODERN ENGLISH USAGE
SECOND EDITION
Revised by SIR ERNEST GOWERS
AND COMPLETELY RESET

leap
demand

forward

former

65
209

in scientific writing. See LATIN

PLURAL.

force, person's strong point. For the

spelling, which should have been (but

is not) force, cf. American Pronounce

The first

a parallel

forsake, forsake, forsake, etc., see INITIATIVE, V.P.

fort, person's strong point. For the

spelling, which should have been (but

is not) fort, cf. American Pronounce

fort, in scientific writing. See LATIN

PLURAL.

forsake, forsake, forsake, etc., see INITIATIVE, V.P.

fort, person's strong point. For the

spelling, which should have been (but

is not) fort, cf. American Pronounce

fort, in scientific writing. See LATIN

PLURAL.

forsake, forsake, forsake, etc., see INITIATIVE, V.P.

fort, person's strong point. For the

spelling, which should have been (but

is not) fort, cf. American Pronounce

fort, in scientific writing. See LATIN

PLURAL.
LE MÔT JUSTE
THE PENGUIN
DICTIONARY OF
FOREIGN TERMS
AND PHRASES

BASED ON THE ORIGINAL EDITION
COMPILED BY C. O. SYLVESTER MAWSON
REVISED AND EDITED
BY EUGENE EHRlich
Books on Lexicography
(the compilation of dictionaries)
Lexicography
An Introduction

Howard Jackson
English Dictionaries, 800–1700
The Topical Tradition
Werner Hüllen
A HISTORY OF ROGET’S THESAURUS
Origins, Development, and Design

WERNER HÜLLEN
Books on New Words
20th Century Words

The story of the new words in English over the last hundred years

flapper
cheerio
Cool Britannia
doodlebug

Oxford
The Oxford Dictionary of New Words

The intriguing stories behind 2,000 new words in the news

twigloo  happy  clappy  loved  up

car  thrillcraft  karoshi

bra  ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

burb  Aga saga

The World’s Most Trusted Dictionaries
The Word Weavers
Newshounds and Wordsmiths
Jean Aitchison
Studies on the Oxford English Dictionary
LEXICOGRAPHY
AND THE OED
Pioneers in the Untrodden Forest
EDITED BY
LYNDA MUGGLESTONE
LYNDA MUGGLESTONE

LOST FOR WORDS

The Hidden History of the Oxford English Dictionary
Works on Etymology
(the history of meanings)
The Concise Dictionary of English Etymology

Walter W. Skeat

The pioneering work on the roots and origins of the language
The Earliest English Dictionary
(Robert Cawdrey, 1604)
A Table Alphabetical, containing and teaching the true writing, and understanding of hard usuall English words, borrowed from the Hebrew, Greeke, Latine, or French, &c.

With the interpretation thereof by plaine English words, gathered for the benefit & helpe of Ladies, Gentlewomen, or any other unskilfull persons.

Whereby they may the more easilie and better understand many hard English wordes, which they shall heare or read in Scriptures, Sermons, or elsewhere, and also be made able to use the same aptly themselves.

Legere, et non intelligere, neglegere est.
As good not read, as not to understand.

AT LONDON,
Printed by I. R. for Edmund Weaver, &c are to be sold at his shop at the great North doore of Paules Church,
1604.
Early Modern Dictionaries

(Johnson, Sheridan, Walker)
A DICTIONARY
OF THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE:
IN WHICH
The WORDS are deduced from their ORIGINALS,
AND
ILLUSTRATED in their DIFFERENT SIGNIFICATIONS
BY
EXAMPLES from the best WRITERS,
TO WHICH are PREFIXED,
A HISTORY of the LANGUAGE,
AND
AN ENGLISH GRAMMAR.
By SAMUEL JOHNSON, A.M.
IN TWO VOLUMES
VOL. I

LONDON,
Printed by W. STRADEN,
For J. and R. Knapton; T. and T. Longman; C. Hitch and L. Hawes,
M.DCCCLV.
Sheridan A *Complete Dictionary of the English Language* (1796)
A CRITICAL
PRONOUNCING DICTIONARY,
AND EXPOSITOR OF
THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE:

IN WHICH, NOT ONLY THE MEANING OF EVERY WORD IS CLEARLY EXPLAINED,
AND THE SOUND OF EVERY SYLLABLE DISTINCTLY SHOWN,
BUT, WHERE WORDS ARE SUBJECT TO DIFFERENT PRONUNCIATIONS,
THE AUTHORITY OF OUR BEST PRONOUNCING DICTIONARIES ARE FULLY EXHIBITED,
THE REASONS FOR EACH ARE AT LARGE DISPLAYED, AND THE
PREFERRED PRONUNCIATION IS PRINTED OUT.

To which are prefixed,
PRINCIPLES OF ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION:

IN WHICH THE SOUNDS OF LETTERS, SYLLABLES, AND WORDS, ARE CRITICALLY
INVESTIGATED, AND SYSTEMATICALLY ARRANGED;
THE INFLUENCE OF THE DIALECTS AND SAVAGE AND QUANTITY, ON THE ACCENT AND QUANTITY
OF THE ENGLISH, IS THOROUGHLY EXAMINED, AND CLEARLY DEFINED;
AND THE ANALOGIES OF THE LANGUAGE ARE SO FULLY SHOWN AS TO Lay THE FOUNDATION
OF A CONSISTENT AND RATIONAL PRONUNCIATION.

LUCERINE,
Rules to be observed by the Natives of Scotland, Ireland, and London,
for avoiding their respective peculiarities; and
DIRECTIONS TO FOREIGNERS, FOR ACQUIRING A KNOWLEDGE OF THE USE OF THIS DICTIONARY.

The whole illustrated with
OBSERVATIONS, ETYMOLOGICAL, CRITICAL, AND GRAMMATICAL.

BY JOHN WALKER,
AUTHOR OF ELEMENTS OF ELOCUTION, EDDING DICTIONARY, &c. &c.

THE FIFTEENTH EDITION.

LONDON:
STEREOTYPED AND PRINTED BY A. WILSON, CAMDEN TOWN;
FOR T. CABLE AND W. DAVIES; G. WILKIE; LONGMAN, HURT, BERN, GORMS, AND BROWN;
E. C. AND R. CREASY; G. AND S. ROBINSON; CRADDOCK AND JOY; SHEPPYD; GIBBS;
NEELY, AND JONES; AND WALKER, EDWARDS, AND REYNOLDS.

1815.
Various book versions of the Oxford English Dictionary
Illustrated Oxford Dictionary

187,000 definitions & entries • 4,500 illustrations
Oxford
PAPERBACK
Thesaurus

THE WORLD'S MOST TRUSTED DICTIONARIES
Electronic versions of the Oxford English Dictionary
thou, pers. pron., 2nd sing.

1. The pronoun by which a person (or thing) is addressed, in the nominative singular; the pronoun denoting the person (or thing) spoken to.

   Thou and its cases thee, thine, thy, were in OE. used in ordinary speech; in ME. they were gradually superseded by the plural ye, you, your, yours, in addressing a superior and (later) an equal, but were long retained in addressing an inferior. Long retained by Quakers in addressing a single person, though now less general; still in various dialects used by parents to children, and familiarly between equals, esp. intimates; in other cases considered as rude. In general English used in addressing God or Christ, also in homiletic language, and in poetry, apostrophe, and elevated prose. For details of dialect use, see Wright, Eng. Dial. Dict., Thou II, Eng. Dial. Gram. §404.

   In ME. freq. combined with its verb when this precedes, the p. being then absorbed in the preceding t, as art thou = art thou; hasten = hast thou. The initial p. also became t after s, t, or d, as hasten = hast thou; put t, and tu: see T 8.

   Beowulf 507 Eart pu se Beowulf? c825 Vesp. Psalter ix. 15 Du upthest mec of zeatum deades. c1205 LAY. 690 Niding you eart al dead. Bote pu min lace do. Ibid. 2978 Jeou [c1275 you] eart leouere yene mi lif. c1225 Anon. R. 240 þench ec hwat uowut God, uor his god deden. c1240 Ueisins in Cott. Hom. 159 So pu dest and so þu shalt. c1250 Gen. & Ex. 361 For þu min bode-word haues broken, þu salt bea ut in sorce luken, In swine þu salt tilia æl mete. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6371 þou ne ssalt of pin lifode neuere carie noxt. c1300 Cursor M. 19585 (Edin.) Hausi tis [v.r. pu, pu] na parte...here. Ibid. 1253 (Gott.) In þat way sal þu [Cott. you] find forsoth þi moþer. Ibid. 8306 (Fairf.) Werrour artow [Cott. art pow] gode in figt. c1391 CHAUCER Astral. 1. §13 Thanne hastow a brod Rewe. c1440 Pallad. on Husb. 1. 42 The better may thowse with that watere holde. 1535 Coverdale Ps. liv. [iv.] 1 Thou, O God, art prayed in Sion. 1592 SHAKES. Rom. & Jul. 1. v. 9 Good thou, saue me a piece of Marchpane. 1597 — 2 Hen. IV, ii. 17 How many paire of Silk stockings yu haste. 1671 H. M. tr. Erasm. Colloq. 326 Why shouldest thou do so, seeing how thou was not far from thine own shore? 1715—20 POPE Idad xii. 69 Oh thou! bold leader of the Trojan bands, And you, confederate chiefs from foreign lands! 1751 RICHARDSON Pamela II. 273, I dare say thou'll set the good Work forward. c1835 Mrs. HUMANS
give

v. (past gave, past part. given) (usu. give something to or give someone something)
1 freely transfer the possession of, cause to receive or have. ➤ communicate or impart (a message). ➤ commit, consign, or entrust. ➤ cause to experience or suffer: you gave me a fright. ➤ allot (a score) to.
2 yield as a product or result. ➤ (give something off/out) emit odour, vapour, etc.
3 carry out (an action). ➤ produce (a sound). ➤ provide (a party or meal) as host or hostess.
4 state or put forward (information or argument). ➤ pledge or assign as a guarantee. ➤ deliver (a judgement) authoritatively.
5 present (an appearance or impression): he gave no sign of life.
6 alter in shape under pressure rather than resist or break. ➤ yield or give way to pressure. ➤ N. Amer. informal concede defeat, surrender.
7 (of an umpire or referee) declare whether or not (a player) is out or offside. ➤ adjudicate that (a goal) has been legitimately scored.
8 concede or yield (something) as valid or deserved in respect of (someone).
interest

/nint(ə)rɪst/ n. LME. [f. INTERESS n., partly by addition of parasitic t, partly by assoc. with OFr. interest damage, loss (mod. intérêt), app. use as n. of L interest it makes a difference, it concerns, it matters, 3rd person sing. pres. indic. of interesse differ, be of importance, f. as INTER. + esse be.]

1. The fact or relation of having a share or concern in, or a right to, something, esp. by law; a right or title, esp. to (a share in) property or a use or benefit relating to property, (a) share in something. LME.

+b Participation in doing or causing something. M17–M18.

c. A financial share or stake in something; the relation of being one of the owners or beneficiaries of an asset, company, etc. L17.

interest

noun 1. look with interest at the new product attentiveness, attention, undivided attention, absorption, engrossment, heed, regard, notice, scrutiny, curiosity, inquisitiveness.

2. an object of interest curiosity, attraction, appeal, fascination, charm, allure.

3. a matter of interest to all of us concern, importance, import, consequence, moment, significance, note, relevance, seriousness, weight, gravity, priority, urgency.

4. his interests include reading and music leisure activity, pastime, hobby, diversion, amusement, pursuit, relaxation; inf. thing, scene.

5. have an interest in the business share, stake, portion, claim, investment, involvement, participation; stock, equity.

6. you must declare your interest in the case involvement, partiality, partisanship, preference, one-sidedness, favouritism, bias, prejudice, discrimination.

7. his commercial interests are in trouble concern, business, matter, care; affairs.

8. earn interest on investments dividend, profit, return, percentage, gain.
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