

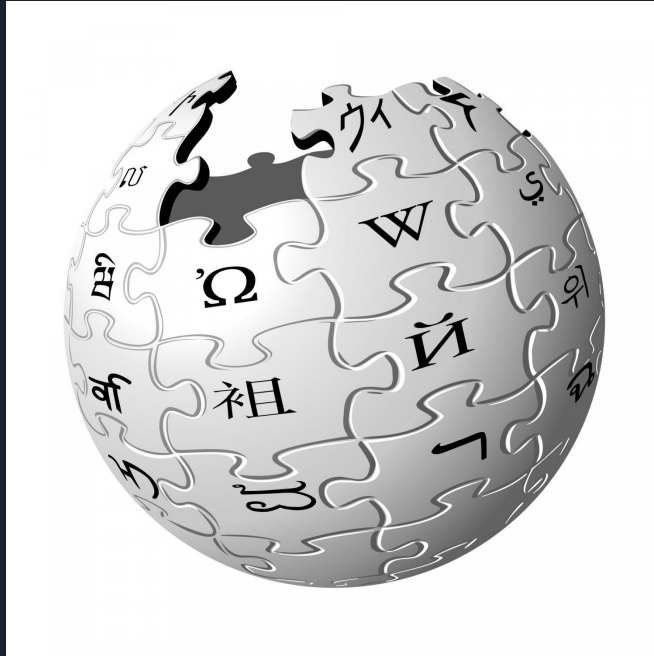


# Word Provenance

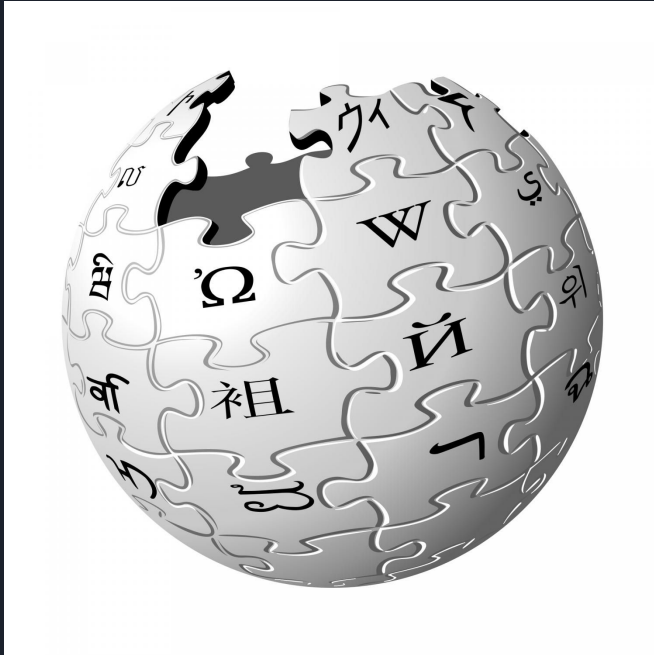
(Weird origins of simple words)

- Vaastav Anand

Source : Wikipedia



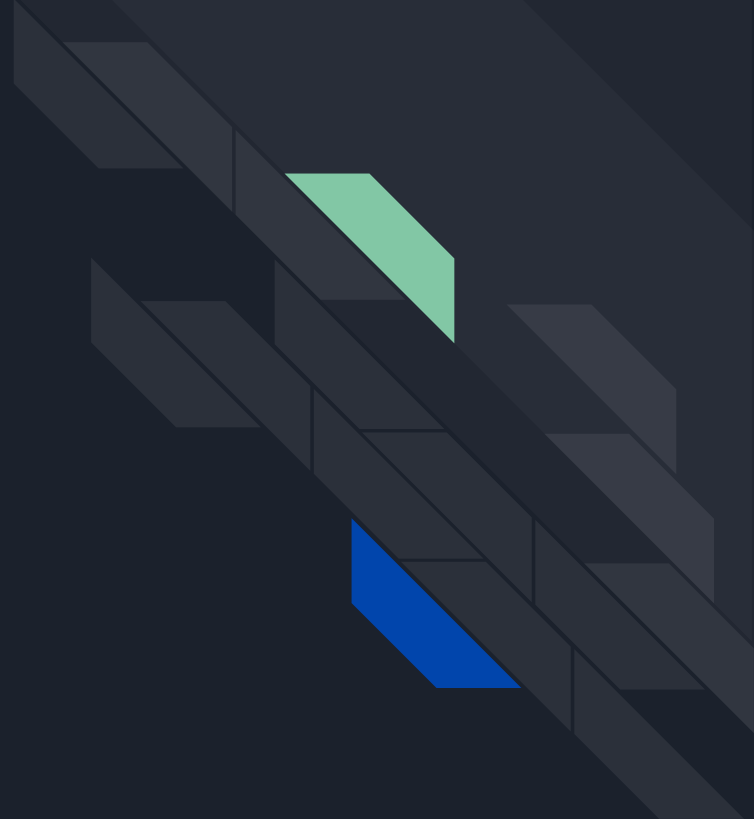
# 1. Wikipedia



- *wiki wiki* - very quick (Hawaiian)
- *pedia* - learning (Latin)
- Wikipedia - very quick learning



# The Tech Life



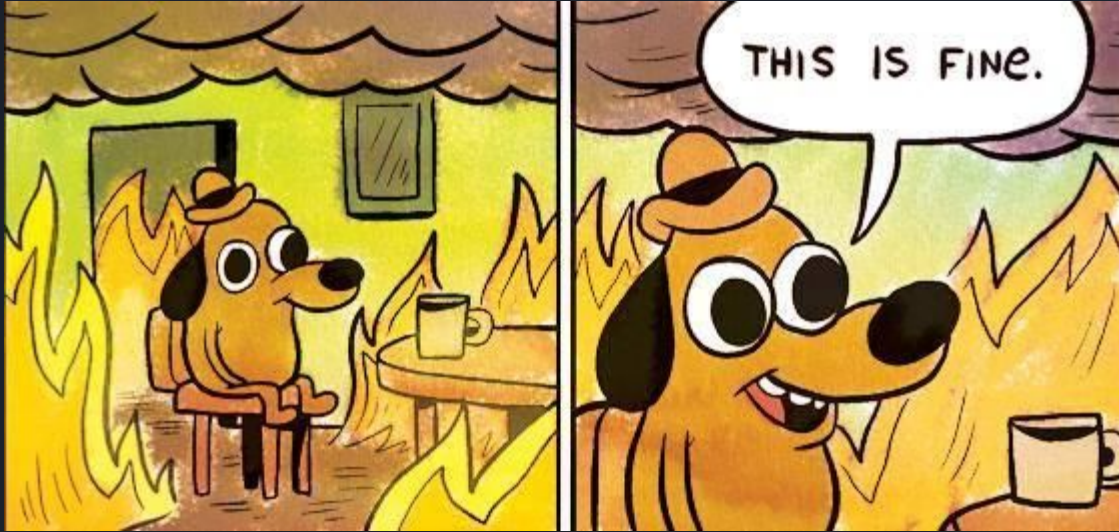
## 2. Computer



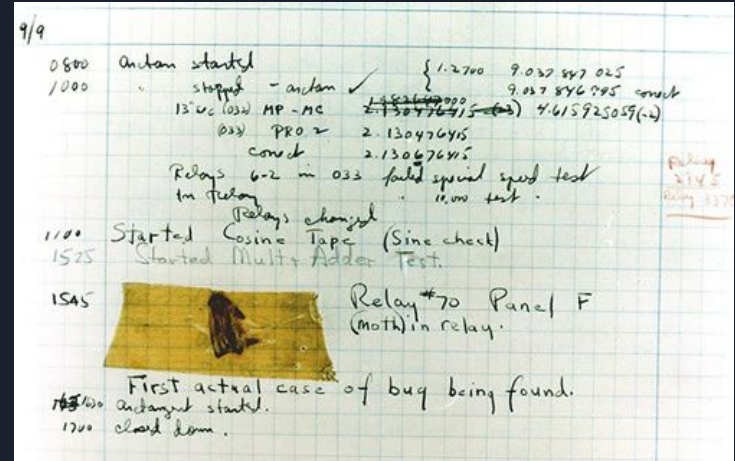
- Someone who computes
- Adapted in 1940s to refer to a machine which computes



# 3. Bug



- Physical bug found in machine
- Hence we now debug our code
- Found by Grace Hopper!



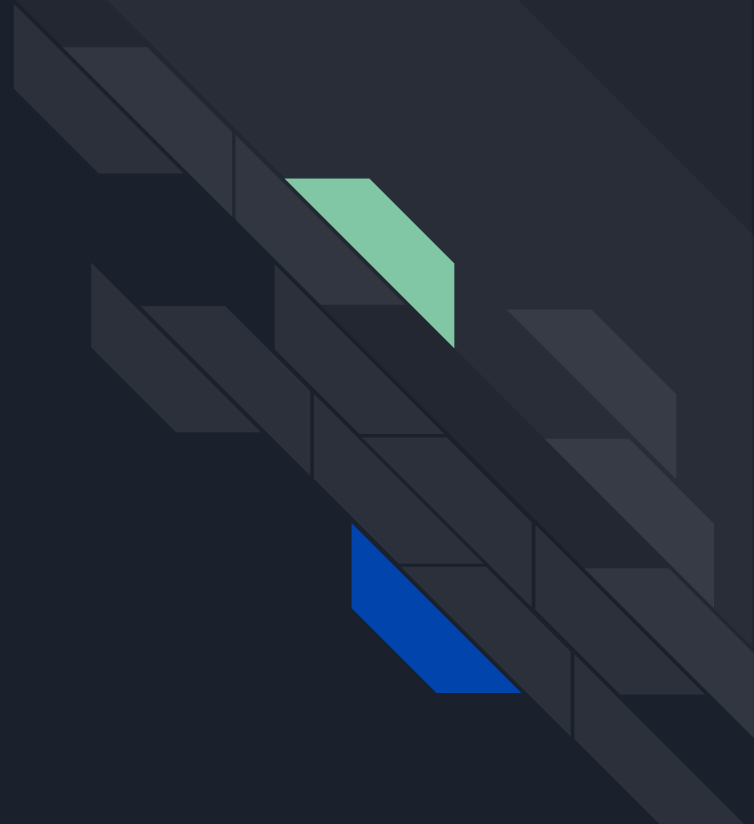
## 4. Phone



- From Telephone
- From French *téléphone*
- from Ancient Greek *τῆλε* (*têle*, “afar”) + *φωνή* (*phōnē*, “voice, sound”)



# The Daily Life

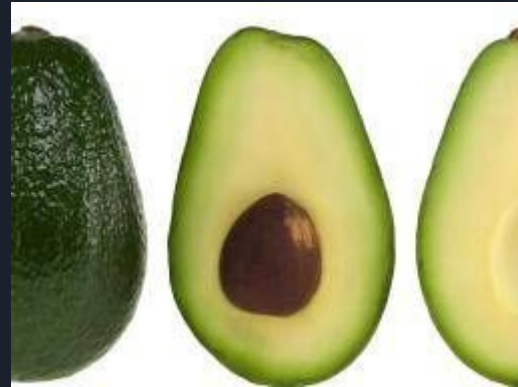




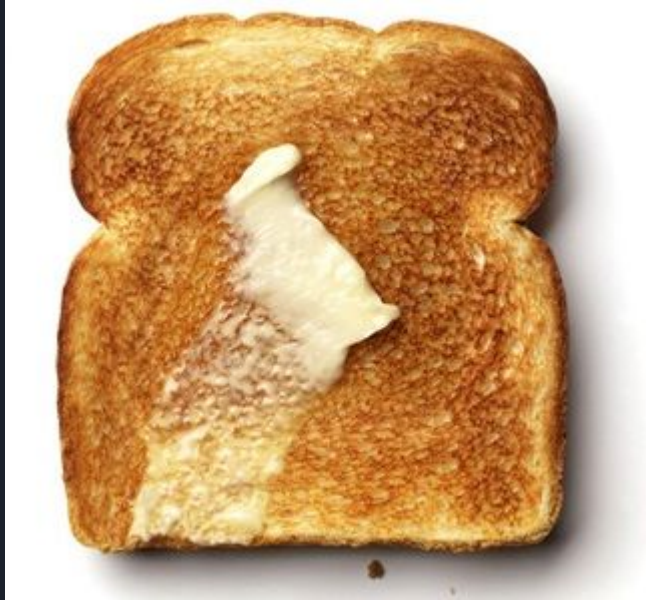
## 5. Avocado



- from the Spanish *aguacate*
- from the Nahuatl word *āhuacatl* - sometimes also meant testicle



## 6. Toast



- From Old French *toster* - roast
- From Latin *torrere* - parch



## 7. Sausage



- From late Middle English *sausige*
- From Anglo-Norman *saussiche*
- From late Latin *salsīcius* - seasoned with salt



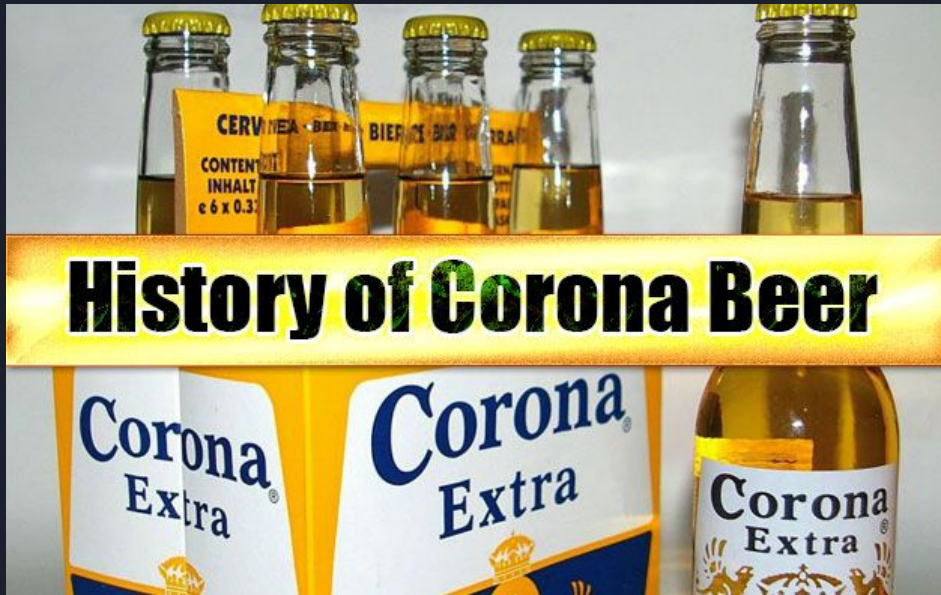
## 8. Tomato



- From Spanish *tomate*
- From Nahuatl *tomatl* - Swelling Fruit/Fat Water/Fat Thing



## 9. Beer



- From Old English *beor*
- From Latin *bibere* - to drink



## 10. Toilet



- From French *toilette* - wrapping cloth
- Started to mean cloth that goes on the dresser





# The Days of the Week

Day	Jour	Source in Romance Langs	Source in Germanic Langs & English
11. Monday	Lundi	Day of the Moon	Day of the Moon
12. Tuesday	Mardi	Day of Mars	Day of Tyr
13. Wednesday	Mercredi	Day of Mercury	Day of Odin/Woden
14. Thursday	Jeudi	Day of Jupiter	Day of Thor
15. Friday	Vendredi	Day of Venus	Day of Freya
16. Saturday	Samedi	Sabbath Day	Day of Saturn
17. Sunday	Dimanche	Day of the Lord	Day of the Sun

## 18. Mundane

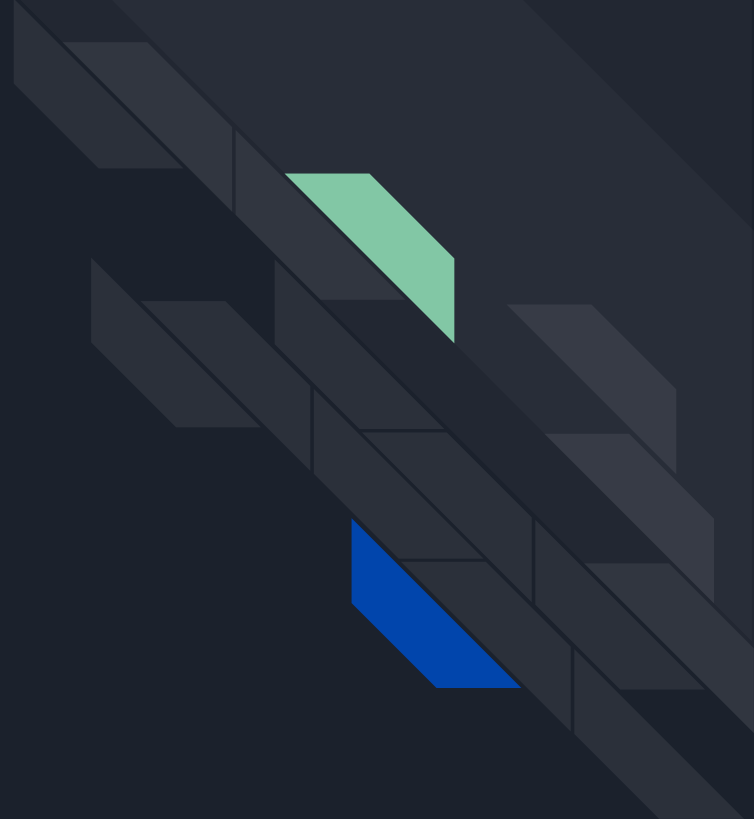


- From French *mondain*
- From Latin *mundus* - world
- Meaning - of this world





# A Brief History of Time



# 19. Tyrannosaurus Rex



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- "tyranno" means tyrant in Greek;
- "saurus" means lizard in Greek;
- "rex" means "king" in Latin.
- "king of the tyrant lizards"



## 20. Explosion



- From Latin verb *explodere* - to drive an actor off the stage by clapping (1538)
- From *ex-* (“out”) + *plaudere* (“to clap; to applaud”)



## 21. Disaster



- From Middle French *désastre*
- From Old Italian *disastro*
- From Ancient Greek insult prefix  $\delta\upsilon\sigma-$ , (*dus-*) "bad" and  $\acute{\alpha}\sigma\tau\acute{\eta}\rho$  (*aster*), "star"
- Disaster - Bad Star





ch *désastre*  
*disastro*  
reek insult prefix *δυσ-*,  
*ἀστήρ* (*aster*), "star"  
ar



## 22. Barbaric



- From Ancient Greek *βάρβαρος* - barbaric; antonym of citizen
- Foreigners sounded like sheep (bar-bar) to Greeks



## 23. Pyramid



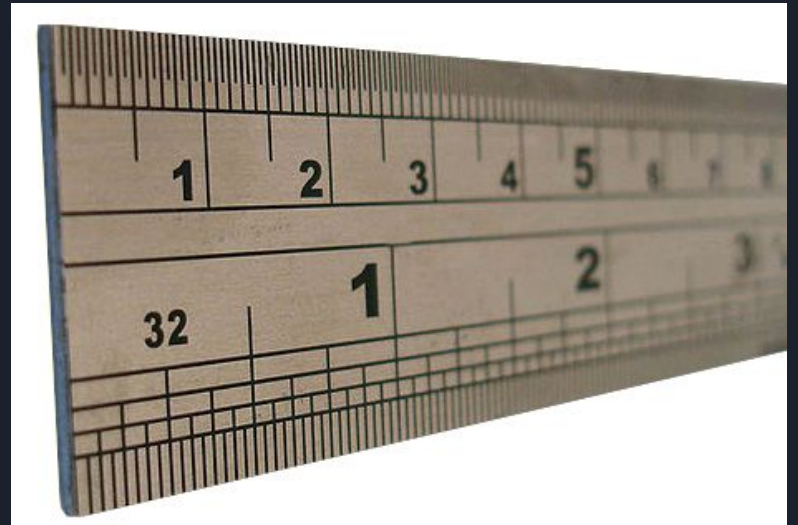
- From Old French *piramide*
- From Latin *p̄ramis*, *p̄ramidis*
- From Ancient Greek *πύραμις* (*pūramís*)
- Unknown Origin



## 24. Stadium



- From Latin *stadion*
- From Greek *στάδιον*
- Unit of length





## 25. Dictator



- From Latin *dictātor* (“a chief magistrate”),
- From *dictō* (“dictate, prescribe”),
- From *dīcō* (“say, speak”)



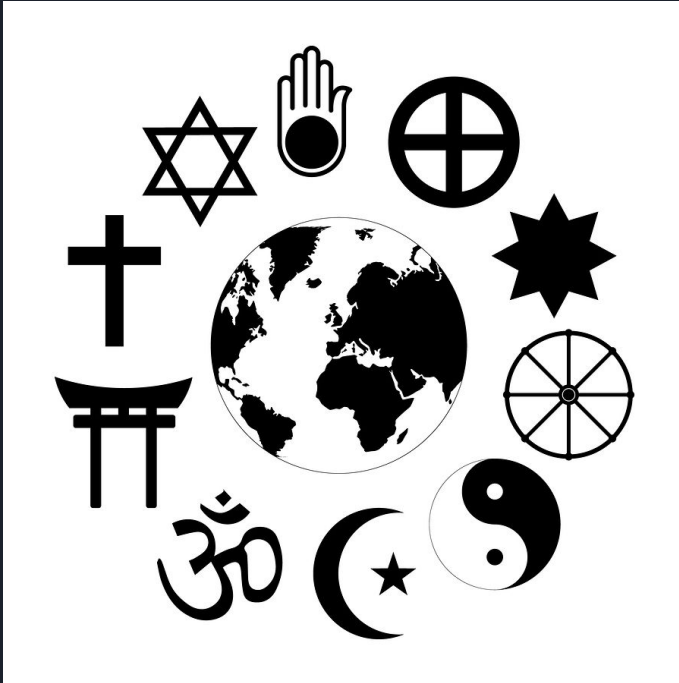
## 26. Parliament



- From Anglo-Norman *parliament*
- From Middle French and Old French *parlement* (“discussion, meeting, negotiation; assembly, council”),
- From *parler* (“to speak”) + *-ment* (suffix indicating action)



## 27. Religion



- From Latin *religio* - Bond, obligation
- From Latin *religare* - to bind



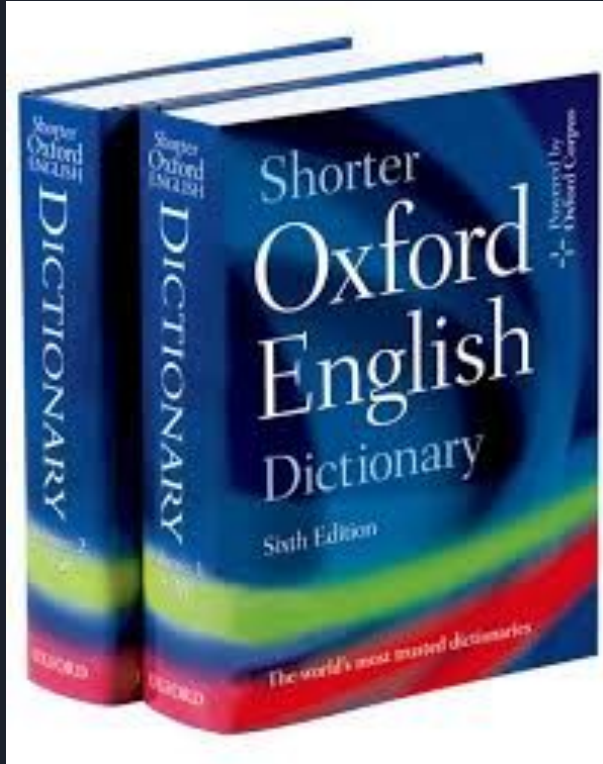
## 28. Crusade



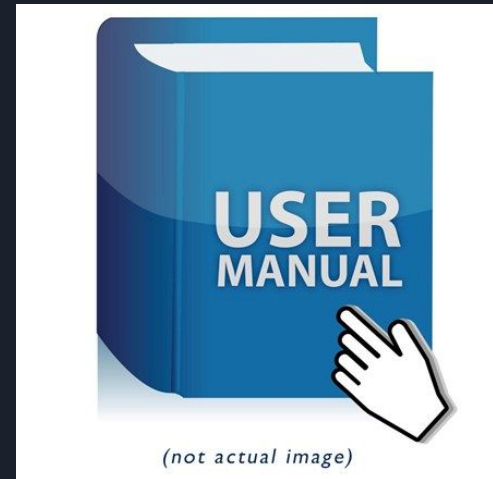
- From French *croisade*, introduced in English (in the French spelling) by 1575
- From Medieval Latin *cruciātus* - means "tormented; crucified"



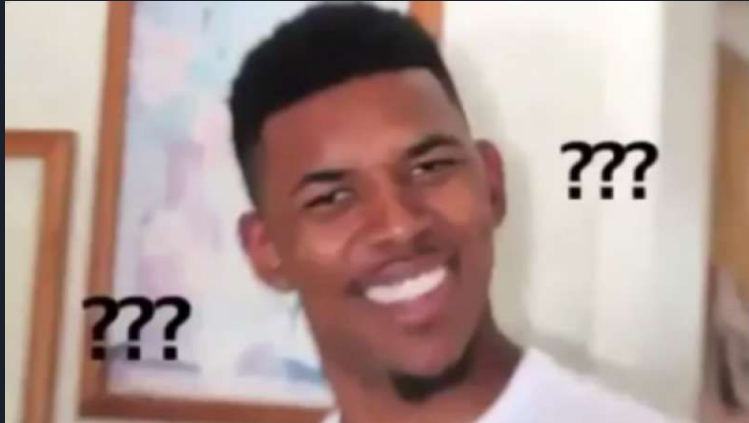
## 29. Dictionary



- From Latin *dictionary* *liber* - manual of books
- From *dictō* (“dictate, prescribe”),
- From *dīcō* (“say, speak”)

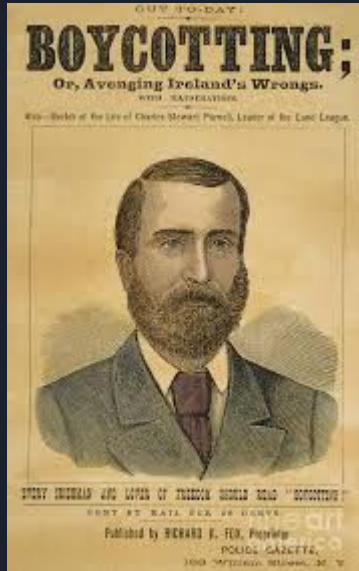


## 30. School



- From Middle English *scole*,
- From Old English *scōl* (“place of education”),
- Possibly from Proto-Germanic *\*skōla* (“school”), from Late Latin *schola*, *scola* (“learned discussion or dissertation, lecture, school”),
- From Ancient Greek *σχολεῖον* (*skholeíon*), from *σχολή* (*skholé*, “spare time, leisure; conversations and the knowledge gained through them during free time; the places where these conversations took place”)

# 31. Boycott



- Named after an Irish land agent, Captain Charles C. Boycott
- Irish Land League boycotted him to get rent reduced

## 32. Vaccine

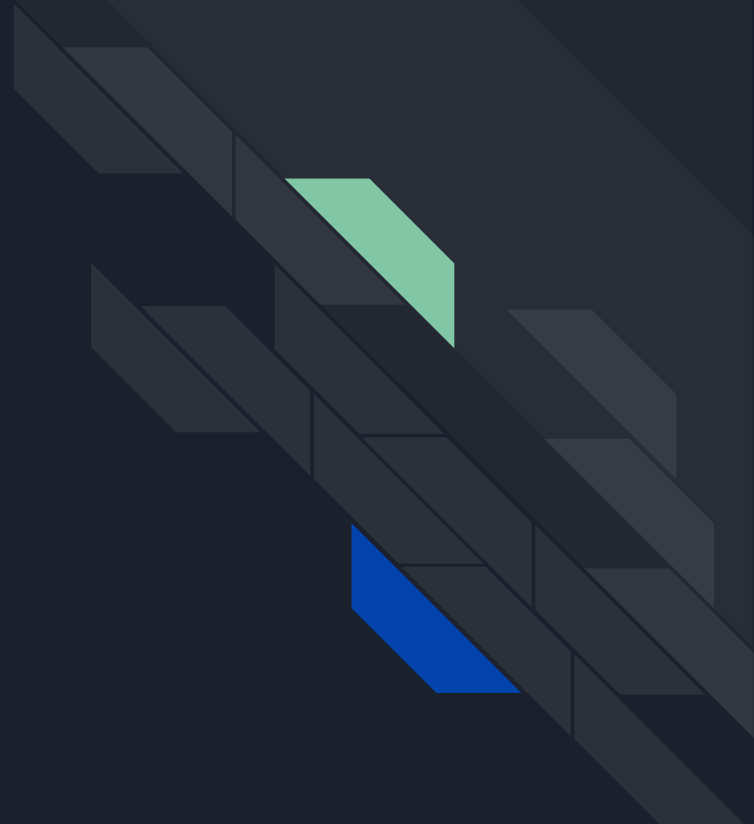


- From Latin *vaccīnus*, from *vacca* (“cow”) (because of early use of the cowpox virus against smallpox)





A futuristic look



## 33. Graduate



- From Latin *graduātus* (“graduated”),
- From *gradus* (“step”).



## 34. Car



- From the Latin word *carrus* or *carrum* ("wheeled vehicle"),
- From the Gaulish word *karros* (a Gallic chariot).



## 35. House

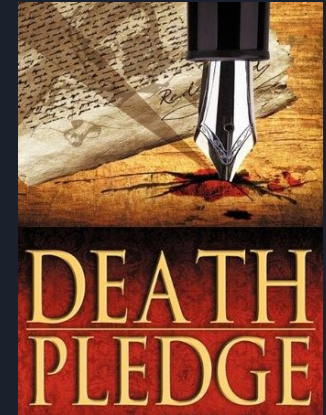


- From Middle English *hous*, *hus*, from Old English *hūs* (“dwelling, shelter, house”),
- From Proto-Germanic *\*hūsą*
- Possibly from Proto-Indo-European *\*(s)kews-*, from *\*(s)kew-* (“to cover, hide”)

## 36. Mortgage



- from Old French *mort gage* (“death pledge”)
- So called because the deal dies either when the debt is paid or when payment fails.



## 37. Bank



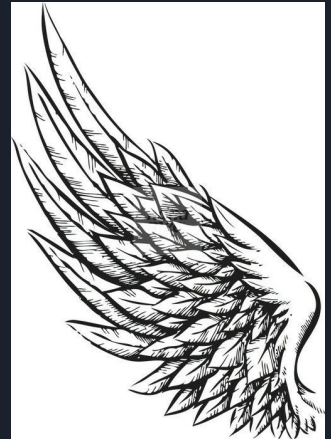
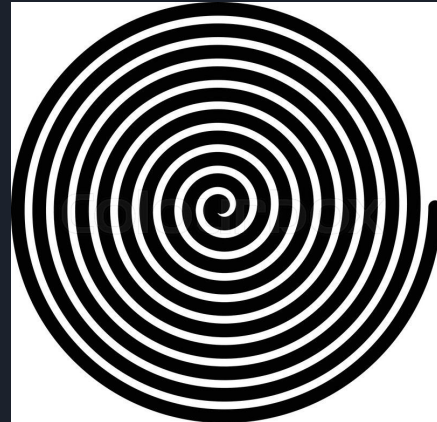
- Borrowed from French *banque*, from Italian *banco* (“bench”)
- Bankers would come and break benches in your house on failure of loan payment



## 38. Helicopter



- From French *hélicoptère*
- from Ancient Greek ἑλιξ (hélix, “spiral”) + πτερόν (pterón, “wing”)



# 39. Heaven



- From heofon (Old English) - means sky
- Uncertain origin of heofon

