

**BA** *abbreviation for* Bachelor of Arts

**baa**<sup>1</sup> *v* (imitative of a sheep's or lamb's bleat; late 16c); **F** bêler, **S** balar, **I** belàre, **G** blöken; to make the bleat of a sheep

**baa**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; late 16c); **F** bêlement m, **S** balido m, **I** belàto m, **G** Blöken n; the bleat of a sheep or lamb

**babble**<sup>1</sup> *v* (of imitative origin, see *L balbus* stammering, Icelandic *babbla*, Dutch and Low German *babbelen*; 13c); **F** babiller, gazouiller, (of a stream) murmurer, **S** barbullar, barbutear, (of a stream) murmurar, **I** balbettàre, (of a stream) mormoràre, **G** stammeln, plappern, (of a stream) murmeln; to say something in a confused or foolish way, *the child babbled something*, (of a stream) to make the continuous noise of water flowing over stones, *a babbling brook*

\***babble**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; 17c) **F** babillage m, bavardage m, (of a stream) murmure m, **S** parloteo m, barboteo m, (of a stream) murmullo m, **I** balbettio m, mormorio m, **G** Geplapper n, Geschwätz n, (of a stream) Murmeln n; inarticulate or imperfect speech, the noise of the water, *the babble of the river Piave*

**babe** *n* (of uncertain origin, apparently from *baban*; late 14c); **F** petit enfant m, **S** criatura f, cica f, **I** bambino m, **G** Baby n, kleines Kind n; *literary for* **baby**

**ba·bel** *n* (Hebr *bābel*; 14c); **F** (la tour de) Babel, **S** Torre f de Babel, **I** Tòrre f di Babel, confusióne f, **G** Babel n, Wirtwarr m; the city and tower of which the construction is described in the Bible, a scene of confusion

**ba·boon** *n* (see OF *babillier* indicating the movement of the lips, MF *babouin*, MedL *babewynus* and *babuināre*, meaning 'to paint marginal figures in MSS'; early 15c); **F** babouin m, **S** mandril m, **I** babbuino m, **G** Pavian m; a monkey with typical large canine teeth, large lips and a tail, *fig.* a term of abuse

**baby** *n* (see **babe**; while **baby** passed into familiar use, **babe** remained as the dignified word; 14c); **F** bébé m, **S** niño m, bebé m/f, **I** bambino m, **G** Baby n, jüngstes Kind n; an infant, a young child

**ba·by·ish** *adj*; **F** puéril/e, **S** infantil, **I** puerile, infantile, **G** kindlich, kindisch; childish, simple, *a babyish countenance*

**baby·sit** *v* to take care of children for a short period, when parents are out

**baby sitter** *n* a person, generally a young lady, who baby-sits

**ba·ca·laur·eate** *n* (MedL *baccalaureātus*, from *baccalariūs*, connected with *bacca lauri* laurel berry, see **bachelor**; 17c); **F** licence f, **S** bachillerato m, **I** baccellieràto m, **G** Bakkalaureat n; the last secondary school exam in France, that allows you to enrol at the university, *AmE formal* a bachelor's degree

**ba·c·carat** *n* (*F baccara*, etym unknown; 19c); **F** baccara m, **S** bacará m, **I** baccarà(t) m, **G** Bakkarat n; a game at cards, in which punters bet money against the banker

**ba·c·chanal** *n lit* (*L bacchanālis*, from *Bacchus*, Gr *Βάκχος* the god of wine; 16c); **F** bacchanales f/pl, **S** bacanales f/pl, **I** baccanāli m/pl, **G** Bacchanal n; a dance in honour of Bacchus, **bacchanalian** *adj*, involving uncontrolled sex and alcohol, *a bacchanalian orgy*

**ba·ch·e·lor** *n* (OF *bachelor*, *bachelier*, MedL *baccalāris*; 13c); **F** licencié/é, célibataire m, **S** licenciado m, soltero m, **I** baccellière m, cèlibe m, **G** Bakkalaureus m, Junggeselle m; one who has taken the lowest degree at a university, before that of Master of Arts, *hist* a young knight, who had a few vassals

**ba·cil·lus** *n* (Latin, in Pliny, *Natural History*, late in Isidore, 'little rod', *dimin.* of *bacūlus* rod, stick; 19c); **F** bacille m, **S** bacilo m, **I** bacillo m, **G** Bazillus m; a microscopic vegetable organism, of the lowest grade, of the genus *Schizocetae*

**back**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *bæc*, cognate with OS and Middle Dutch *bak*, LG *bak*, Old Icelandic *bak*, from Proto-Germanic, cp **bacon**; early 13c); **F** dos m, derrière m, **S** espalda f, **I** schièna f, dorso m, spalle f/pl, **G** Rücken m, Rückseite f; the part of the body of man and vertebrated animals, which is opposite to the belly, *she has broken her back*, the part of sth opposite to the front, *the back of the car*, *the back of the envelope*

**back**<sup>2</sup> *adv* (aphetic for **aback**; 1300); **F** en arrière, vers l'arrière, **S** atrás, hacia atrás, **I** indiétro, tra, **G** Zurück, rückwärts; in a direction to the rear, *I will phone you back in a quarter of an hour*

**back**<sup>3</sup> *adj* (from **back** *n* & *adv*; late 15c); **F** arrière, de derrière, **S** posterior, trasero/a, atrasado/a, **I** arretrato/a, **G** rückwärtig; (only before noun), *a back issue of the journal*, *a back seat*

**back**<sup>4</sup> *vt* (from the noun; 1362); **F** soutenir, secondar, **S** apoyar, favorecer, **I** sostenére, appoggiàre, **G** Rückenverstärkung versehen; to support, *this law was backed by the Labour Party*

**back**<sup>5</sup> *vi* (14c); **F** reculer, marcher à reculons, **S** retroceder, movere atrás, **I** fàre màrcia indiétro, **G** sich rückwärts bewegen; to move backwards, *she backed out of the wynd, and drove to the high street, when seeing the police he backed away*

**backache** *n* **F** mal m de dos, **S** dolor m de espalda, **I** mal di schièna, **G** Rückenschmerzen pl; a pain in the back

**back·bench** *n* (*back* + *bench*; 19c); a seat in the House of Commons for members who do not hold an official position (the leading MPs of each party sit on the **front bench**)

**back·bench** *adj* (from the noun; only before noun), *BrE* relating to an ordinary Member of Parliament, *a backbench revolt*

**back·bench·er** *n* *BrE* an ordinary Member of Parliament

**backbone** *n* (*back* + *bone*; 1300 as *bacbon*); **F** épine dorsale, colonne vertébrale, **S** espina f dorsal, **I** spina f dorsàle, colònna f vertebrale, **G** Rückgrat n; spinal column

**back·breaking** *adj* **F** éreintant/e, à casser les reins, **S** deslomador/ora, matador/a, **I** che rómpe le réni, sfiancànte, **G** mörderisch/e, zermürend/e; very hard and tiring, *a backbreaking work*

**back·date** *v* (*back* *adv* + *date* *v*; 20c); **F** antedater, **S** antedatar, **I** retrodatàre, **G** zurückdatieren; to write an earlier date on a document, *the agreement was backdated to June*

**backer** *n* (*back* + *-er*; late 16c); **F** partisan/e, bailleur/esse m/f de fonds, **S** partidario/a, promotor m, **I** sostenitóre/trice, finanziatóre/trice, **G** Unterstützer/in, Förderer m; a (financial) supporter, *the backer of our journal*

**backing** *n* (*back* + *-ing*; the action of the verb *back*; late 16c); support, help

**back·gam·mon** *n* (*back* + OE *gamen*, an early form of game, apparently from the pieces being sometimes put back on the table; 17c); **F** jacquet m, **S** backgamon m, **I** tàvola f reàle, **G** Backgammon n; a game played using dice on a board

**back·ground** *n* (*back* *adj* + *ground*; 17c); **F** fond m, origines f/pl, **S** fondo m, antecedentes m/pl, **I** retrotèrra m, **G** Hintergrund m; the personal circumstances, *her family background*, *Vincent's cultural background*

**back·pack** *n* (*back* + *pack*; early 20c); **F** sac m à dos, **S** mochila f, **I** zàino m, **G** Rucksack m; a piece of equipment carried on the back, rucksack

**backpacker** *n* (*back* + *packer*; 20c); one who travels with a backpack

**back·rest** *n* (from *back* noun; 19c); the part of a chair that supports your back, a contrivance that supports your back

**back·scratch·ing** *n informal* the fact of giving sb help in return for help that they have given you, often illegally

**back·side** *n* the part of the bottom that you sit in, bottom, *get up off your backside!*

**back-slap-ping** *n* enthusiastic behaviour when people are praising each other for their achievements

**back-slash** *n* a line (\) used in computers to separate letters

**back-stroke** *n* **F** nage f sur le dos, **S** braza de espalda, **I** nuòto m sul dórso, **G** auf dem Rücken m Schwimmen *n*; a way of swimming on your back

**back-up** *n* a copy of a computer document which is made in case the original becomes damaged

**back-ward** *adj* (only before noun); **F** rétrograde, **S** hacia atrás, **I** all'indietro, a ritròso, **G** rückwärts gerichtet; directed towards the back, *backward ideas*

**back-wards** *adv* *AmE also back-ward*, **F** en arrière, **S** atrás, al revés, **I** indietro, all'indietro, **G** rückwärts, zurück; towards the direction opposite to your usual direction, *he stepped backwards to the gate*

**backwardness** *n* (*backward* + *-ness*; late 16c); **F** sous-développement *m*, retard *m* mental, **S** atraso *m*, estado atrasado, **I** arretratzza *f*, **G** Rückständigkeit *f*; the condition of being backward, *people suffering from backwardness*

**back-wash** *n* (from *back adv*; late 19c); the direction of the waves when they leave after hitting the beach

**back-water** *n* (from *back adj/adv*; late 14c); **F** bras *m* mort, **S** brazo de río estancado, **I** acqua stagnante, lagùna *f*, **G** Stauwasser *n*; a part of a river away from the main part where the water is stagnant, *the barge is anchored in the backwater*, a place that is away from the main places where things mostly happen, *a rural backwater, cultural backwater*

**back-woods** *n* a place that is away from the influence of modern life

**back-yard** *n* *BrE* (*back* + *yard*; 17c); an enclosure behind a house, usually with a hard surface, *AmE* a garden behind a house

**ba-con** *n* (OF *bacon*, *MedL bac-ōnem*, *MHG bache* ham, bacon, *ModG -backe*, as in 'Hinterbacke' buttock, from a Germanic source; 14c); **F** lard *m*, bacon *m*, **S** tocino *m*, **I** pancetta *f* affumicata, **G** Speck *m*; the back and sides of the pig, salted and pickled

**bac-ter-ia** *n* (*ModL*, plural of *bacterium*, *Gr βακτήριον*, diminutive of *βάκτρον* stick, cudgel, *cp bacillus*; 19c); **F** bactérie *f*, **S** bacteria *f*, **I** batterio *m*, **G** Bakterien *m/pl*; a microscopic single-celled organism widely distributed in nature

**bac-ter-ial** *adj* (*bacterium* + *-al*; 19c); **F** bactérien/enne, **S** bacteriano/a, **I** batterico/a, da batterio *m*, **G** Bakterien; of or pertaining to bacteria

**bac-ter-i-ology** *n* **F** bactériologie *f*, **S** bacteriología *f*, **I** batteriologia *f*, **G** Bakterienkunde *f*; the scientific study of bacteria

**bad**<sup>1</sup> *adj* worse, worst (OE *bæddel*, *bædling* an effeminate man, from Indo-European, cognate with *L foedare* to make unclean, to stain, and *foedus* foul, repulsive in appearance; early 13c); **F** mauvais/e, méchant/e, **S** malo/a, **I** cattivo/a, malvågìo/a, **G** schlecht, schlimm; wretched, miserable, worthless, lacking good qualities, *a bad person*

**bad**<sup>2</sup> *adv* *AmE informal for badly*, *she was hurt bad*

**bad**<sup>3</sup> *n* (the bad) bad things, *in life you experience the bad and the good*

**badly** *adv* in a harmful way

**bade** *see bid v*

**badge** *n* (origin unclear, but see Anglo-French *bage*, Anglo-Latin *bagia*, *bagea* emblem; 14c); **F** insigne *f*, plaque *f*, **S** distintivo *m*, placa *f*, **I** distintivo *m*, simbolo *m*, **G** Marke *f*, Kennenzeichen *n*; a distinctive emblem or mark, originally used to identify a knight, now worn as a sign of office employment, as a token of membership in some society, etc

**badger**<sup>1</sup> *n* (origin unknown, apparently from **badge**, because of the markings on its head; early 16c); **F** blaireau *m*, **S** tejón

*m*, **I** tasso *m*, **G** Dachs *m*; an animal with grey fur and black and white lines on its head, that lives in holes

**badger**<sup>2</sup> *v* **F** harceler, importuner, **S** atormentar (para obtener), **I** molestare, infastidire, **G** plagen; to bait like a badger, to pester or annoy sb asking him to do sth, *she badgered him to take her to the club*

**bad-in-age** *n* *formal* (*F badinage*, *badin* playful, and *badiner* to jest, to joke, from vulgar *L \*badare* to yawn, gape; 17c); **F** badinage *m*, **S** chanzas *f/pl*, bromas *f/pl*, **I** cèlia *f*, burla *f*, **G** Neckerei *f*, Schäkerei *f*; light raillery, playful talk

**bad-min-ton** *n* (after Badminton, in Gloucestershire, the Duke of Beaufort's country seat; 19c); a drink of claret, sugar and soda-water, a game played in a court with a high net

**affle**<sup>1</sup> *v* (*etym* uncertain, but see French *beffler* to deceive, mock, and *bafouer*, as used by Montaigne; 16c); **F** déconcerter, confondre, **S** desconcertar, confundir, **I** sconcertare, rendere perplesso, **G** verwirren, täuschen; to confuse, frustrate, *he was completely baffled at the revelation of what had happened*

**affle**<sup>2</sup> *n* *technical also baffler or baffle-board*; **F** déflecteur *m*, **S** deflector *m*, **I** deflettore *m*, **G** Prallplatte *f*, Deflektor *m*; a device for controlling the flow of gas, sound or liquid through an opening

**bag**<sup>1</sup> *n* (*ME bagge*, *OF bague*, *MedL бага* chest, sack; 13c); **F** sac *m*, **S** sacco *m*, valija *f*, **I** sacco *m*, valigia *f*, borsa *f*, **G** Sack *m*, Tasche *f*; a container of plastic or paper, used for shopping, etc, *a plastic bag*

**bag**<sup>2</sup> *v* (*see baggen*, from *ME bagge n*; early 15c); **F** mettre en sac, ensacher, **S** ensacar, **I** mettere in un sacco *m*, **G** einsacken; to put into bags, *potatoes are bagged in the farm*

**ba-ga-telle** *n* (*F bagatelle*, apparently from *MedL бага*, and *bagadellus*, see **bag**; 17c); **F** bagatelle *f*, divertissement *m*, **S** bagatela *f*, **I** bagattella *f*, inèzia *f*, **G** Bagatelle *f*, Kleinigkeit *f*; a thing of no value or importance

**ba-gel** *n* (*Yiddish beygel*, *German dial Beugel*; 20c); a ring-shaped roll of bread, with a hole in the middle

**bag-gage** *n* *mainly AmE, BrE luggage* (*OF bagage*, *LL бага*, see **bag**; 15c); **F** bagages *m/pl*, **S** despachador *m* de equipaje, **I** bagaglio *m*, **G** (Reise)Gepäck *n*, Bagage *f*; the bags, suitcases, which you carry when you are travelling, *baggage reclaim*

**baggy** *adj* see **bag**; **F** gonflé/e, bouffant/e, **S** muy holgado/a, que hace bolsa, **I** gonfìo/a, rigónfio/a, **G** bauschig, zu weit; baggy clothes are big, not well fitting, *baggy trousers*

**bag-pipes**

**bail**<sup>1</sup> *v* (*AF bail*, *OF baillier* control, guard, *L baiulāre* to carry a load, afterwards 'to be guardian or tutor', from *baiulus* a carrier; 14c); **F** accorder la liberté provisoire (à qn) sous caution, **S** obtener la libertad de uno bajo fianza, **I** mettere in libertà provvisòria diètro cauziòne, **G** gegen Kautio(n) f freilassen; to deliver (goods) upon a contract, to procure the liberation of sb from prison, by becoming bail for him, to release a person from arrest or security given that he will be presented for trial, to be security or pledge for sb, to **bail out** of sth, *the pilot bailed out*, to **bail out** to empty water by lifting it with your hands or with a container, *the sailors were bailing out water from the hold*

**bail**<sup>2</sup> *n* (*OF bail* custody, jurisdiction, see **bail v**; early 15c); **F** cautionnement *m*, caution *f*, **S** caucìon *f*, fianza *f*, **I** cauziòne *f*, **G** Kautio(n) *f*; charge, custody, power, *phrasal to be released on bail*, *the judge refused/granted bail*

**bailey** *n* (*MedL balium*, *ballium*, *balius* tutor, *MedF baille*, cf *Vetus Ballium* Old Bailey; 13c); **F** bastions *m*, rempart *m*, **S** baluarte *m*, bastión *m*, **I** mura *f/pl* estèrne di un castello, bastiòni *m/pl*, **G** Außenmauer *f*, Außenhof *m*; the external wall, enclosing the outer court, of a medieval castle, the outer court of a castle; the *Old Bailey* in London is the seat of the

Central Criminal Court, between Lud Gate and New Gate, so called from the ancient *ballium* of the city wall

**Bailey bridge** *n* a bridge of lattice steel, designed for rapid assembly, used *esp* in military operations; so called after Sir D. Coleman Bailey, the engineer who designed it

**bail·iff** *n* (OF *bailif*, LL *baiulivus*, MedL *ba(l)līvus*, an adjective from L *baiulus* porter, carrier, afterwards carrier on, administrator, manager, see **bail**; 13c); **F** huissier *m*, régisseur *m*, **S** alguacil *m*, administrator *m*, **I** aiuto sceriffo *m*, ufficiale *m* giudiziario, **G** Gerichtsdiener *m*, (Guts)Verwalter *m*; one charged with public administrative authority, an officer of justice under a sheriff, who executes writs and processes, the agent of the lord of a manor

**bairn** *n* *Scottish and Northern English* (OE *bearn*, ME *barn*, from *beran* to bear; the word has cognates in a variety of Germanic languages, *incl* OS *barn* child, but is now used chiefly in Scots); **F** enfant *m/f*, **S** niño/a, **I** bambino/a, **G** Kind *n*; a child, a baby

**bait**<sup>1</sup> *n* (from a Scandinavian source, cp Old Icelandic *beita* food to entice prey, *beit* pasture, related to *bīta* to bite; early 14c); **F** amorce *f*, appât *m*, **S** cebo *m*, carnada *f*, **I** éasca *f*, lusinga *f*, **G** Köder *m*, Lokkung *f*; food put on a hook to attract prey

**bait**<sup>2</sup> *v* (ME *beiten*, MHG *beizen*, from a Scandinavian source, compare Old Icelandic *beita* to cause to bite, hunt, cognate with OE *bætan* to cause to bite; early 14c); **F** amorcer, appâter, **S** cebar, poner cebo *en*, **I** adescàre, munire di éasca, **G** mit Köder versehen; to tempt with food, to allure

**baize** *n* (**F** *baies*, L *badius* a colour applied especially to horses, either bay or chestnut; 16c); **F** tapis *m*, **S** bayeta *f*, **I** stòffa *f* di téla grèzza, **G** Boi *m*; a coarse woollen stuff, used for coverings, curtains, etc

**bake** *v* (OE *bac-an*, MHG *bachen*, OHG *bahhan* to bake, OHG *backan*, cognate with Greek *φάγειν* to roast, to toast); **F** faire cuire au four, **S** cocer al horno, **I** cuocere al fórnò, **G** backen; to cook by dry heath, to cook in an oven

**baker** *n* (OE *bæcere*, from *bacan* to bake; about 1000); **F** boulanger/ère, **S** panadero/a, **I** fornaiò/a, **G** Bäcker *m*; a person who bakes or sells bread

**bakery** *n* (*baker* + *-y*; 16c); **F** boulangerie *f*, pâtisserie *f*, **S** panadería *f*, **I** panetteria *f*, fórnò *m*, **G** Bäckerei *f*; a place for making bread, the place where bread is sold, the craft or business of the baker

**baking** *n* (*bake* + *-ing*; late 14c); **F** cuisson *f* au four, **S** cocción *f*, hornada *f*, **I** cottùra al fórnò, **G** Backen *n*, Brennen *n*; the action of the verb **to bake**

**bal·ance**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OF *balance*, LL *bilancia*, L *bi* two + *lānx* a metal dish, plate, *bilanc-em* two-scaled; 13c); **F** équilibre *m*, reliquat *m*, **S** equilibrio *m*, balanza *f*, **I** bilància *f*, equilibrio *m*, **G** Waage *f*, Gleichgewicht *n*; an instrument for weighing, one of the zodiacal constellations, an amount of money, *a balance of £256*

**bal·ance**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from English *balance* or OF *balancer*; late 16c); **F** équilibrer, compenser, **S** equilibrar, contrapesar, **I** pesàre, compensàre, **G** (ab)wàgen, im Gleichgewicht halten; to set in equilibrium, *to balance the two sides of the question*, to compare, to have the credit and debit sides equal

**bal·anced** *adj*

**bal·cony** *n* (Italian *balcone*, formed with augmentative suffix *-one* from *balco*, *palco* scaffold; 17c); **F** balcon *m*, **S** balcón *m*, **I** balcón *m*, **G** Balkon *m*; a platform projecting from the wall of a house, supported by pillars

**bald**<sup>1</sup> *adj* (ME *balled*, apparently from *ball*, in the sense of 'protuberant or rounded like a ball', applied to the head, 'hairless', or without hair; 13c); **F** chauve, **S** calvo/a, **I** cālvo/a, **G** kahl; having no hair on the head, hairless, in the sense of *plain*, *a bald statement*

**bald·ing** *adj* (*bald* *adj* + *-ing*; 20c); going bald, *Vincent is balding*

**bald·ness** *n* (*bald* *adj* + *-ness*; late 14c); **F** calvitie *f*, **S** calvicie *f*, **I** calvizie *f*, **G** Kahlheit *f*; the condition of being bald

**baldly** *adv* (early 17c); **F** franchement, **S** con franqueza, **I** in maniera *f* schiètta, con franchèzza *f*, **G** ehrlich, aufrichtig, offen; in a few essential words, in a bald manner, *he addressed baldly to the hearers, to put it baldly, I cannot afford it*

**bale**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *bale*, OF *bale*, It *palla*, MedL *balla* ball, rounded package, Gr *πάλλα* ball; 14c); **F** balle *f*, ballot *m*, **S** bala *f*, **I** bàlla *f*, **G** Ballen *m/pl*; a large bundle of merchandise, of rounded shape, *a bale of hay*, *slang* a testicle

**bale**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 18c); **F** mettre en balles, **S** embalar, **I** imballàre, **G** Ballen verpacken; to make up into bale or bales, *to bale the hay*

**bale·ful** *adj* (OE *bealu-full*, from *bealu* bale *n* + *-full*; 1000; 1220 as *balefule*); **F** sinistre, maléfique, **S** funesto/a, siniestro/a, **I** funèsto/a, maléfico, sinistro/a, **G** unheilvoll, bö sartig; hurtful, threatening, *a baleful look*, *a baleful influence*

**balk**,<sup>1</sup> **baulk** *n* (OE *balka* ridge, OS *balko*, OHG *balco* beam Middle Dutch *balk*; 14c); **F** contrariété *f*, frustration *f*, **S** contrariedad *f*, impedimento *m*, **I** ostàcolo *m*, difficoltà *f*, **G** Hindernis *n*; a frustration, a disappointment, a rough piece of wood

**balk**,<sup>2</sup> **baulk** *v* (from *balk* *n*; late 14c); **F** frustrer, contrarier, **S** burlar, impedir, **I** ostacolàre, intralciàre, **G** (ver)hindern; to be unwilling to do sth, *I balked at the idea of paying such a sum*, (of a horse) to stop suddenly and refuse to jump a fence, etc, *the horse balked before the hedge*

**balky** *adj* (*balk* *n* + *-y*; 19c); **F** récalcitrant/e, **S** coceador/a, **I** recalcitrànte, **G** widerspenstig/e, ungebàrdig/e; a person reluctant to proceed or to do what you want him/her to do

**ball**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *bal*, from a Scandinavian source, related to OHG *balla* ball; early 13c); **F** balle *f*, boule *f*, **S** bola *f*, globo *m*, esfera *f*, **I** pàlla *f*, bàlla *f* (of hay), **G** Ball *m*; anything spherical, a round object used in games or sports, *a cricket ball*, *a ball of fire*

**balls** *n* *impolite*, plural for testicles, used to mean 'nonsense', *that is balls!*

**ball**<sup>2</sup> also **ball up**, *v*; **F** faire des balles, emballer, **S** embalar, empaquetar, **I** imballàre, **G** verpacken, einpacken; to be formed into the shape of a ball, *to ball the hay*

**ball**<sup>3</sup> *n* (**F** *bal*, from *baller* to dance, LL *ballàre* to dance, Greek *βαλλίζειν* to dance; 17c); **F** bal *m*, pl bals, **S** baile *m*, **I** bàllo *m*, dānza *f*, **G** Ball *m*, Tanz *m*; a dancing party

**bal·lad** *n* (OF *ballade* dancing-song, LL *ballàre* to dance; late 14c); **F** romance *f*, ballade *f*, **S** balada *f*, **I** ballàta *f*, romànzà *f*, **G** Ballade *f*; a song intended as an accompaniment to a dance, a sentimental or romantic song, a narrative poem in short stanzas

**bal·lade** *n* *lit* (see *prec*); a musical composition, especially for piano, in this sense used by Chopin (d. 1849), a poem consisting of one or more triplets of seven or eight-lined stanzas, each ending with the same line as refrain, *the ballades of Lady Nairne*

**bal·last**<sup>1</sup> *n* (see Old Swedish and Danish *barlast*, from *bar* bare + *last* load; 16c); **F** lest *m*, **S** lastre *m*, **I** zavòrra *f*, **G** Ballast *m*; heavy material placed in the hold of a ship, to prevent her from capsizing

**bal·last**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 16c); **F** lester, ballaster, **S** lastrar, **I** zavorràre, **G** mit Ballast beladen; to furnish (a ship) with ballast

**bal·ler·ina** *n* (Ital, fem of *ballerino* dancer; late 18c); **F** ballerine f, **S** bailarina f, **I** ballerina f, **G** Ballerina f, Ballettänzerin f; a female dancer

**bal·let** *n* (F *ballet*, dim of **bal** dance; 17c); **F** ballet m, **S** ballet m, baile m, **I** ballétto m, **G** Ballett n; a theatrical work, in which a type of dancing and music tell a story

**ba(l)·list·ics** *n* (L *ballista* a military engine for discharging stones and other missiles, from Gr *βάλλειν* to throw; 19c); **F** balistique f, **S** balística f, **I** balística f, **G** Ballistik f; the scientific study of bodies that are thrown or shot through the air, e.g. the missiles

**bal·locks** *n* informal, not in polite use (apparently from Teutonic *ball*, see **ball** n); **F** conneries f/pl, couillonades f/pl, couilles f/pl, **S** estupideces f/pl, testículo m, **I** sciocchézze f/pl, balle f/pl, testicoli m/pl, **G** Dummheit f, Unsinn m, Hoden m; testicles, *fig.* said of a person in a state of confusion

**bal·loon**<sup>1</sup> *n* (It *ballone* great ball, augmentative of *balla* ball; 16c); **F** ballon m, aérostat m, **S** globo m, **I** pallóne m, aeróstato m, mongolfiéra f, **G** Ballon m; apparatus for travelling in the air, consisting of a large bag that is filled with gas, and a cabin beneath, *the balloon of the Montgolfier brothers*, a game played with a large inflated ball

**bal·loon**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun); **F** faire une ascension en ballon, **S** subir en un globo m, **I** viaggiare in pallóne (aerostático), **G** im Ballon aufsteigen; to carry up in a balloon, to ascend in a balloon, to get bigger and rounder

**bal·lot**<sup>1</sup> *n* (It *ballotta* a round bullet, *dimin.* of **ball**, see **F** *ballotte*; 16c); **F** tour m de scrutin, **S** votación f, papeleta f (para votar), **I** schèda f per votazione, vóto m o scrutinio m segreto, **G** Wahlkugel f, Stimmzettel m; a small ball used for secret voting, a method of voting by putting a ballot into a box

**bal·lot**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 16c); **F** voter à bulletin secret, **S** votar, **I** votare a scrutinio segreto, **G** (geheim)abstimmen; to take the vote or ballot, to vote by ballot

**balm** *n* also **bal·sam** (ME *baum*, *balme*, OF *basme*, *bâme*, later *bausme*, *baume*, It *balsamo*, L *balsamum*, Gr *βάλσαμον*; 14c); **F** baume m, **S** balsamo m, **I** balsamo, **G** Balsam m; an aromatic resinous product like oil, *an holiday in my country-home is balsam for me*

**balmy** *adj* (*balm* n + -y; 17c); **F** embaumé/e, parfumé/e, **S** balsámico/a, **I** balsámico/a, **G** balsamisch; bearing balm, delicately fragrant

**bal·sam** *n* see **balm** (OE *balsam*, superseded by *basma*, and reintroduced in 1579 as **balsam**); **F** baume m, **S** balsamo m, **I** balsamo m, **G** Springkraut n; balm, or the tree that produces it

**balsam** *v/t* (from the noun; 17c); to heal, to embalm

**bal·us·ter** *n* (F *balustre*, It *balaustra*, L *balaustium*, Gr *βαλαύστιον*; 17c); **F** rampe f d'escalier, **S** balaustre m, **I** balaüsttra f, **G** Balustrade f; a pillar supporting a parapet mostly circular in section

**bal·us·trade** *n* (F *balustrade*, It *balaustrata*; 17c); **F** balustrade f, **S** balaustrada f, **I** balaüsttrata f, **G** Balustrade f; a row of balusters, surmounted by a rail or coping, forming an ornamental parapet

**bam·boo** *n* (Malay *bambu*, Port *mambu*; 16c); **F** bambou m, **S** bambú m, **I** bambù m, **G** Bambus m; a genus of giant grasses, genus *Bambusa*, common throughout the tropics

**bam·boozle** *v/t* (origin unknown; first appeared about 1700); **F** embobiner, **S** embaucar, capear, **I** confondere, rendere perplèssu, **G** beschwindeln, verwirren; to deceive, to confound or mistify

**ban**<sup>1</sup> *v* (see Old Icelandic *banna* curse + OE *bannan* summon, proclaim, cognate with Old Frisian *banna*, Old

Dutch *bannen* prohibit, MHG *bannen* banish, expel; 14c); **F** interdire, **S** prohibir, **I** bandire, interdire, **G** verbieten; to prohibit, to forbid to do sth, *smoking in trains was banned*

**ban**<sup>2</sup> *n* (OF *ban* a summoning of the King's vassals, MedL *bannum* prohibition, interdiction, related to **abandon**; early 14c); **F** prohibition f, interdit m, **S** prohibición, **I** båndu m, interdizione f, **G** Verbot n; a prohibition, a sentence of banishment, *the ban of Dante from Florence*

**banal** *adj* (F *banal* common, ordinary, MF *banal*, see prec.; 19c); **F** banal/e, ordinaire, **S** banal, **I** banàle, **G** banal; commonplace, trivial, trite, *a banal invention*, *hist* belonging to compulsory feudal service

**ban·nana** *n* (Sp and Port *banana*, given by De Orta and Pigafetta as the native name in Guinea; 16c); **F** banane f, **S** banana f, **I** banàna f, **G** Banane f; a tropical fruit, typical of hot countries

**band**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OF and MF *bande*, from a Germanic source; late 15c); **F** bande f, bandage m, **S** banda f, cinta f, orquesta f, **I** bànda f, cinghia f, nàstro m, **G** Gruppe f, Bande f, *mus* Kapelle f; a group of musicians, *the brass band*, a group of people, *a band of rogues*, a thin strip put around things, *Katherine's hair are tied in a band*

**band**<sup>2</sup> *v* (MF *bander* to join; 16c); **F** bander, liguier, **S** juntarse, asociarse, **I** bendàre, legàre, **G** binden; to unite, join together

**band·age**<sup>1</sup> *n* (F *bandage*, from *band* + *age*; late 16c); **F** bande f, bandage m, **S** venda f, vendaje m, **I** bànda f, **G** Bandage f, Verband m; a strip or band of woven material used to blind up a wound, a strip or band used for blindfolding the eyes

**band·age**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 18c); **F** bander, **S** vendar, **I** bendàre, **G** verbinden, bandagieren; to blind with a bandage

**bandmaster** *n* the conductor of a brass band or a military band

**bandsman** *n* a member of a band

**ban·danna** *n* (Hindu *bāndhnū* a mode of dyeing; 18c); **F** foulard m, **S** pañuelo m de cabeza, **I** bandàna f, **G** buntes Taschen, Halstuch n; a coloured cloth worn around the neck or head

**B&B**, also **b&b**, *abbr* for bed and breakfast

**ban·dit** *n* (It *bandito* proscribed, past participle of *bandire*, MedL *bannire* to proclaim, to proscribe, see **ban**; late 16c); **F** bandit m, **S** bandido m, **I** bandìto m, **G** Bandit m, (Straßen)Räuber m; someone who attacks the travellers to rob them, *a mountainous bandit country*

**band·it·ry** *n* (*bandit* + -ry; 20c); **F** banditisme m, **S** bandolerismo m, bandidaje m, **I** banditismo m, **G** Banditentum n; the practice of stealing on the part of the bandits

**ban·do·lier, -leer** *n* (from French, diminutive of *band*, see Catalan *bandolera*, from *bandolero* bandit; 16c); **F** bandoulière f, cartouchière f, **S** bandolera f, **I** bandoliéra f, cartucciéra f, **G** Patronengürtel m; a broad belt worn by soldiers, fitted with little loops, in which cartridges are kept

**bands·man** *n* a musician who plays in a brass band

**band·stand** *n* a platform where a brass or military band can stand and play

**band·wagon** *n/v* a large wagon, capable of carrying the band in a procession, a group movement successful or fashionable, **to jump on the bandwagon**, **F** prendre le train en marche, **S** subirse al carro, **I** sposàre una càusa perché di mòda, saltàre sul carro (della mòda f correntè, **G** sich der erfolgversprechenden Sache anschließen; *verb* to try to be involved in a successful activity so that you can get advantages

**bandy** *v* (see MF *bander* return a ball from one's side, OF *bander*, from **band** side, group; late 16c); **F** se renvoyer, échanger des coups, **S** cambiar, **I** gettare, scambiare, **G** sich etwas zuwerfen, sich etwas erzählen; to throw or strike (a ball) to and fro, to pass from one to another, to band together

**bane** *n* (OE *bana* murderer, ON and Old Icelandic *bani* death, OHG *banō*, MHG *bane*, all meaning death, murder, from Proto-Germanic); **F** peste *f*, fléau *m*, **S** veneno *m*, **I** rovina *f*, sventura *f*, **G** Ruin *m*, Verderben *n*; that which causes destruction, death, ruin, *his wife is the bane of Peter's life*

**bane-ful** *adj* (*bane* + *-ful*; late 16c); **F** funeste, fatal/e, **S** nocivo/a, funesto/a, **I** funesto/a, nocivo/a, **G** verderblich, tödlich; destructive, pernicious, *baneful effects*

**bang**<sup>1</sup> *v* (ON *bangā*, LG *bangen*, *bangeln* to strike, beat; 16c); **F** éclater, détoner, **S** golpear (haciendo ruido), **I** scoppiare, esplodere, **G** drönend schlagen; to strike violently, producing loud noise

**bang**<sup>2</sup> *n* (see the verb; 16c); **F** détonation *f*, **S** explosión *f*, detonación *f*, **I** esplosione *f*, detonazione *f*, **G** Bums *m*, Schlag *m*; a heavy blow, a sudden loud noise, *the big-bang*

**bang**<sup>3</sup> *AmE*, the corresponding word for English is **fringe** (late 19c); the front hair cut square across the forehead

**bang-er** *n coll* (*bang* + *-er*; 17c); **F** saucisse *f*, **S** petardo *m*, **I** salsiccia *f*, petardo *m*, **G** Knallkörper *m*, (Brat)Wurstchen *n*; he who or that which bangs, *BrE* informal for *sausage*, *bangers and mash* (=potato), a small noisy firework, an old car in bad condition

**ban-ple** *n* (from Hindi *bangrī* wrist; late 18c); **F** bracelet *m*, **S** brazalete *m*, **I** braccialeto *m*, **G** Arming *m*, Fußring *m*; a plastic ring, worn around the wrist as a jewellery

**banian**, see **banyan**

**ban-ish** *v* (OF *baniss-*, *banir*, LL *bannire* from *bannum* proclamation, see **ban**; 14c); **F** exiler (de), bannir (de), **S** desterrar, proscribir, **I** bandire, esiliare, **G** verbannen; to condemn a person to leave the country by public edict, to exile

**ban-ish-ment** *n* **F** bannissement *m*, **S** destierro *m*, **I** condanna *f* all'esilio, bando *m*, **G** Verbannung *f*; the action of being banished from one own's country, *Dante's banishment from Florence*

**ban-is-ter** *n* also **ban-is-ters** (corruption of *baluster*, used mainly in plural; 17c); **F** rampe *f* (d'escalier), **S** pasamanos *m/pl*, barandilla *f*, **I** balaustrata *f*, **G** Geländersäule *f*, Treppengeländer *n*; the posts and rail at the side of a staircase, which keeps you from falling off the edge

**banjo** *n* (1774, earlier *banshaw*, 1764, *AmE*, perhaps of West-African origin); **F** banjo *m*, **S** banjo *m*, **I** bânjo *m*, bângio *m*, **G** Banjo *n*, Banjospieler *m*; a stringed musical instrument like a guitar, with four or five strings; it is plucked with the fingers or with a plectrum

**bank**<sup>1</sup> *n* (see MF *banque*, but the word appears as borrowed directly from It *banca*, a counter on which money-changers transacted their business; ME also had *bench* as a counting table, from a Germanic source; 15c); **F** banque *f*, **S** banco *m*, **I** banca *f*, **G** Bank *f*; place for keeping money, *a bank account*

**bank**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 18c; 1833 in the sense to deposit money in a bank); **F** mettre de l'argent en banque, **S** depositar, ingresar, **I** mettere un cònto *m* in banca, **G** Geld *n* auf einer Bank haben; to put or keep your money in a bank, *I banked yesterday my cheque*

**bank**<sup>1</sup> *n* (probably of Scandinavian origin, as suggested by its early appearance in Northern English dialect, cp Danish *banke*, Swedish *bank* sandbank; early 13c); **F** berge *f*, (d'une rivière), bord *m*, rive *f*, **S** ribera *f*, terraplén *m*, **I** cúmulo *m*, àrgine *m*, riva *f*, spònda *f*, **G** (Erd)Wall *m*, Bank *f*, Wand *f*; a

pile, heap, ridge, *the banks of the Thames*, *a bank of earth*, *a bank of clouds/of fog*

**bank**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 16c); **F** contenir une rivière par des berges, **S** amontonar, cubrir, **I** accatastare, ammassare, **G** eindämmen, mit einem Wall umgeben; to arrange in piles or rows, *piles of stones were banked along the river Tweed*

**bank**<sup>3</sup> *v* (from the noun; 1911); said of a plane to travel with one side higher than the other when turning, *the plane banked to the left*

**bank** *n* (OF *banc*, from a Germanic source, cp OHG *bank* bench; early 13c); **F** groupe *m*, batterie *f*, **S** batería *f*, serie *f*, montón *m*, **I** série *f* di, fila *f*, **G** eine Reihe; a row of similar things, *a bank of Allen keys*

**bank-able** *adj* (from *bank* noun; early 19c); **F** bancable, escomptable, **S** admisible en banca, **I** esigibile, scontabile, **G** diskontierbar, zuverlässig; receivable at a bank, *a cheque bankable at all places*, likely to make money, *a bankable actor*, *a bankable novelist*

**bank balance** *n* the amount of money that somebody has in their bank account

**bank-card** *n* a card provided by your bank that can be used to get money out of a machine

**bank draft** *n* a cheque paid by a bank

**bank-er** *n* (**F** *banquier*, *bank* + *-er*; 16c); **F** banquier *m*, **S** banquero *m*, **I** banchiere *m*, **G** Bankier *m*; the owner or manager of a bank, the person who is in charge of the money in some games

**banker's order** *n* an instruction to a bank to pay a certain sum of money at regular times from a person's account to another bank account

**bank holiday** *n* a day in which banks are closed, to afford a holiday to the staff

**bank-ing** *n* (verbal noun; early 19c); **F** opérations *f/pl* de banque, **S** negocio *m* bancario, **I** operazióni *f/pl* bancarie, **G** Bankwesen *n*; the business of operating a bank, the management of a bank

**bank-note** *n* a piece of paper money

**bank rate** *n* the rate of interest charged by a bank for lending money

**bank-roll**<sup>1</sup> *v informal AmE* to support somebody financially, *landowners bankrolled his campaign*

**bank-roll**<sup>2</sup> *n* a supply of money

**bank-rupt**<sup>1</sup> *n* (MF *banqueroute*, directly from It *banca rotta*, L *ruptus*, past part. of *rumpere* to break off; 16c); **F** failli/e, **S** insolvente, quebrado/a, **I** bancarotta *f*, **G** Bankrott *m*; the wreck of a trader's business, generally used in the phrase 'to make bankrupt' or 'to make banqueroute', *John's company made bankrupt last year*

**bank-rupt**<sup>2</sup> *adj* past part. of the verb **to bankrupt**

**bank-rupt**<sup>3</sup> *v* (short for 'to make bankrupt'; 16c); **F** mettre en faillite, ruiner, **S** arruinar, hacer quebrar, **I** fare bancarotta *f*, **G** Bank(e)rott *m* machen; to become bankrupt, to go bankrupt, *John's business went bankrupt*

**bank-rupt-cy** *n* (*bankrupt* + *-cy*; early 18c); **F** faillite *f*, **S** quiebra *f*, bancarrota *f*, **I** bancarotta *f*, falliménto *m*, **G** Bankrott *m*; the state or the situation of being or becoming bankrupt, *the company's bankruptcy*

**bank statement** *n* a printed record of the money paid into and out of your bank account

**ban-ner** *n* (MF *banniere*, *ban*, a proclamation summoning vassals for military service, Gothic *bandwa* sign, L *\*bandāria*, LL *bannu*, *bandum* standard, as in Paul. Diac, c775, MedL *banderium*; 13c); **F** bannière *f*, **S** bandera *f*, estandarte *m*, **I** bandiera *f*, stendardo *m*, **G** Banner *n*, Fahne *f*; a piece of cloth with a message in it, *banners and flags*, something that represents a belief, *the banner of liberalism*

**banner headline** *n* a large headline in a newspaper, extending across the front page

**ban-nis-ter** *n* a spelling of **banister**

**bannock** *n* *Scottish and Northern English* (OE *bannuc*, Gaelic *bannach*, see MedL *panicum*, from *panis* bread; early 11c); the name of a form in which home-made bread is made, of large size, round or oval

**banns** *n* (the same word as **ban** *n*, after MedL *bannum*, used in plural after 15c); **F** bans m/pl (de mariage), **S** amonestaciones f/pl, banas f/pl, **I** pubblicazioni f/pl (di matrimònio), **G** Aufgebot *n* (des Brautpaares vor der Ehe); proclamation given in church of an intended marriage

**ban-quet** *n* (*F* *banquet*, diminutive of **banc** bench, *It* *banchetto*, diminutive of *banco* table; 15c); **F** banquet m, **S** banquete m, **I** banchetto m, **G** Bankett *n*, Festessen *n*; an entertainment of food and drink, a formal entertainment, *the banquet was offered by the President of the Republic*

**ban-quet-ing** *n* *the Banqueting Hall*

\***ban-quette** *n* (*French*, *It* *banchetta*, *dimin.* of *banca* bench, seat; 17c); **F** banquette f, **S** banco m, **I** banchina f, pànca f, **G** Bank f, Bankett *n*; a seat along a wall, a footway on a bridge, a raised way running along the inside of a rampart or parapet, in which soldiers stay to fire at the enemy

**ban-shee** *n* (*Irish* *bean sídhe* female or woman; 18c); **F** fée f, **S** fantasma cuyos lamentos bajo la ventana anuncian una muerte, **I** spirito di dònna, il cui lamento è presagio di morte, **G** Todesfee f; in old Irish stories, a female spirit whose cry is believed to be heard when someone is going to die, *she was screaming like a banshee*

**ban-tam** *n* (from Bantam, in the north-west of Java; 18c); **F** coq m nain, poule f naine, **S** gallinilla f de Bantam, **I** póllo m bantam, **G** Bantam-Zwerghuhn *n*; a type of small chicken which were said to be imported from Bantam

**ban-tam-weight** *n* **F** poids coq m, **S** peso m gallo, **I** péso m gallo, **G** Bantamgewicht(ler m) *n*; a weight in boxing of 51-53.5 kg

**ban-ter**<sup>1</sup> *n* (etym unknown, cited by Swift in 1710, but going back to 1688); **F** badinage m, **S** burlas f/pl, comentarios m/pl sin importancia, **I** canzonatùra f, punzecchiature f/pl scherzose, **G** Neckerei f, scherzen; humorous, ridicule, wanton nonsense

**ban-ter**<sup>2</sup> *v* (see the noun; late 17c); **F** badiner, **S** burlar, **I** prèndere in giro bonariamènte, stuzzicare, **G** necken, scherzen; to make fun of, to joke at

**ban-ter-ing** *n* & *adj* friendly, *a bantering discourse*

**ban-yan** also **banian** *n* (*Portuguese* *banian*, *Arabic* *banyān* man of trading caste; late 16c); a Hindoo trader

**bap** *n* *Scots* (etym unknown; 16c); a small loaf of bread, made in different parts of Scotland

**bap-tism** *n* (ME *bapteme*, OF *baptisme*, L *baptīsmus*, Gr *βαπτισμός*, noun of action of *βαπτίζειν* to baptize; early 14c); **F** baptême m, **S** bautismo m, bautizo m, **I** battesimo m, **G** Taufe f; the action or ceremony of baptizing

**bap-tis-mal** *adj* (MedL *baptism-ālis*, see *baptism* + *-al*; 17c); **F** de baptême, **S** bautismal, **I** battesimale, **G** Tauf-; pertaining to, or connected with baptism, *the baptismal font* (container for holding the holy water used at baptism)

**Bap-tist** *n* (OF *baptist*, L *baptista*, Gr *βαπτιστής*, noun of agent from *βαπτίζειν* to baptize; early 13c); one who baptizes, especially applied to St John Baptist

**bap-tize** *v* (*F* *baptiser*, *-izer*, L *baptizāre*, Gr *βαπτίζειν*, early 13c); **F** baptiser, **S** bautizar, **I** battezzare, **G** taufen; to immerse in water, in a ceremonial purification, esp. in Christian Church

**bar**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *barre*, OF *barre*, LL *barra* of unknown origin; late 14c); **F** barre f, **S** barra f, palanca f, **I** bàrra f, **G** Stange f, Stab m; a straight piece of metal or wood, *a silver bar*, a place where you drink and buy alcoholics, *we had a drink at*

*the Southern Bar*, **the Bar** the profession of becoming a barrister, *he was called to the Bar*

**bar**<sup>2</sup> *v* (OF *barrer*, from *barre* bar; late 13c as *barren*); **F** barrer, **S** atrancar, obstruir, **I** sbarrare, ostruire, **G** verriegeln, ein-aus/sperrn; to prevent or order that sth happens or is done, *law bars the use of cigarettes in restaurants*, to put sth across a door, etc, *the gate was barred*

**barb** *n* (L *barba* a beard; 16c); **F** barbillon m, barbelure f, **S** lengüeta f, fig. observación f mordaz, **I** barbiglio m, punta f ricurva, fig. battùta f pungente, **G** Widerhaken m, Spitze f; the sharp part from a fish hook or an arrow, which makes it hard to remove

**barbed** *adj* (from the verb or noun; late 17c); **F** barbelé/e, **S** mordaz, ganchudo/a, **I** uncinato, **G** mit Widerhaken; having a point that is curved backward, *a barbed arrow*, a cruel remark, *his barbed remark on my last book*, **barbed wire** a wire with short sharp points, used for fences, *a barbed wire fence*

**bar-bar-ian** *n* (OF *barbarin*, MedL *barbarinus*, probably from L *barbaria* foreign country, from *barbārus* foreign, Gr *βάρβαρος* stammering; early 15c); **F** barbare, **S** bárbaro/a, **I** bārbaro/a, **G** Barbar m; foreign, an uncultured person, someone without refinement, *this author is a barbarian*, *hist non-Hellenic or non-Roman*, *the barbarians who invaded the Roman Empire*

**bar-bar-ic** *adj* (*F* *barbarique*, L *barbaricus*, see prec; late 14c); **F** barbare, de barbare, **S** bárbaro/a, barbárico/a, **I** bārbaro/a, barbàrico/a, **G** barbarisch; cruel and violent, a barbaric ritual

**bar-bar-ism** *n* (*F* *barbarisme*, L *barbarismus*, Gr *βαρβαρισμός* 'use of a foreign tongue'; 15c); **F** barbarie f, barbarisme m, **S** barbarie f, barbarismo, **I** barbàrie f, barbarismo m, **G** Barbarei f, Barbarismus m; violent and cruel behaviour, lack of education or knowledge, *the barbarism of this man*

**bar-bar-ity** *n* (*barbarous* + *-ity*; 16c); savage cruelty, inhumanity

**bar-bar-ous** *adj* (L *barbarus*, Gr *βάρβαρος*, early 15c); **F** barbare, **S** bárbaro/a, **I** bārbaro/a, **G** barbarisch; uncultured, uncivilized, *a barbarous behaviour*

**bar-be-cue**<sup>1</sup> *n* (*Sp* *barbacoa* a framework for roasting meat, Haitian *barbacòà*; late 17c); **F** barbecue m, **S** barbacoa f, **I** banchetto m all'apèrto, graticola f, **G** Barbecue n, Grillfest n, Bratrost m, Grill m; a metal frame for cooking meat on, over an open fire outdoors, a meal at which meat is cooked and eaten outside, on a metal frame

**bar-be-cue**<sup>2</sup> *vt* (according to OED it derives from the noun, nevertheless the verb is recorded in 1661, the noun only in 1697); **F** griller, **S** asar o curar al fuego, **I** arrostire all'apèrto, **G** braten, grillen; to cook meat on a metal frame, over an open fire outdoors

**barbed** *adj* (verbal use of *barb* verb; early 17c); **F** barbelé/e, fig. caustique, **S** armado de lengüetas, fig. incisivo/a, mordaz, **I** uncinato/a, con barbigli, fig. uncinato/a, **G** mit Widerhaken, fig. spitz/e; having barbs, *barbed arrow*, *barbed wire*, characterized by biting criticism, *barbed remark*, *barbed answer*

**bar-bel** *n* (OF *barbel*, LL *barbellus*, MedL *barbulus*, from *barba* beard, cf *It* *barbolo*; 14c); **F** barbeau m, barbillon m, **S** barbo m, **I** bārbo m, barbiglio m, **G** Barbe f; a European fresh-water fish of the carp tribe, deriving its name from the filaments which hang from his mouth

**bar-bell** *n* (*bar* + *dumbbell*; late 19c); **F** barre f à disques, **S** haltera f, pesas f/pl, **I** manùbrio m, **G** Hantel f mit langer stange, Kugelstange f; a long metal bar with weights at each end, used in the sport of weightlifting

**bar·ber** *n* (ME *barbour*, OF *barbeor*, L *barba* beard, influenced by F *barbier*); **F** coiffeur m, **S** barbero m, peluquero m, **I** barbière m, **G** Barbier m, (Herren)Friseur m; a man whose business is to shave the beards and cut the hair of customers

**bar·ber·shop** *n* (*barber* + *shop*; 16c); **F** salon m de coiffure, **S** barberia f, **I** negozio m di barbière, **G** Friseurgeschäft n; a shop in which a barber's services may be had

**bar·ber·shop** *n* (early 20c in this sense); **F** chants m/pl à quatre voix, **S** cuarteto m vocal armónico, **I** canzoni popolari a quàttro voci, **G** Singen im Chor; a type of popular singing in which four male voices without musical accompaniment perform popular songs

**barbican** *n* (OF *barbacane*, of uncertain origin, but see Persian *barbarkhana* 'guard house'; early 14c); **F** barbacane f, **S** barbacana f, **I** barbacàne m, tórra f estèrna, **G** Barbakane f, Stützmauer f; a defensive tower at the entrance to a fortress

**bar·bie** *n* informal for **barbecue**

**bar·bi·tur·ic** *adj* (**acid**) (F *acide barbiturique*, used to translate *Barbitur* + *Säure* acid, coined in 1863 by the German chemist Adolf von Bayer); **F** barbiturique, **S** barbitúrico, **I** barbitúrico, **G** Barbitursäure; an acid used for sedatives and sleeping pills

**bar·bit·ur·ate** *n* (*barbituric* + *-ate*; 1928); a salt of barbituric acid

**bar chart/graph** *n* a diagram that uses bands of different heights to show different amounts

**bar code** *n* a machine-readable code

**bard** *n* (Gaelic *bàrd*, from an earlier Celtic form; L *bardus* and Greek *οἱ βάρδοι* are borrowings from Gaulish; 15c); **F** barde m, **S** bardo m, **I** bàrdo m, **G** Barde m; minstrel, poet, *the Gaelic Bards*

**bare** *adj* (OE *bær*, Old and MHG *bar*, OS *bar*, from Proto-Germanic; 1000 as *bare*); **F** nu/e, **S** desnudo/a, **I** nudo/a, **G** barfuss; said of the body, naked, without covering

**bare-back** *adj* on a horse without a saddle, *the Indians used to ride bareback*

**bare-faced** *adj* (only before noun), used to describe an untrue or unpleasant remark or action, *a barefaced liar*, meaning a liar who tells lies without being ashamed

**bare-foot** *adj adv* without any shoes, *the boy walked barefoot*

**bare-head-ed** *adj adv* not wearing anything to cover the head  
**\*bare-ly** *adv* **F** à peine, tout juste, **S** apenas, **I** a malapèna, **G** kaum, knapp; slightly, *he is barely 18 years old*, with great difficulty, *he barely earns a salary*

**barf** *v* AmE informal to vomit

**bar·gain**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *bergayn*, *bargayne*, OF *bargaine*, It *bargagno*, LL *barcanniare*, *barganiare* to trade, pointing to a form *\*barcāneum*; 14c); **F** affaire f, **S** pacto m, negocio m, **I** affàre m, occasione f, **G** Handel m, Geschäft n; something bought at a price lower than usual, *this series of books was a bargain*

**bargain**<sup>2</sup> *v* (OF *bargaigner*, It *bargagnare* mercanteggiare, tirare sul prezzo, LL *barcaneāre*; 14c); **F** négociier, **S** negociar, **I** negoziare, tirare sul prezzo, **G** verhandeln, übereinkommen; to negotiate prices, conditions, etc, to reach a satisfactory agreement, *he bargained for months the price of the house*

**bargain basement** *n* an underground room in a shop, where goods are sold at a reduced price, *bargain-basement prices*

**bargain hunter** *n* a person who looks for goods which are sold at bargain prices

**bar·gain·ing** *vbl substantive*; (*bargain* verb + *-ing*; early 15c); **F** marchandage m, négociations f/pl, **S** negociación f, **I** negoziato m, **G** Handeln n; the action of bargaining,

discussion of the terms of a contract, *the agreement was reached after hard bargaining*

**bargaining counter** *n* BrE **F** monnaie d'échange, **S** moneda f de negociación, **I** monéta f di scàmbio (in una trattativa), **G** Tauschmittel n; something you can use to gain an advantage in a deal

**bargaining power** *n* **F** poids dans les négociations, **S** fuerza f en el negocio, **I** potèrre m contrattuàle, **G** Stärke f in vertraglichen Verhandlungen: the amount of power you have when trying to reach an agreement with a person or a group

**barge** *n* (OF *barge*, MedL *barga*, VL *barica*, Gr *βάρης* flat-bottomed boat used in Egypt; 14c); **F** chaland m, barge f, **S** zatarà f, barcaza f, **I** chiàtta f, zàttera f, **G** flaches Flußboot m, Kanalboot m; a flat-bottomed boat, used on rivers and canals

**barge-pole** *n* a long pole with which a barge is propelled

**bari·tone** *n/adj* (F *barytone*, It *baritono*, Gr *βαρύτονος* deep sounding, *βαρύς* heavy + *τόνος* tone; early 17c); **F** baritone m, **S** baritono m, **I** baritono m, **G** Bariton m; the male voice, intermediate between tenor and bass, a singer possessing a baritone voice

**bar·ium** *n* (New Latin, from *barytes* sulfate of barium + *-ium*, as in sodium, Greek *βαρύς* heavy + *-ιτης*; see ModF *baryte*; early 19c); **F** baryum m, **S** bario m, **I** bàrio m, **G** Barium n; a metallic silver-white element used in alloys

**barium meal** *n* a barium suspension given by mouth before X-raying the stomach

**bark**<sup>1</sup> *n* (from a Scandinavian source, cp Swedish, Danish, Norw. *bark*, cognate with MHG, LG and Middle Dutch *bork*, from Indo-European; early 14c); **F** écorce, **S** corteza f, **I** cortéccia f, scórza f, **G** Rinde f, Borke f; the outer sheath of the trunk of a tree

**bark**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 16c); **F** écorcer (un arbre), **S** descortezar, **I** scortecciare, **G** abrinden; to strip bark (from a tree)

**bark** *v* (OE *beorcan*, ME *borcen*, *berken*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** aboyer, **S** ladrar, **I** abbaire, latràre, **G** bellen, kläffen; when a dog makes its loud sound

**bark** *n* (from the verb; 13c); **F** aboiement m, aboi m, **S** ladrido m, **I** latràto m, l'abbaiare, **G** Bellen n; the loud sound of the dog, the sharp cry of the dog, *the bark of the dog*

**bark·er** *n* (*bark* + *-er*; late 14c in the present sense); **F** braillard, crieur m (de journaux), **S** gritón m, **I** strillóne m (di giornàli), **G** Marktschreier m, Beller m; a person who advertises an activity at a public event, *a circus barker*

**bark·ing mad** BrE completely crazy

**bark**, see **barque**

**bar·ley** *n* (OE *bærlic*, adj meaning of *bere* barley + *lic* -ly, ME *barlic*, ON *barr* barley, from Proto-Germanic); **F** orge m perlé, **S** cebada f, **I** òrzo m, **G** Gerste f; a cereal of the genus *Hordeum*, used as food and in the preparation of malt and liquors

**barley sugar** *n* **F** sucre m d'orge, **S** azúcar m cande, **I** zúcchero m d'òrzo, **G** Gerstenzucker m; a sweet made from boiled sugar

**barley water** *n* **F** tisane f d'orge, **S** hordiate m, **I** decòtto m d'òrzo, orzàta f, **G** aromatisiertes Getränk aus Gerstenextrakt; a drink made from barley

**bar·maid** *n* (*bar* + *maid*; 17c); **F** serveuse f (dans un bar), **S** camarera f, moza f de taberna, **I** barista f, **G** Bardame f, Barkellnerin f; a female who sells drink at the bar of a tavern

**bar·man** *n* (1837 in the present sense); **F** garçon m de comptoir, barman m, **S** barman m, **I** barista m, **G** Barkellner m; a man whose job is to serve drinks in a bar

**bar·mitz·vah** *n* in the Jewish religion, a boy attaining the age of religious responsibility, the ceremony marking this event

**barmy** *adj* informal slightly crazy, a barmy idea

**barn** *n* (OE *bere-ern*, *barley* place, from *bere* barley + *ern* place, building, ME *bern*, ModE *barn*); **F** grange f, **S** granero m, **I** granãio m, **G** Scheune f; a building for the storage of corn, in wider usage for storage of hay, straw, etc

**bar-nacle** *n* (ME *bernacl*, *bernacl*, Anglo-Latin *bernaca*, OF *bernaque*, apparently from a Gallo-Romance source); **F** bernacle f, anatife m, **S** percebe m, **I** cirripede m, **G** Entenmuschel f; a small sea creature with a shell that sticks to rocks and wharves

**barn dance** *n* a dance traditionally danced in a barn

**barn owl** *n* **F** chouette effraye f, **S** lechuza f, **I** barbagianni m, **G** Schleiereule f; a bird of prey of the owl family, that makes its nest in barns

**barn-storm** *v* mainly AmE to travel through an area making political speeches, in order to attract attention for your ideas or to woo the electors, *the candidate barnstormed across the country to gain public support*

**barn-storming** *adj* exciting, done with enthusiasm, showing skill, *a barnstorming campaign, a barnstorming performance*

**barn-yard** *n* **F** cour f de ferme, **S** corral m, **I** cortile m, **G** Hof m; the enclosure round a barn, the area round a farm, *barnyard fowls*

**bar-ometer** *n* (Gr *βάρος* weight + *μέτρον* measure; 17c); **F** baromètre m, **S** barómetro m, **I** baròmetro, **G** Barometer n; an instrument for determining the pressure of the atmosphere

**baron** *n* (early ME *bar(o)un*, OHG *bar* freeman, OF *barun*, but see MedL *baro-onis*; L *baro-ōnis* a blockhead, has a different meaning, and could be an homophone; early 13c); **F** baron m, **S** barón m, **I** baróne m, **G** Baron m; a nobleman of the lowest rank, in UK they use the title of Lord, fig. a man of great influence or power, *a press baron*

**bar-on-ess** *n* (*baron* + *-ess*; early 15c); **F** baronne f, **S** baronesa f, **I** baronessa f, **G** Baronin f; the wife of a Baron, a British woman who has the title of Baron, *Baroness Thatcher*

**bar-on-et** *n* (*baron* + *-et*; early 15c); **F** baronnet m, **S** baronet m, **I** baronétto m, **G** Baronet m; a man who has the lowest nobility title in UK, below a baron but above a knight

**bar-on-et-cy** *n* (*baronet* + *-cy*; early 19c); **F** dignité de baronnet, **S** dignidad, título de baronet, **I** titolo m, ràngo m di baronétto, **G** Titel m oder Rang m eines Baronet; rank of baronet, *a baronetcy was conferred upon him for his scientific merits*

**bar-on-ial** *adj* lit (*barony* + *-al*; 18c); **F** de baron, seigneurial/e, **S** baronial, **I** baronale, **G** Barons, freiherrlich; connected with the title of a baron, *the baronial building*

**bar-ony** *n* (OF *baronie*, LL *baroniā*; late 13c); **F** baronie f, **S** baroniā f, **I** baroniā f, **G** Baronie f; the domain of a baron, the rank or dignity of a baron

**bar-oque** *adj/n* (etymology uncertain, but see L *verrūca* an excrescence of the skin, and F *baroque*, a term used in 16c to describe a style of architecture, and later to describe *sth* irregular and grotesque, Portuguese *barroco* a pearl of irregular shape, of unknown origin; 18c); **F** baroque m, **S** barroco/a, **I** baròcco/a, **G** Barock n, barock adj; relating to the baroque art, popular in Europe in the 17th and early 18th centuries

**bar-que** *n* (F *barque*, It *barca*, L *barca*; 15c); **F** trois mâts m barque, **S** bricbarca f, **I** bàrca f, **G** Bark f, Schiff n; a sailing ship with three or more masts, a small sailing boat

**bar-rack** *n* (F *baraque*, It *baracca* hut, of uncertain origin, but see MedL *baraca*, *barraquas*; 13c); **F** caserne f, quartier m, **I** baràcca f, casèrma f, **S** barraca f, cuartel m, **G** Kaserne f, Baracke f; a temporary hut or cabin, a hut for soldiers

**bar-racks** *n* in plural; **F** caserne f, quartier m, **S** cuartel m, **I** casèrma f, **G** Kaserne f; a group of buildings for soldiers to live in, *the troops were ordered to barracks*

**bar-ra-cuda** *n* (Amer-Spanish, from a Carib word; 17c); a large and voracious fish, found in the seas of the West Indies

**bar-rage** *n* (OF *barre*, from *barrer*, *barre* bar n; 19c); **F** barrage m, **S** barrea f, **I** sbarraménto m, **G** Sperre f, staudamm m; the act of barring

**bar-rel**<sup>1</sup> *n* (MedL *barile*, *barillus*, OF *baril*, origin unclear; early 14c); **F** baril m, **S** barril m, **I** barile m, **G** Barrel f; a cylindrical wooden vessel, used as a measure of capacity both for liquids and dry goods

**barrel**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 15c); to move in a fast, uncontrolled way, *the car barreled from the slope finally crashing against the wall*

**barrel organ** *n* a large musical instrument to play by turning a handle, in the past often used in the streets

**bar-ren** *adj* (A-F *barain*, OF *baraigne*, of uncertain origin; early 13c); **F** stérile, **S** estéril, árido/a, **I** stèrile, àrido/a, **G** unfruchtbar, unproduktiv; infertile, *barren ground*, bearing no children, *a barren woman*

**bar-rette** *n* (F *barrette*, *dimin.* of *barre* bar; early 20c); **F** barrette f, **S** pasador m, **I** fermacapèlli m, **G** Haarspange f, Haarklammer f; a metal or plastic object used by women to keep hair in place

**bar-ri-cade** *n* (MF *barricade*, Sp *barricada*, from the root of OF *baril* barrel, in reference to the first barricades put up in the streets of Paris, with barrels filled up with earth and other debris; 17c); **F** barricade f, **S** barricada f, **I** barricàta f, **G** Barrikade f; an obstruction erected across a path or street, a barrier obstructing passage

**bar-rier** *n* (OF *barriere*, from *barre* obstacle, and *bar*, LL *barra*, MedL *barrera*; late 14c); **F** barrière f, **S** barrera f, **I** barriera f, **G** Barriere f, Schranke f; an obstruction erected to bar the advance of persons or things, a fence to prevent access, *a barrier between the two parts of the city*, *abstract*, *the language barrier*

**bar-ring** *preposition* (late 14c); **F** sauf, excepté, **S** excepto, salvo, **I** sàlvo, eccètto, **G** abgesehen von, ausgenommen; except, unless something in particular happens, *barring complications we will be with you at seven p.m.*

**bar-ris-ter** (F *barre*, MedL *barra*, 16c L *barrastērius*, according to the OED 'probably formed from the English'; 16c); **F** avocat/ate, **S** abogado m, **I** avvocàto m, **G** Barrister m, Rechtsanwalt m; in England a lawyer who can argue cases in the higher law courts, in Scotland the equivalent being the *advocate*

**bar room** *m* a room at which drinks are served at a bar

**bar-row**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *beorg* and *berg*, hill, mound, cognate with OS and OHG *berg* mountain, ME *bergh* and *berwe* hill); **F** tumulus m, tertre m, **S** túmulo m, **I** tùmulo m, altùra f, **G** Tumulus m, Hügelgrab n; *hill or hillock, a mound of earth or stones*

**bar-row**<sup>2</sup> *n* (OE *bearwe* and *baerwan* basket, cognate with East Frisian *barwe* barrow, Old Icelandic *barar* handcart, OHG *beran* to bear, see **bear** carry, ME *barewe* hand barrow, and *barowe* wheelbarrow); **F** voiture ou charrette à bras, **S** carretilla f, carretón m de mano, **I** carrettino m, **G** (Hand)Karre m; *BrE wheelbarrow*, a handcart, a small wheel moved by a person, from which fruits and vegetables are sold in the street

**Bart** *abbr* for **Baronet**

**bar-tend-er** *n* (*bar* n + *tender* n; early 19c); a keeper or manager of a refreshment bar

**bar-ter**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OF *barat*, *barater* exchange, see MedL *baraterius*, *barataria*; 15c); **F** troquer m, **S** permuta f, trueque

m, **I** barattare, **G** Tauschhandel treiben; to give a commodity in exchange for *sth* else, without using money

**bar-ter**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; 15c); **F** troc m, **S** permutar, trocar, **I** baratto m, **G** Tauschhandel m; the exchange of commodities without using money

**bas·alt** *n* (L *basaltes*, as in Pliny; early 17c); **F** basalte m, **S** basalto m, **I** basalto m, **G** Basalt m; a dark fine-grained rock, containing magnetic iron and crystals of feldspar

**base**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OF *base*, L *basis*, Gr *βάσις* step; 14c); **F** base f, fondement m, **S** base f, basa f, **I** base f, fundamento m, **G** Basis f, Fundament m; the lowest or supporting part, *the base of the statue*, fundamental principle, foundation, *the base of modern science*, military, *the naval base of Norfolk*

**base**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 16c); **F** baser, fonder, **S** basar, fundar, **I** basàre, **G** stützen, gründen; to use a particular city, place, etc, as the main place for business, for living, etc, *the company is based in Geneva*

**base**<sup>3</sup> *adj lit* (OF *bas*, *basse*, LL *bassus*, Gr *βάσσον*, compar of *βαθύς* deep; late 14c); **F** vil/e, bas/sse, **S** bajo/a, vil, **I** bàsso/a, vile, **G** niedrig, gemein; not having moral principles, *a base behaviour*; \***baseness** *n*

**base·ball** *n* the national field game of the USA, so called from the 'bases' or bounds which mark the circuit to be taken by each player after striking the ball

**baseball cap** *n* a cap worn by baseball players

**base jumping** *n* the sport of jumping off with a parachute from high places, such as a building or a bridge

**base-less** *adj* without base or foundation

**base·line** *n* a standard measurement, *the baseline quantity of carbonium emissions*, a line marking the edge of the area where a player can run in baseball

**base·ment** *n* (*base* + *-ment*; late 18c); **F** sous-sol m, **S** sótano m, **I** piano m interrato, basamento m, **G** Kellergeschoß n, Grundmauer f; the lowest portion of a structure, *a basement flat*

**base metal** *n* a metal like lead, copper, etc, i.e. that is not as precious as gold

**base rate** *n* the rate of interest set by the central bank, which banks use when deciding how much to charge to customers for lending money, cp **prime rate**

**bases** *n plural* of **base** or of **basis**

**bash**<sup>1</sup> *v* (aphetic form of *abash*; 14c); **F** se cogner la tête f, **S** golpear, aporrear, **I** colpire con violènza, cozzàre, **G** heftig schlagen, einschlagen; to attack harshly, *John's habit of bashing his adversaries*, to destroy the confidence, to dismay, to hit sth very hard, *the car bashed in the tree*

**bash**<sup>2</sup> *n* **F** coup m, enfoncement, **S** golpe m, **I** cólpo m (violènto), **G** heftiger Schlag; a violent blow, a hard hit, *a bash in the nose*

**bash·ful** *adj* (*bash* *v* + *-ful* suffix; 16c); **F** modeste, timide, **S** tímido/a, vergonzoso/a, **I** tímido/a, modèsto/a, **G** schüchtern, scheu; lacking self-possession, shy, *a bashful boy*

**bash·ing** *n coll* (*bash* verb + *-ing*; early 18c); very strong criticism, *the author received a bashing from the newspapers*, a violent physical attack on a person or group, *gay-bashing*

**BASIC**, in computing, *abbr* for 'Beginners All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code'

**basic** *adj* (*base* sb + *-ic*; 19c); **F** fondamental/e, **S** básico/a, **I** fundamentàle, **G** grundlegend/e; fundamental, pertaining to the bases, *the basic principles of physics*

**basics** *n* **F** l'essentiel m, **S** base f, parte f fundamental, **I** bàsi f/pl, elemènti-bàse m/pl, **G** Grundlage f, Wesentlich n; the fundamental principles, the basis of a science, etc, *the basics of computer science*

**basil** *n* (MF *basile*, ML *basilicum*, Gr *βασιλικόν ψυτόν*, royal plant; 15c); **F** basilic m, **S** albahaca f, **I** basilico m, **G** Basilikum n, Basilienkraut n; a genus of aromatic plants, the best known being culinary herbs, used for soups

**ba·sil·ica** *n* (L *basilica*, Gr *βασιλική (στοά)*, from *βασιλικός* royal, and *βασιλεύς* king; 16c); **F** basilique f, **S** basilica f, **I** basilica f, **G** Basilika f; a building, oblong and with double colonnade, used for Christian worship, *St Peter's basilica*

**ba·si·lisk** *n* (L *basiliscus*, Gr *βασιλίσκος* kind of serpent, basilisk; early 14c); **F** basilic m, **S** basilisco m, **I** basilisco m, **G** Basilisk m, Leguan m; a mythical reptile, so called, according to Pliny, from a spot on the head, resembling a crown

**basin** *n* (ME *basin*, OF *basin*, LL *bas(c)hīnus*, MedL *basīnus*, apparently from *bacca* vessel; early 13c); **F** bassin m, **S** cuenco m, bol m, **I** bacino m, **G** (Wasser)Becken n; a round bowl for holding food or liquids, *a washbasin*, an area of land around a large river, *the Rio de las Amazonas Basin*, *BrE* a shleterd area of deep water where boats are kept, *the Eyemouth basin*

**basis** *n pl bases* (L *basis*, Gr *βάσις* step, from *βαίνειν* walk, step; 16c); **F** base f, fondement m, **S** base f, **I** base f, fundamento m, **G** Basis f, Grundlage f, Fundament n; the most important facts, ideas, etc, *the basis for any advancement of scientific knowledge*, a method of doing sth, *the staff are paid on a daily basis*

**bask** *vi* (from a Scandinavian source, see ON *bathask* to bathe oneself; late 14c); **F** se chauffer (au soleil), **S** asolearse, **I** riscaldàrsi, crogiolàrsi, **G** sich sonnen, einen Sonnenbad nehmen; to bathe, *esp* in warm water, to expose to a flood of warmth, *as temperature raised Britons basked in the sun*

**ba·s·ket** *n* (*etym* uncertain, but cf L *bascaūda*, a kind of basin, of British origin; early 13c); **F** corbeille f, panier m, **S** cesta f, cesto m, **I** césto m, canèstro m, **G** Korb m; a container for holding things, *a picnic basket*, *sport* the net you throw the ball to in basketball, *to make a basket*, *fig.* a group of currencies, *the value of Euro against a basket of currencies*

**ba·s·ket·ball** *n* a game played by two teams who get points by throwing balls through a net

**basket case** *n informal* someone who is extremely anxious, and therefore unable to organize his life, *at school John is a basket case*, a country financially unsuccessful, *that country is an economic basket case*

**Basque** *n/adj* (**F** *Basque*, LL *Vasco* an inhabitant of Vasconia, the country in the Western Pyrenees; 19c); an inhabitant of Biscay, in the Pyrenees, adjacent to the Bay of Biscay, the language of this race

**basque** *n* (of uncertain origin, probably an alteration from OF *baste*, under the influence of *basquine*, a Basque national costume, It *basta*; 19); **F** basque f, **S** jubón m, ajustador m, **I** corpèto m, **G** Oberteil m/n des Kleides; a piece of woman's clothing that fits from under the arms to the top of the legs

**bass**<sup>1</sup> *adj* (ME *bace* low, later altered in spelling to *bass*, by influence of It *basso*, from ML *bassus* low, short; late 16c); **F** de basse, **S** bajo/a, **I** di basso, **G** Baß; low in sound, *a bass voice*, *mus the bass clef*

**bass**<sup>2</sup> *n pl basses* (noun use of *base* adj, altered in spelling after It *basso*; 17c); **F** basse f, **S** bajo m, **I** basso m, **G** Baß m; the lowest tone or part in music, a man with a singing voice in the range of bass, *John sings bass*

**bass**<sup>3</sup> *n* (OE *bærs*, *bears*, cognate with MHG *bars*, ME *bace*, 1602 *basse*); **F** perche f commune, **S** róbaló m, **I** spigola f, **G** Barsch m; a sea or any freshwater type of fish of the perch family

**ba·s·set** *n* (**F** *basset*, *dimin* of *bass*; 17c); **F** basset m, **S** perro m basset, **I** bassèto, **G** Basset m; a short-legged dog, with a long body and long ears

**ba·s·sinet** *n* (OF *basin*, **F** *bassin*, *dimin* of *bassin*; 19c); **F** moïse m, **S** cuna f de mimbres, **I** cùlla f (di vimini), **G**

Korbwiege f, Korb(kinder)wagen m; a bed for a baby, shaped like a basket

**bass-ist** *n* (*bass* + *-ist*; 19c); someone who plays a bass instrument

**bas-oon** *n* (F *basson*, augmentative of *bas*, ie *bas son* deep sound; 18c); F *basson* m, S *fagot* m, I *fagòtto* m, G *Fagott* n; a wooden musical instrument

**bas-oon-ist** *n* a performer of the bassoon

**bas-tard** *adj/n* (OF *bastard*, *fiis de bast* pack-saddle child, as opposed to a child of marriage-bed; the pack-saddle was used by the muleteers in the inns; late 13c); F *bâtard/arde*, S *bastardo/a*, I *bastârdo/a*, G *Bastard* m, uneheliches Kind; *old fashioned*, someone born from parents who were not married, a very offensive word for someone, *that bastard!*

**bas-tard-ize** *v* (*bastard* + *-ize*; early 17c); F *corrompre*, S *bastardear*, I *imbastardire*, *svilire*, G *für unehelich erklären*, *verschlechtern*; to corrupt something, to copy badly from the original, *a bastardized copy of the original*

**baste**<sup>1</sup> *v* (of uncertain origin, cp OF *basser* to soak; early 16c); F *arroser*, S *pringar*, I *üngere* (con burro o grasso), G *mit Fett begießen*; pour hot fat and liquid over meat while it is cooking, *to baste the chicken at regular intervals*

**baste**<sup>2</sup> *v* (OF *bastir*, It and Rumanic *bastire* to construct, see OHG *bestan* patch, MHG *besten* to tie; late 14c mainly *AmE* for *tack* to sew together; 15c); F *bâtir*, *faufiler*, S *hilvanar*, I *imbastire*, G *reihen*, *anreihen*; to sew two pieces of cloth together with loose stitches, while you finish sewing it with suitable stitches, *to baste a dress*, *to baste a suit*

**bas-tion** *n* (F *bastion*, It *bastione*, OF and MF *bastir* to build, to construct, LL or common Rumanic, of uncertain origin; late 16c); F *bastion* m, S *bastión* m, *baluarte* m, I *bastión* m, *baluârdo* m, G *Bastion* f, *Bollwerk* n; a projecting work in a fortification that protects it, *fig.* sth that defends a way of life, *the last bastion of social privilege*

**bat**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *batt*, apparently Celtic *bat* stick, cudgel, but see L *battuère* to beat, LL *battere*; early 13c); F *batte* f, *raquette* f, S *maza* f, *paleta* f, I *màzza* f, *racchètta* f, G *Schlagholz* n, *Schläger* m; a piece of wood with a handle, used for hitting the ball in baseball, cricket, table tennis, *a baseball bat*

**bat**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from *n bat*, and also ME *baten* to beat the wings, F *bat(t)re*, L *battuère*; early 13c); F *manier la batte* f, *battre*, S *golpear*, *apalea*, I *bàttère*, *colpire* (la pàlla), G (mit dem Schlagholz) *schlagen*; to hit a ball with a bat, especially at cricket and baseball, *BrE not bat an eyelid*, *AmE not bat an eye* to show no surprise or embarrassment

**bat**<sup>3</sup> *n* (ME *backe*, Old Swedish *natt-backa*, Old Danish *nath-backæ* night-bat; L *blatta* moth, of distinct origin, can have influenced the English word; 16c); F *chauve-souris* f, S *murciélago* m, I *pipistrèllo* m, G *Fledermaus* f; a flying mammal like a mouse with wings, that flies at night

**batch**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *gebæc* baking, ME *bach* the process of baking, from *bacan* to bake, see **bake**; 15c); F *fournée* f, *lot* m, S *coleccion* f, *serie* f, I *lòtto* m, *grùppo* m, *partita* f, G *Schub* m, *Füllung* f; a number of people or things that are dealt with as a group, quantity, lot, *a batch of wood*, *to deliver the goods in batches*

**batch**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 19c); to gather things together as a batch, or into groups

**batch processing** *n tech* a way of running a number of computer programs automatically

**bated** past part. *adj* (shortened form of **abaten** abate, *bate* v + *-ed*; late 16c); F *en retenant son haleine*, S *con aliento* m *entrecortado*, I *col fiàto* m *sospèso*, G *mit verhaltenem Atem*, *gespannt*; hold back, lessen, **with bated breath** in an anxious way, *to wait with bated breath*

**bath**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *baeth*, cognate with OHG *bad*, Dutch Swedish Danish *bad*, from Proto-Germanic; cp also L *balnèum* bath,

Gr *βαλανεῖον*); F *bain* m., S *baño* m, *bañera* f, I *bàgno* m, G *Bad* n; the act of washing yourself or somebody else, *I will have a bath*, *the child needs a bath*

**bathe**<sup>2</sup> *v* especially *AmE* (OE *bathian*, cognate with OHG *badōn* bath, Old Icelandic *badha*, Modern Dutch *baden*, Sw *bada*, Danish *bade*, from the same root as *bath* n, from Proto-Germanic; cp also L *balneum* bath, Gr *βαλανεῖον*); F *baigner*, *prendre un bain*, S *vt bañar*, *vi bañarse*, I *fare il bagno*, G *baden*, *ins Wasser tauschen*, *vi* (sich) *baden*; immerse (the body) in water, *to bathe the wound*

**bathe**<sup>3</sup> *n BrE old fashioned*, when you swim in the sea, in a lake, or in a river, *they took a bathe in the dark of evening*

**bather** *n* (*bather* v + *-er*; 17c); F *baigneur/-euse*, S *bañista* m/f, I *bagnante* m/f, G *Badender* m, *Badende* f; one who is swimming

**bathing** *n* the action of swimming

**bathing cap** *n old fashioned* a swimming cap

**bathing costume** *n old fashioned* swimming costume

**bathing suit** *n old fashioned* swimsuit

**bath mat** *n* a piece of thick cloth or rubber that you put on the floor next to the bath to prevent yourself from slipping

**bathos** *n lit* (in Pope *Peri Bathous*, a parody on *Peri Hyphous* 'On the Sublime', borrowed to English *pathos* from Greek *βαθός* depth; 1727); a ludicrous descent from the elevated to the commonplace in writing

**bath-robe** *n* a piece of clothing worn before or after the bath

**bath-room** *n* (*bath* + *room*; late 19c); F *salle f de bains*, S *baño* m, I *stànza* f *da bagno* m, G *Badezimmer* n; a room containing a bath and other toilet facilities

**bath-tub** *n AmE* for *bath*

**batik** *n* (Dutch *batik*, Javanese *mbatik*, 'painted'; 19c); the Javanese art of executing designs on textiles by covering the material with wax in a pattern

**bat-man** *n* (F *bât*, MedL *\*bastum* packsaddle + *man*, a man in charge of the packhorse carrying an officer's belongings; 18c); F *ordonnance* m/f, S *ordenanza* m, I *attendènte* m, G *Offiziersbursche* m; an officer's personal attendant

**baton** *n* (OF *baston*, VL *\*bast-ōnem* a stick; 16c); F *bâton* m, S *bastón* m, I *bastōne* m, G (Kommando) *Stab* m; a staff carried as the symbol of office or authority, *the Marshal's baton*

**baton round** *n* a rubber bullet that is fired to control the crowd when becoming violent

**bats-man** *n* one who handles the bat at cricket

**bat-tal-ion** *n* (MF *battailion*, It *battaglione*, augmentative of *battaglia* battle, LL *battalia* battle array; 16c); F *bataillon* m, S *batallón* m, I *battaglióne* m, G *Bataillon* n; a military unit composed of two or three companies

**bat-ten** *n* a variant of **baton**

**bat-ter**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OF *batre* to beat, *bat* v + *freq* suffix *-er*; 14c); F *maltraiter*, S *apalea*, I *bàttère*, *colpire*, G (zer) *schlagen*; to strike with repeated blows, *to batter a wife*, to attack with artillery, *Cromwell's artillery battered Neidpath Castle*

**bat-ter**<sup>2</sup> *n* (see **batter** v, and OF *bateure* action of beating; 15c); F *pâte* f, S *batido* m, I *pàsta* f, G *eig* m, *Paste* f; a mixture of two or more ingredients beaten with some liquid into a paste

**bat-tered** *adj*, old, *a battered old car*, violently attacked, *a battered fortress*

**bat-ter-ing** *n* (*batter* + *-ing*; 16c); the action of beating with successive blows, *the battering of the castle's walls*, *fig. the author took a battering from critics*

**battering ram** *n* (see *battering* *vbl sb* + *ram*, L *aries* ram, *battering ram*; early 17c); F *bélier* m, S *ariete* m, I *ariète* m, G *Sturmbock* m; a Roman military engine employed for battering walls; it consisted of a beam of wood, with a head of iron at one end, in the form of a ram's head

**bat-tery** *n* (MF *batterie* a beating, LL *battuere*, L *battĕre* beat, strike, F *battre* to beat + *-ery*; 16c); F *batterie* f, S *bateria* f, I *batteria* f, G *Batterie* f; a device that produces electricity to make a car start, etc, *to recharge the battery of the car*, a large number of things of the same type, *a battery of kitchen utensils*, a number of guns operating from the same place, *the battery of Cromwell opened fire against the castle*  
**battery farm** *n* a farm where a large number of animals are kept in very small cages

**bat-tle**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *batayle*, OF *bataille*, LL *battualĭa*, from *battuĕre* to beat; late 13c as *batayle*); F *bataille* f, combat m, S *batalla* f, *lucha* f, I *battaglia* f, *lotta* f, G *Schlacht* f, *Kampf* m; a fight of opposing forces, *the battle of Caporetto*

**bat-tle**<sup>2</sup> *v* (see the noun); F *se battre*, *lutter*, S *luchar*, I *combattere*, *lottare*, G *kämpfen*, *streiten*; to fight, to engage in war, *to battle against prejudice*

**battle-axe** *n* a heavy axe used as a weapon

**battle-cruiser** *n* a large warship, lighter than a battleship

**battle cry** *n* the shout that the soldiers give to encourage their own army

**battle-dress** *n* clothes worn by soldiers when they are fighting

**bat-tle-field** *n* also **bat-tle-ground**, the place where a battle is fought, *fig.*, *Peter's life with his first wife was something of a battlefield*

**battle-ments** *n* (ME *bataylement*, OF *bastillement* fortification, from *bastillier* fortify, see **bastion**; 14); F *parapet* m, *rempart* m, S *almenas* f/pl, I *parapĕtto* m, G (Brustwehr f mit) *Zinnen* pl; a low wall with openings, at the top of a tower or wall of a castle

**battle-scarred** *adj* a person who has been in war and shows the signs of injury

**battle-ship** *n* (*battle* + *-ship*; late 18c); F *cuirassé* m, S *acorazado* m, I *corazzata* f, G *Schlachtschiff* n; a very large ship used in war in the past, with big guns and heavy metal plates to protect it

**batty**, **battie** *adj* slightly crazy, in an armless way, *John's batty ideas*

**bau-ble** *n* (OF *babel*, *baubel* child's toy, of uncertain origin; 14c); F *babiole* f, S *chuchería* f, I *ninnolo* m, *gingillo* m, G *Nippische* f, *fig.* *Spielerei* f; a piece of jewellery that is cheap and has little artistic value, *trifle*

**baulk**, spelling of **balk**

**baux-ite** *n* (F *bauxite*, from Baux near Arles, in France, where it was found in 1821); an oxide of alumina and iron, used in the manufacture of aluminium

**baxter** *n* Scots for **baker**

**bawdy** *adj* (English *bawd* procurer + *-dy*, ME *baude* a procurer of prostitutes, OF *baud*, merry, licentious; early 16c); F *obscène*, S *verde*, I *oscĕno/a*, *licenzióso/a*, G *unzüchtig*, *unflätig* (Rede); containing humorous remarks about sex, *bawdy songs*, *bawdy jokes*, etc

**bawl** *v* (probably from a Scandinavian source, see Icelandic *baula*, cow, Swedish *böla* to low like a cow, but see MedL *bauläre* to bark as a dog, and *baulätus* a bark; 15c); F *hurler*, *brailler*, S *cantar en voz muy fuerte*, *gritar*, I *urläre*, *gridäre*, G *schreien*, *grölen*; to bark or howl as a dog

**bay**<sup>1</sup> *n* (F *baie*, LL *baia*, in Isidor of Seville, who apparently misunderstood the name of the port of *Baiae*, near Naples, for a common name; early 15c); F *baie* f, S *bahía* f, I *bàia* f, G *Bai* f, *Meerbusen* m; inlet of a sea, *the bay of Naples*, an area within a large room or outside a building, used for particular purposes, *a loading bay*; **keep/hold somebody at bay**, prevent somebody from harming, **bay window**, a window that sticks out from the wall of a house, and usually has three sides

**bay**<sup>2</sup> *adj* (A-L *bai*, OF *bai*, L *badĭus* reddish-brown; 14c); F (cheval) *bai* m, S *caballo* m *bayo*, I (cavállo/a) *baio/a*, G *kastanienbraun* (Pferd); a horse reddish brown in colour

**bay**<sup>3</sup> *n* (ME *abai* at bay with barking dogs, OF *abai*, *abaier* to bark, see MedL *batare* to open the mouth; early 15c); F *aboiement* m, S *ladrido* m, *aullido* m, I *latrato* m, G *dumpfes Gebell der Meute*; the deep noise made by dogs when hunting  
**bay**<sup>4</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 14c); F *aboyer*, S *ladrar*, I *laträre*, G (dumpf) *bellen*; of a dog, to make a long, deep sound  
**bay**<sup>5</sup> *n* (OF *baie*, from L *bacca* berry; 14c); F *laurier* m, S *laurel* m, I *alloro* m, *läuro* m, G *lorbeer(-baum)*; a small evergreen Mediterranean tree of the laurel family; **bay leaf** *n* a sweet-smelling leaf from the **bay tree**, used to give flavour to food

**bay-onet** *n* (F *baïonnette*, apparently from the city of Bayonne, where the weapon was first made; early 17c); F *baïonnette* f, S *bayoneta* f, I *baionĕtta* f, G *Bajonett* n; a long knife that is fixed onto the end of a rifle

**bayou** *n* in the lower Mississippi, an area of water moving very slowly, has many water plants and is tributary to another river

**ba-zaar** *n* (a Persian *bāzār* market; late 16c); an Oriental market-place

**ba-zooka** *n* AmE (special use of earlier *bazooka*, a trombone-like instrument, apparently from *bazoo* a voice trumpet, from Dutch *bazuin* trumpet; 1942); a portable antitank rocket launcher used in the 2nd world war

**BBC** *abbr* **British Broadcasting Corporation**

**BBQ** *abbr* **barbecue**

**BC** *abbr* **before Christ**

**BCE** *abbr* **before the Common Era** (=before the birth of Christ)

**be** *v* (OE *bĕon*, *bĕom*, ME *been*; the three distinct verbs of Germanic origin *be*, *am*, *was*, combined under *be*, which supplied the infinitive form; cognates include OS *bium*, OHG *bim*, MHG and ModG *bin*, all derived from a Germanic form meaning 'exist, dwell', ultimately from Indo-European); F *être*, S *ser*, *estar*, I *ĕssere*, *stäre*, *accadĕre*, G *sein*, *bestehen*, *sich befinden*, *werden*; *auxiliary verb*, meaning a condition of being something, or somewhere

**be-** *prefix* used to mean that someone is treated in a particular way, *to befriend*, *to belittle*, etc, *somebody*

**beach** *n* (apparently OE *bæce*, *bĕce* brook stream, meaning the pebbles worn by the waves; 16c); F *plage* f, S *playa*, I *spiaggia* f, *lido* m, G *Strand* m; the sandy or pebble shore of the sea

**beach buggy** *n* a small car used for driving on sand

**beach comb-er** *n* a person who searches the beach collecting objects of interest or value

**beach-head** *n* an area beside a beach or river that an attacking army has taken control of, *soon after landing the troops established a beachhead*

**beach-wear** *n* clothes that you wear on a beach

**bea-con** *n* (OE *bĕacon*, *bĕacen* a sign, cognate with Old Frisian *bāken* sign, Old Saxon *bōcan*, OHG *bouhan*, from Proto-Germanic, see **beckon**); F *phare* m, S *almenara* f, *faro* m, I *fāro* m, G *Leucht-*, *Signalfeuer* n; a fire on high ground to warn of danger, a lighthouse marking a rock in navigable waters, etc, *fig.* **a beacon of hope**

**bead** *n* (ME *bede*, OS *beda*, Gothic *bida*, Dutch *bede*, MHG *bete*, ModG *bitte*, see **bid**); F *perle* f, *grain* m, S *cuenta* f, *rosario* m, I *perlina* f, *grāno* m di un *rosārio*, G *Perle* f, *Rosenkranz* m; a small piece of glass, plastic, etc, with a hole through it; it can be put on a string with others and worn as a jewellery

**bead-ed** *adj* ornamented with beads

**beadle** *n* (OF *bedel*, OHG *butil* bailiff, ModG *Büttel*; late 13c); **F** *bedeau* m, **S** *bedel*, eccl. *pertiguero*, **I** *mazzière*, *sagrestàno*, **G** *Kirchendiener* m; an officer in British churches, who helped the priest

**bead-ing** *vbl sb* the formation of beads

**beady** *adj* (*bead* n + *-y*; early 19c); beadlike, (of eyes) small, round and bright, **to keep a beady eye**, to watch something closely and suspiciously, *I will keep a beady eye on your behaviour*

**beagle** *n* (*etym* uncertain, but *cf* MF and F *bégueule*, from *béer* to gape open wide + *gueule* throat; 15c); **F** *beagle* m, *briquet* m, **S** *beagle* m, *sabueso* m, **I** *câne* m *inglèse* da *lèpre*, **G** *Beagle* m; a small dog with short legs and long ears, used for hunting hare

**beak**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *bec*, *beck*, OF *bec*, LL *beccus*, of Gaulish origin); **F** *bec* m, **S** *pico* m, *rostro* m, **I** *bécco* m, *ròstro* m, **G** *Schnabel* m; beak, bill of a bird, *the beak of the eagle*

**beak**<sup>2</sup> *v* (OF *bequer*, *bequier*, see the noun; early 13c); **F** *becqueter*, *picorer*, **S** *picotear*, *picar*, **I** *beccàre*, **G** *picken*; to seize with the beak

**beaked** *adj* furnished with a beak

**beak-er** *n* (ME *biker*, retained in Scots *bicker*, ON *bikarr*, but *cf* MedL *bicarium*, Gr *βίκος* drinking bowl; 14c); **F** *gobelet* m, *vase* m à *bec*, **S** *taza* f *alta*, *vaso* m, **I** *còppa* f, *bicchière* m, **G** *Becher* m, *Becherglas* n; a drinking vessel, a glass cup that is used in chemistry for measuring liquids

**beam**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *bēam* tree, piece of timber, ray, cognate with Middle Dutch *boom*, OHG *boum*, ModG *Baum*); **F** *poutrelle* f, *rayon* m (de *lumière*), **S** *viga* f, *travesaño* m, *rayo* m (de *luz*), **I** *tràve* f, *fàscio* m di *lùce*, **G** *Balken* m, (Licht)Strahl m; a piece of timber or steel, forming one of the structural members of a building, a transverse piece of framing, *a wooden beam*, *a light shining from the sun*, etc, *a beam of light*

**beam**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 15c); to smile with clear pleasure, *she beamed with delight*, to send out a line of light, *the sun beamed through the clouds*

**bean** *n* (OE *bēan*, OHG *bōna* bean, ModG *Bohne*, probably cognate with L *fabā*); **F** *haricot* m, *fève* f, **S** *judía* f, *fríjol* m, **I** *fagiòlo* m, **G** *Bohne* f; the plant and seed of the genus *Phaseolus*, the best known species being the French Kidneys or Haricot, the seed born by a leguminous plant, the common broad bean, also said *fabā vulgaris*, the plant that bears this seed; **broad beans**, a variety of beans

**bean-bag** *n* a large cloth bag that is filled with small balls of soft plastic, and is used for sitting on

**bean-curd** *n* a soft food made from soya beans

**bean-feast** *n* an annual dinner given by employees to their work people, a festive occasion

**beanie** *n* a small hat, closely fitting to the head

**bean-pole** *n* informal, a very tall and thin person

**bean sprouts** *n* beans that have just started to grow and are eaten as vegetables

**bear** *n* (OE *bera*, ME *bere*, OHG *bero*, Middle Dutch *bere*, cognate with L *fērus* wild); **F** *ours* m, **S** *oso/a*, **I** *òrso/a*, **G** *Bär*; a plantigrade quadruped of the genus *Ursus*

**bear v**, **bore**, **born** (OE *beran*, OHG *ber-an* to carry, L stem *fer-*, Gr *φέρειν*); to carry, to sustain, to bring forth, *formal*, *to bear witness*, *record*, *testimony*

**bear-able** *adj* (*bear verb* + *-able*; 16c as *bearabil*, 1763 in the present spelling); tolerable, *his daughter made life bearable to him*

**bearer** *n* (*bear* + *-er*; late 14c); person who brings a letter, a message, etc, *the bearer of this letter*, a person whose job is to carry sth, *the standard-bearer*

**beard**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *beard*, Dutch *baard*, ModG *Bart*, *cf* L *barba*); **F** *barbe* f, **S** *barba* f, **I** *bàrba* f, **G** *Bart* m; the hair that grows upon the face of an adult man

**beard**<sup>2</sup> *v* *idiomatic*, **to beard sb in their den**, to go and see someone who has authority, and tell them what you want, why you disagree, etc

**bear hug** *n* an act of showing affection for sb by holding them in your arms

**bear-ing** *vbl sb* (*bear verb* + *-ing*; late 14c); the action of bearing or carrying

**bear-ish** *adj* bear-like in manner or temper, rough, rude

**bear-skin** *n* the skin and fur of a bear, *a bearskin coat*, a tall black fur that some British soldiers wear as part of their uniform for special purposes

**beast** *n* (ME *beste*, OF *beste*, L *bestia* wild animal; 13c); **F** *bête* f, **S** *bestia* f, **I** *bèstia* f, **G** *Tier* n; an animal, especially a wild one, *a wild beast*, *fig. that man is a beast*

**beast of burden** *n* an animal used to carry things, e.g. the donkey, the mule, etc

**beat**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OE *bēatan*, Old Teutonic *\*bautan*, ON *bauta*; the past tense *beat* developed in the 16c as a shortened form of ME *beted*); **F** *battre*, **S** *golpear*, *batir*, **I** *bàttère*, *colpire*, **G** *schlagen*, *klopfen*; strike with repeated blows

**beat**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the noun; early 17c); **F** *battement* m, **S** *latido* m (of heart), *ritmo* m, **I** *cólpo*, *bàttito*, **G** *Schlag* m; a single blow to sth, *the beats of her heart*, *a beat on the drum*

**beat-er** *n* (*beat v* + *-er*; late 15c); **F** *batteur* m, **S** *batidor* m, **I** *battitóre* m, **G** *Schläger* m, *Klopfer* m; a person who beats, *a wife beater*

**beat-ific** *adj* (L *beatificus*, via French *béatifique*, from *beatus* blessed, past part. of *beāre* to bless + *-ficus* making; 17c); **F** *béatifique*, **S** *beatifico/a*, **I** *beatifico/a*, **G** *glücklich*, *seligmachend*; that makes blessed, that imparts happiness, *the beatific vision of Paradise in Dante's Comedy*

**beat-ify** *v* (F *béatifier*, L *beatificāre* to make happy; 17c); **F** *béatifier*, **S** *beatificar*, **I** *beatificāre*, **G** *beatifizieren*; to make happy

**beat-ing** *vbl/s* (*beat v* + *-ing*; early 13c); **F** *battement* m, *battage* m, **S** *golpes* m/pl, *pulsación* f, *derrota* f, **I** *sconfitta* f, *bàttito* m (del *cuòre*), **G** *Schlagen* n; the infliction of repeated blows as a punishment, *he received a severe beating*, a series of blows to a drum, etc, *the beating of the drum*, a series of regular movements, *the beating of her heart*

**beat-nik** *n* (formed in English from *beat generation*, name coined by the American novelist Jack Kerouak, 1958); the name indicated a post-World war group of young artists and writers, who did not accept the current values of society, and emphasized this with their way of dressing and behaving

**beau** *n* (OF *beau*, L *bellus*; the substantive has been reintroduced from ModF; 14c); **F** *bel* m, *belle* f, **S** *dandy* m, **I** *il bello* m, *il damerino* m, **G** *Beau* m, *Liebhäber* m; a man who gives particular attention to dress, a dandy, a boy-friend

**beaut** *n* (*abbr* of **beauty**; 19c); *AmE* indicating sth very attractive, a beautiful or outstanding person, *Caroline is a real beaut*

**beaut-eous** *adj* (*beauty* + *-eous*; 15c); distinguished by beauty

**beaut-ician** *n* (*beauty* + *-ician*; early 20c); **F** *visagiste* m/f, *esthéticien/enne*, **S** *esteticista* m/f, **I** *estetista* m/f, **G** *Kosmetiker/in*; one who runs a beauty parlour

**beau-ti-ful** *adj* (*beauty*+*-ful*; 16c); **F** *bello/a*, **S** *hermoso/a*, *bello/a*, **I** *bèllo/a*, **G** *schön*; having beauty, attractive to look at, *a beautiful young lady*, *beautiful weather*

**beau-ti-fully** *adv*

**beaut-ify** *v/tr* (*beauty noun* + *-fy*; early 16c); to adorn, to render beautiful; *v/i* to grow beautiful

**beauty** *n* (ME *beatte*, OF *beaute*, LL *bellitātem*, from *bellus* beautiful; 13c); **F** beauté f, **S** belleza f, hermosura f, **I** bellézza f, **G** Schönheit f; a perfection of form that affords pleasure to sight or to bearing  
**beauty contest** *n* a competition in which women are judged for their beauty, cp **pageant**  
**beauty mark** *n* beauty spot  
**beauty queen** *n* a woman judged to be the most beautiful in a competition  
**beauty salon** *n* beauty parlour  
**beaux** plural of **beau**  
**beaver** *n* (OE *beofor*, OHG *bibar* beaver, OS *bibar*, Middle and Modern Dutch *bever*, L *fiber* a beaver); **F** castor m, **S** castor m, **I** castòro m, **G** Biber m; an amphibious rodent, well known for his fur and hard incisor teeth, with which it cuts down trees  
**bebop** *n* *AmE* a type of jazz music  
**be-calmed** *calmed, quieted*, said of a ship with sail unable to move because there is no wind  
**be-came** *past simple of become*  
**be-cause** *adv & conj* (ME *by cause* for the reason that, later *bycause*; early 14c); **F** parce que, à cause de, **S** porque, a causa de, **I** poiché, a càusa di, **G** weil, da; for the reason that, *we were late because of a traffic jam*  
**beck** *n* (ME *becken, bekenen* beckon; late 12c); a small river, **at sb's beck and call**, always willing and ready to do what someone asks, *I am at your beck and call*  
**beckon**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OE *biecanan*, from *béacen* a sign, ME *becken* and *bekenen*, related to *beken* a signal fire, cf **beacon** *v*); **F** faire signe (à quelqu'un), **S** llamar con señas, hacer señas a, **I** chiamàre con un cénno, **G** (zu)winken, ein Zeichen geben; to nod, to make a signal with the head or the hand, *she beckoned me to sit down*  
**beckon**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; early 18c); a gesture of the head indicating assent  
**be-come** *v* (OE *becuman* to arrive, come about, *be+cuman* come, OHG *biqueman*); **F** devenir, **S** convenir, volverse, llegar a ser, **I** diventàre, divenire, **G** werden; to come about, to come to be, *John became serious after the reprimand*  
**be-com-ing** *adj* (verbal noun, past part. of **become**; 1600); **F** convenable, **S** decoroso/a, conveniente, **I** grazióso/a, conveniènte, **G** schicklick, kleidsam; the action of befitting, suitable, that makes attractive, *a becoming lady, a becoming dress*  
**BEd** *abbr* for **Bachelor of Education**  
**bed** (OE *bed*, OS *bed*, *beddi*, Dutch *bed*, OHG *beti*, MHG *bette*); **F** lit m, **S** cama f, lecho m, **I** lètto m, **G** Bett n; the sleeping-place of men, a layer, *to lay in bed*  
**bed and board** *n* *BrE* a room to sleep in and food  
**bed and breakfast** *n* a service that provides a room to sleep in and breakfast in the next morning, in private houses or in little hotels, see **full board, half board**  
**bed-bug** *n* *AmE* (*bed + bug*; early 19c); **F** punaise f des lits, **S** chinche f, **I** cimice f dei lètti, **G** Wanze f; a small insect, especially of the beetle kind, that lives in dirty beds, where it bites people, sucking their blood  
**bed-chamber** *n* *old fashioned* a bedroom, *the royal bedchamber*  
**bed-clothes** *n* *BrE* also **bed-covers**, the sheets and covers that you put on a bed  
**bed-cover** *n* see **bed-clothes**  
**bedding** *vbl/n* (*bed + -ing*; 1000); the sheets, covers, etc, that you put on a bed  
**bedding plant** *n* a garden plant that is planted for one season and then removed

**be-deck** *v lit* (*be+deck*; 16c); **F** orner, **S** adornar, **I** adornàre, **G** (ver)zieren, schmücken; to deck out, to adorn, *she is bedecked with rings*  
**be-devil** *v* (*be + devil*; 18c); **F** taquiner, tourmenter, **S** endiablàr, fastidiar, **I** tormentàre, **G** plagen, verwirren; to treat diabolically, to torment, *industrial relations bedevilled by strikes*  
**bed-fel-low** *n* (*bed + -fellow*; 15c); a person who shares a bed with another, a political associate  
**bed-head** *n* (*bed + head*; late 14c); the part of the bed which is behind the head of the person sleeping in it, the part of the bed in which the head rests  
**bed-lam** (ME *bedlem, Bethlem*, from the hospital of St Mary of Betlehem in London, in 1402 mentioned as a hospital for lunatics); **F** charivari m, tohu-bohu m, **S** manicómio m, confusión f, **I** manicómio m, confusióne f, **G** Tollhaus n, Tumult m; a scene of confusion, a pandemonium, *the scene was a complete bedlam*  
**bed-linen** *n* sheets and pillows for a bed  
**Bed-ouin** *n* (*F* *bedouin*, Arab *badāwin* a dweller of the desert, first known to Europeans in Crusading times, *MedL beduīni*; early 15c); **F** bédouin m, **S** beduino/a, **I** beduino/a, **G** Beduine m; an Arab of the desert  
**bed-pan** *n* a container used as a toilet by people who are too ill to get out of bed  
**bed-post** *n* (*bed + post*; late 16c); a post of a bed, one of the upright supports of the framework of a bed  
**bed-rid-den** *adj* (OE *bedreda*, from *bed* bed + *rida* rider, from *ridan* to ride; 1000 as *bedreda*); **F** alité m, cloué au lit, **S** encamado/a, **I** allettàto/a, **G** bettlägerig/e; obliged to stay in bed because of illness or infirmity  
**bed-rock** *n* *geol* (*bed + rock*; 19c); an area of hard rock underlying alluvial formations and holding the earth above, *fig. the bedrock of society*  
**bed-room** *n* (*bed + room*; late 16c); **F** chambre f (à coucher), **S** dormitorio m, alcoba f, **I** càmera f da lètto, **G** Schlafzimmer n; a room for sleeping in, *a two-bedroom flat*, *fig. a bedroom scene*, i.e. relating to sexual activity  
**bedroom community**, *n* also **bedroom suburb** *AmE* for a dormitory town  
**bed-side** *n* an area near the bed, *a bedside lamp, he was at the bedside of his uncle*  
**bedside manner** *n* the way a doctor talks to patients he is treating  
**bedside table** *n* a small table beside a bed  
**bed-sit** *n* **bedsitting room** a room that a person rents for both living and sleeping in  
**bed-sore** *n* an ulcer or a painful place on a person's skin, caused by lying in bed for long periods  
**bed-spread** *n* an attractive cover put on top of the covers on a bed  
**bed-stead** *n* (*bed + stead*; 15c); the wooden or metal frame of a bed, generally of an old-fashioned bed  
**bed-time** *n* (*bed + time*; 13c); the time when you usually go to bed, *my bed-time is ten o'clock*  
**bed-wetting** *n* the habit of children of wetting the bed with urine  
**bee** *n* (OE *bēo*, LG *bigge*, cognate with OHG *bīni*, Old Icelandic *bý*, Middle Dutch *bīe*, from Indo-European); **F** abeille f, **S** abeja f, **I** àpe f, **G** Biene f; an insect, living in societies, mostly kept in hives for the honey, *idm to have a bee in the bonnet*, to be obsessed about an idea or a subject  
**beech** *n* (OE *bōece*, later *bēce*, G *Buche*, cognate with L *fāgus*, Gr *φάγος*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** hêtre m, **S** haya f, **I** fāggio m, **G** Buche f, Buchenholz n; a well known tree indigenous to Europe, of the genus *fagus*

**beef** *n* (OF *boef*, L *bov-em*, accusative of *bos*, cognate with Gr *βοῦς*; early 14c); **F** *bœuf* m, **S** *carne f de vaca*, **I** *mànzo* m, *carne f di buè*, **G** *Rindfleisch* n; the flesh of an ox, a bull or cow, used as food

**beef-bur-ger** *n* *AmE* for **hamburger**

**beef-cake** *n* *slang* men with big muscles, especially those who appear in sexy magazines

**beef-steak** *n* a piece of beef meat

**beefy** *adj* (*beef* *n* + *-y*; 18c); abounding in beef, resembling a beef, a *beefy man* is strong and has a big body

**bee-hive** *n* (*bee* *n* + *hive* *n*; early 14c); style of hair for women, piled high on top of the head

**bee-keeper** *n* a person who owns and takes care of bees

**bee-line** *n* *informal* **make a beeline for** to move quickly towards sth/sb, *he made a beeline towards the President*

**been** *v* past part. of **be**

**beep**<sup>1</sup> *n* (*imitative*; early 20c); a high sound made by an electronic equipment, *'please, leave a message after the beep'*,

**beep**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 20c); if a machine beeps, it makes a short high sound, *when driving she beeps impatiently*

**beeper** *n* (*beep* + *-er*; 20c); a device that emits beeps, informing you that you must contact someone, *the doctor was called at his beeper*

**beer** *n* (OE *bēor*, cognate with Old Icelandic *bjōrr*, OHG *bior*, MHG *bier*, but see L *bibère* to drink; early 13c); **F** *bière* f, **S** *cerveza* f, **I** *birra* f, **G** *Bier* n; an alcoholic liquor obtained by fermentation of malted barley

**beer belly** *n* *informal* a man's fat stomach, caused by drinking beer

**beer mat** *n* a small piece of cardboard that you put under a glass to protect the table surface

**beery** *adj* belonging to beer, smelling of beer

**bees-wax** *n* a substance produced by bees, used to make candles or to polish furniture

**beet** *n* (OE *bēte*, from L *bēta* beet); **F** *betterave* f, *betterave fourragère*, **S** *betarraga* f, *remolacha* f, **I** *barbabiétola* f, **G** *Rübe* f, *Bete* f, *Mangold* m; a plant with edible root, fed to animals or used to make sugar

**beet-root** *n* the root of the beet

**bee-tle**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *bitula*, *bitela*, from *bítan* to bite; 15c as *bytylle*); **F** *scarabée* m, *coléoptère* m, **S** *escarabajo* m, *coleóptero* m, **I** *coleòttero* m, *scarabèò* m, **G** *Käfer* m; any insects of the coleopterous order, with a hard back, usually black

**bee-tle**<sup>2</sup> *v* (early 17c); *informal* to go somewhere quickly, **beetle off/away**, *he beetles off home early in the morning*

**be-fall** *v* *lit* **befell befallen** (OE *bef(e)allan*, *be* + *f(e)allan* to fall, cognate with OHG *bifallan*, Old Frisian *bifalla*); **F** *arriver à*, *survenir à*, **S** *acontecer a*, **I** *accadére*, *capitàre*, **G** *sich ereignen*, *widerfahren*; to happen, generally something bad or unpleasant, *we pray that no harm befalls you*

**befit** *v* (*be* + *fit*; 15c); **F** *convenir à*, **S** *convenir a*, *venir bien a*, **I** *addirsi a*, *èssere adátto a*, **G** *sich ziemen*, *sich schicken für*; to be suited, to be suitable, *this befits him*

**be-fore**<sup>1</sup> *prep* (OE *beforan*, *be-* about + *foran* before, OHG *bifora*, MHG *bevor*); **F** *devant*, **S** *delante de*, **I** *prima di*, *innànzi a*, **G** *vor*; in front of, previous to, *before lunch*

**before**<sup>2</sup> *conj* **F** *avant que*, **S** *antes (de) que*, **I** *prima che*, *innànzi che*, **G** *bevor*, *ehe*; earlier than the time when, *before I go I want to get an answer*

**before**<sup>3</sup> *adv* **F** *auparavant*, **S** *delante*, *adelante*, **I** *prima*, *più prèsto*, **G** *vorn*, *voran*; at an earlier time, *long before*

**be-fore-hand** *adv* (*before* + *hand*, cf L *præ manu*, *præ manibus* at hand, in readiness; 13c); **F** *à l'avance*, *au préalable*, **S** *de antemano*, *con anticipación*, **I** *in anticipo*, **G**

*zuvor*, (*im*)*vorhaus*; in advance, in preparation of sth, *accommodation had been reserved beforehand*

**be-friend** *v* (*be* + *friend*; 16c); **F** *se lier avec*, **S** *ofrecer amistad a*, *favorecer*, **I** *aiutare*, *sostenére*, **G** *Freundschaft erweisen*, *beihilflich sein*; to act as a friend, to help, to promote, *Vincent befriended my efforts*

**be-fud-dled** (*be* + *fuddle*; late 19c); **F** *éméché/e*, **S** *aturdido/a*, **I** *stordito/a*, **G** *berauscht*; confused, made stupid through drink, *his brain is befuddled by drink*

**beg** *v* (of unknown origin, but cf OF *begart*, MedL *beg(h)ardus*, 'fratres mendicantes cibaria', friars begging food; early 13c); **F** *mendier*, *supplier*, **S** *pedir*, *suplicar*, **I** *mendicàre*, *supplicàre*, **G** *bitten um*; to ask for help, for money or food

**began** *v* past simple of **begin**

**beget** *v* **beget/begat**, **begotten**, (OE *begit-an* to acquire, Gothic *bigitan*, *be* + *gitan* to get; 13c as *begeten*); **F** *procréer*, *engendrer*, **S** *engendrar*, **I** *generàre*, *procreàre*, **G** *zeugen*, *hervorbringen*; to get (by effort), to procreate, to generate

**beg-gar**<sup>1</sup> *n* (the spelling in 15-17c was *begger*, as an agent-noun from **beg**; according to *Ancrene Riwe*, 1225, 'beggares beren bagge on bac'; according to the *OED*, 'the notion that *beg* had to do with the bag carried by a beggar, as if he were a 'bagger', finds no etymological corroboration'; according to Barnhart, from OF *begart*, *begard*, Middle Dutch *beggaert* mendicant; see here **beg** *v*; late 12c); **F** *mendiant/ante*, *gueux/euse*, **S** *mendigo/a*, **I** *mendicànte* m, **G** *Bettler(in)*, *Arme(r)* m; one who lives by asking people for money and food

**beg-gar**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 16c); **F** *réduire qn à la mendicité*, **S** *arruiner*, *reducir a la miseria*, **I** *ridürre in misèria*, *mandàre in rovina*, **G** *an den Bettelstab bringen*; *lit* to make someone very poor, to impoverish, **to beggar belief/description**, used for expressing something very difficult to believe, *this picture beggars description*