

BA Bachelor of Arts

baa¹ *n* (imitative of a sheep's or lamb's bleat; late 16c); **F** bêler, **S** balar, **I** belare, **G** blöken; to make the bleat of a sheep

baa² *v* **F** bêlement *m*, **S** balido *m*, **I** belàto *m*, **G** Blöken *n*; the bleat of a sheep

babble¹ *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** balbettare, (of a stream) mormorare, **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*

babble² *n* **F** babillage *m*, bavardage *m*, (of a stream) murmure *m*, **S** parloteo *m*, barbotoe *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** Torre f di Babele, confusione *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** babuino *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

bac·ca·laur·eate *n* (**MedL** *baccalaureātus*, from *baccalarius*, connected with *bacca lauri* laurel berry, see **bachelor**; 17c); **F** licence *f*, **S** baccillerato *m*, **I** baccellierato *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

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

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

bach·elor *n* (**OF** *bachelor*, *bachelier*, **MedL** *baccalāris*; 13c); **F** licencié/é, célibataire *m*, **S** licenciado *m*, soltero *m*, **I** baccelliere *m*, celibe *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* (**L**, in Pliny, *Natural History*, late in Isidore, 'little rod', *dim* of *baculus* 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*

back¹ *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** schiena *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*

back² *adv* **F** en arrière, vers l'arrière, **S** atrás, hacia atrás, **I** indietro, **G** Zurück, rückwärts; *I will phone you back in a quarter of an hour*

back³ *adj* **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*

back⁴ *vt* **F** soutenir, secondar, **S** apoyar, favorecer, **I** sostenere, appoggiare, **G** Rückenverstärkung versehen; to support, *this law was backed by the Labour Party*

back⁵ *vi* **F** reculer, marcher à reculons, **S** retroceder, moverse atrás, **I** fare marcia indietro, **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* a continuous pain in the back

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

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

***backbone** *n **F** épine dorsale, colonne vertébrale, **S** espina *f* dorsal, **I** spina *f* dorsale, colonna *f* vertebrale, **G** Rückgrat *n*; spinal column*

***back·breaking** *adj* very hard and tiring, *a backbreaking work*

***back·date** *v* to write an earlier date on a document

***backer** *n* a supporter

***backing** *n* 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** tavola *f* reale, **G** Backgammon *n*; a game played using dice on a board

***back·ground** *n* **F** fond *m*, origines *f/pl*, **S** fondo *m*, antecedentes *m/pl*, **I** retroterra *m*, **G** Hintergrund *m*; the personal circumstances, *her family background*

***back·pack** *n* a piece of equipment carried on the back, rucksack; ***backpacker** *n* one who travels with a backpack

***back·rest** *n* the part of a chair 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* 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) directed towards the back, *backward ideas*

***back·wards** *adv* *AmE* also **back·ward**, towards the direction opposite to your usual direction, *he stepped backwards to the gate*; ***backwardness** *n*

***back·wash** *n* the direction of the waves when they leave after hitting the beach

***back·water** *n* a part of a river away from the main part, a place that is away from the main places, where things mostly happen, *a rural backwater*

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

***back-yard** *n* BrE an area behind a house, usually with a hard surface, AmE a garden behind a house

ba-con *n* (MedL *bacōnem*, OF *bacon*, MedL *bacōn-em*, 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, pl 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* 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 bacteriologia f, I .batteriologia f, G Bakterienkunde f; the scientific study of bacteria

bad¹ *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, malvagio/a, G schlecht, schlimm; wretched, miserable, worthless, lacking good qualities, a *bad person*

bad² *adv* AmE informal for badly, she was hurt bad

bad³ *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, Kennzeichen 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**¹ *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**² *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* (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 celia 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

baffle¹ *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

baffle² *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

bag¹ *n* (ME *bagge*, OF *bage*, MedL *bagā* 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*

bag² *v* 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 *bagā*, and *bagadellus*, see **bag**; 17c); F bagatelle f, divertissement m, S bagatela f, I bagattella f, inezia 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 *bagā*, 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 gonfio/a, rigonfio/a, G bauschig, zu weit; baggy clothes are big, not well fitting, *baggy trousers*

***bag-pipes**

bail¹ *v* (Anglo-French *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 provvisoria dietro cauzione, G gegen Kautio 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

bail² *n* (OF *bail* custody, jurisdiction, see **bail** *v*; early 15c); F cautionnement m, caution f, S caución f, fianza f, I cauzione f, G Kautio 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 esterne di un castello, bastioni 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 *baillif*, LL *baiulivus*, MedL *ba(l)livus*, 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

bait¹ *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 esca f, lusinga f, G Köder m, Lokkung f; food put on a hook to attract prey

bait² *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 adescare, munire di esca, 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

stoffa f di tela grezza, **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 forno, **G** backen; to cook by dry heat, to cook in an oven

***baker** *n*; **F** boulanger/ère, **S** panadero/a, **I** fornaio/a, **G** Bäcker m; a person who bakes or sells bread

***bakery** *n*; **F** boulangerie f, pâtisserie f, **S** panadería f, **I** panetteria f, forno m, **G** Bäckerei f; a place for making bread, the place where bread is sold; ***baking** the action of the verb to bake

balance¹ *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** bilancia 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*

balance² *v*; **F** équilibrer, compenser, **S** equilibrar, contrapesar, **I** pesare, compensare, **G** (ab)wägen, im Gleichgewicht halten; to set in equilibrium, *he balanced the two sides of the question*, to compare, to have the credit and debit sides equal

***balanced** *adj*

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

bald¹ *adj* in the sense of without hair (ME *balled*, apparently from *ball*, in the sense of 'protuberant or rounded like a ball', applied to the head, 'hairless'; 13c); **F** chauve, **S** calvo/a, **I** calvo/a, **G** kahl; having no hair on the head, hairless; ***bald-ing** *adj* going bald, *Vincent is balding*; ***bald-ness** *n*

bald² *adj*, in the sense of *plain*, *a bald statement*; ***baldly** *adv*, in a few essential words, *he addressed baldly to the hearers*, to put it baldly, *I cannot afford it*

bale¹ *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** balla f, **G** Ballen m/pl; a large bundle of merchandise, of rounded shape, *a bale of hay*, *slang* a testicle

bale² *v* **F** mettre en balles, **S** embalar, **I** imballare, **G** Ballen verpacken; to make up into bale or bales, *to bale the hay*

bale³ *n lit* (OE *bealu* and ON *bál* great fire, funeral pyre, cognate with Greek *φάλος* shining, bright); evil, injury, misery

***bale-ful** *adj* **F** sinistre, malefique, **S** funesto/a, siniestro/a, **I** funesto/a, maléfico, sinistro/a, **G** unheilvoll, böartig; hurtful, threatening, of evil influence; ***bale-fully** *adv*

balk,¹ **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** ostacolo m, difficoltà f, **G** Hindernis n; a frustration, a disappointment, a rough piece of wood

balk,² **baulk** *v* **F** frustrer, contrarier, **S** burlar, impedir, **I** ostacolare, intralciare, **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* a person refusing to do what you want him/her to do

ball¹ *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** palla f, balla 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!*

ball² also **ball up**, *v*; **F** faire des balles, emballer, **S** embalar, empaquetar, **I** imballare, **G** verpacken, einpacken; to be formed into the shape of a ball, *to ball the hay*

ball³ *n* (F *bal*, from *baller* to dance, LL *ballāre* to dance, Greek *βαλλίζειν* to dance; 17c); **F** bal m, pl bals, **S** baile m, **I** ballo m, danza f, **G** Ball m, Tanz m; a dancing party

bal-lad *n* (OF *ballade* dancing-song, LL *ballāre* to dance; late 14c); **F** romance f, ballade f, **S** balada f, **I** ballata f, romanza 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-last¹ *n* (see Old Swedish and Danish *barlast*, from *bar* bare+*last* load; 16c); **F** lest m, **S** lastre m, **I** zavorra f, **G** Ballast m; heavy material placed in the hold of a ship, to prevent her from capsizing

bal-last² *v* 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;

***bal-let** *n* (F *ballet*, *dim* of **bal** dance; 17c); **F** ballet m, **S** ballet m, baile m, **I** balletto 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** balistica 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, couillonnades f/pl, couilles f/pl, **S** .estupideces f/pl, testículo m, **I** Dummheit f, sciocchezze 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-loon¹ *n* (It *ballone* great ball, augmentative of *balla* ball; 16c); **F** ballon m, aérostat m, **S** globo m, **I** pallone m, aerostato m, mongolfiera 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-loon² *v* **F** faire une ascension en ballon, **S** subir en un globo m, **I** viaggiare in pallone (aerostatico), **G** im Ballon aufsteigen; to carry up in a balloon, to ascend in a balloon, to get bigger and rounder

bal-lot¹ *n* (It *ballotta* a round bullet, *dim* of **ball**, see **F** *ballotte*; 16c); **F** tour m de scrutin, **S** votación f, papeleta f (para votar), **I** scheda f per votazione, voto m o scrutinio 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-lot² *v/t/intr* **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 *βάλασμον*; 14c); **F** baume m, **S** bálsamo m, **I** bàlsamo, **G** Balsam m; an aromatic resinous product like oil, *an holiday in my country-home is balsam for me*

***balmy** *adj* **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**); balm, or the tree that produces it

balsam *v/t* to heal, to embalm

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

***bal·us·trade** *n* F balustrade f, S balastrada f, I balastrata 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 perplesso, G beschwindeln, verwirren; to deceive, to confound or mistify

ban¹ *v* (see Old Icelandic *banna* curse+Old English *bannan* summon, proclaim, cognate with Old Frisian *banna*, Old Dutch *bannen* prohibit, MHG *bannen* banish, expel; 14c); F interdire, S prohibición f, I bandire, interdire, G verbieten; to prohibit, to forbid to do sth. *smoking in trains was banned*

ban² *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 prohibir, proscribir, I bando 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 banale, G banal; commonplace, trivial, trite, *hist*, belonging to compulsory feudal service

ba·na·na *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 banana f, G Banane f; a tropical fruit, typical of hot countries

band¹ *n* (OF and MF *bande*, from a Germanic source; late 15c); F bande f, bandage m, S banda f, cinta f, orquesta f, I banda f, cinghia f, nastro 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*

band² *v* (MF *bander* to join; 16c); F bander, liguer, S juntarse, asociarse, I bendare, legare, G binden; to unite, join together

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

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

***bandwagon** *n* a large wagon, capable of carrying the band in a procession

ban·dage¹ *n* (F *bandage*, from *band*+*age*; late 16c); F bande f, bandage m, S venda f, vendaje m, I banda 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

ban·dage² *v* F bander, S vendar, I bendare, G verbinden, bandagieren; to blind with a bandage

ban·dan·na *n* (Hindu *bāndhnū* a mode of dyeing; 18c); F foulard m, S pañuelo m de cabeza, I bandana f, G buntes Taschen, Halstuch n; when receiving Tony Blair in his villa in Sardinia, in August 2004, Mr Berlusconi was wearing a bandanna

B&B, also **b&b**, 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 bandito m, G Bandit m,

(Straßen)Räuber m; someone who attacks the travellers to rob them, *a mountainous bandit country*

***ban·dit·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 bandoliera f, cartucciera 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* a group movement that has become successful or fashionable, **to jump on the bandwagon**, 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 *bano*, 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* F funeste, fatal/e, S nocivo/a, funesto/a, I funesto/a, nocivo/a, G verderblich, tödlich; destructive, pernicious

bang¹ *v* (ON *bang*, 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

bang² *n* 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·er *n coll*; (*bang*+*-er*; 17c); F saucisse f, S petardo m, I salsiccia f, petardo m, G Knallkörper m, (Brat)Würstchen 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·gle *n* (borrowed from Hindi *bangrī* wrist; late 18c); F bracelet m, S brazaletes m, I braccialetto 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

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 balastrata 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 banjo m, bangio 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

bank¹ *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*

bank² *v* ----F *mettre de l'argent en banque*, S *depositar, ingresar*, I *avere o mettere un conto m in banca*, G *Geld auf einer Bank haben*; to put or keep your money in a bank, *I banked yesterday my cheque*

bank¹ ---*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 *cumulo* m, *argine* m, *riva* f, *sponda* 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*

bank² *v* 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*

bank¹ *n* (borrowed from 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 *serie* f di, *fila* f, G *eine Reihe*; a row of similar things, *a bank of Allen keys*

bank² *v* said of a plane to travel with one side higher than the other when turning, *the plane banked to the left*

***bank-able** *adj* receivable at a bank, likely to make money, *a bankable actor*, *a bankable novelist*

***bank balance** *n* the amount of money that sb 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* F *opérations* f/pl de banque, S *negocio* m bancario, I *operazioni* f/pl bancarie, G *Bankwesen* n; the business of operating 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**¹ *v* informal AmE to support somebody financially, *landowners bankrolled his campaign*

***bank-roll**² *n* a supply of money

bank-rupt¹ *n* (MF *banqueroute*, directly from It *banca rotta*, L *ruptus*, pple of *rumpĕre* 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-rupt² *adj* (past participle of the verb to bankrupt)

bank-rupt³ *v* (short for 'to make bankrupt'; 16c); F *mettre en faillite*, *ruiner*, S *arruinar, hacer quebrar*, I *far 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, *bancarotta* f, I *bancarotta* f, *fallimento* m, G *Bankrott* m; the state or the situation of being or becoming bankrupt, *John's business declared bankruptcy*

***bank statement**

ban-ner *n* (MF *banniere* and *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

***banner year**

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

bannock *n* Scottish and Northern English (OE *bannuc*, Gael *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 matrimonio), 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*, dim of *banca* bench, seat; 17c); F *banquette* f, S *banco* m, I *banchina* f, *panca* 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 *fee* f, S *fantasma* cuyos lamentos bajo la ventana anuncian una muerte, I *spirito di donna*, 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 *pollo* m bantam, G *Bantam-Zwerghuhn* n; a type of small chicken which were said to be imported from Bantam

***ban-tam-weight** *n* a weight in boxing of 51-53.5 kg

ban-ter¹ *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 *canzonatura* f, *punzecchiature* f/pl scherzose, G *Neckerei* f, *scherzen*; humorous, ridicule, wanton nonsense

ban-ter² *v* F *badiner*, S *burlar*, I *prendere in giro bonariamente*, *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

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

ban-tism *n* (ME *bapteme*, OF *baptisme*, L *baptismus*, 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* **F** de baptême, **S** bautismal, **I** batesimale, **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 βαπτίζεω to baptize; early 13c); one who baptizes, *esp* applied to St John Baptist

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

bar¹ *n* (ME *barre*, OF *barre*, LL *barra* of unknown origin; late 14c); **F** barre f, **S** barra f, palanca f, **I** barra 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*

bar² *v* 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. battuta 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* 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 *barbarus* foreign, Gr βάρβαρος stammering; early 15c); **F** barbare, **S** bárbaro/a, **I** barbaro/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** barbaro/a, barbarico/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** barbarie 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* savage cruelty, inhumanity

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

bar-be-cue¹ *n* (Sp *barbacoa* a framework for roasting meat, Haitian *barbacòà*; late 17c); **F** barbecue m, **S** barbacoa f, **I** banchetto m all'aperto, 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-cue² *vt* **F** griller, **S** asar o curar al fuego, **I** arrostire all'aperto, **G** braten, grillen; to cook meat on a metal frame, over an open fire outdoors

***barbed** *adj* see **barb**

bar-bel *n* (OF *barbel*, LL *barbellus*, from *barba* beard, cf *It barbolo*; 14c); **F** barbeau m, barbillon m, **S** barbo m, **I** barbo 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** manubrio 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** barbiere m, **G** Barbier m, (Herren)Friseur m; a man whose business is to shave the beards and cut the hair of customers

***barber's** *n* **F** salon m de coiffure, **S** barbería f, **I** negozio m di barbiere, **G** Friseurgeschäft n; a shop in which a barber's services may be had

***bar-ber-shop** *n* **F** chants m/pl à quatre voix, **S** cuarteto m vocal armónico, **I** canzoni popolari a quattro 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** barbacane m, torre f esterna, **G** Barbakane f, Stützmauer f; a defensive tower at the entrance to a fortress

bar-bie *informal* for **barbecue**

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

***bar-bit-ur-ate** *n* 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** bardo m, **G** Barde m; minstrel, poet

bare *adj* (OE *bær*, Old and MHG *bar*, OS *bar*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** nu/e, **S** desnudo/a, **I** nudo/a, **G** barfuss; said of the body, naked, nude, wanting 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* slightly, *he is barely 18 years old*, with great difficulty, *he barely earns a salary*

barf *v* *AmE informal* to vomit

bar-gain¹ *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** affare m, occasione f, **G** Handel m, Geschäft n; something bought at a price lower than usual, *this series of books was a bargain*

bar-gain² *v* (OF *bargaigner*, It *bargagnare* mercanteggiare, tirare sul prezzo, LL *barcanēare*; 14c); **F** négocier, **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 reduced 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* *sb* the action of bargaining, *the agreement was reached after hard bargaining*,

***bargaining counter** *n* *BrE* something you can use to gain an advantage in a deal

***bargaining power** *n* 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 *βάρις* flat-bottomed boat used in Egypt; 14c); **F** chaland *m*, barge *f*, **S** zatara *f*, barcaza *f*, **I** chiatta *f*, zattera *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

bar graph

bari-tone *n/adj* (**F** *barytone*, **It** *baritono*, Gr *βαρύτονος* deep sounding, *βαρύς* heavy+*τόνος* tone; early 17c); **F** baritone *m*, **S** barítono *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** bario *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

bark¹ *n* (from a Scandinavian source, cp Swedish, Danish, Norwegian *bark*, cognate with MHG, LG and Middle Dutch *bork*, from Indo-European; early 14c); **F** *écorce*, **S** *corteza* *f*, **I** *corteccia* *f*, *scorza* *f*, **G** *Rinde* *f*, *Borke* *f*; the outer sheath of the trunk of a tree

bark² **F** *écorcer* (un arbre), **S** *descortezar*, **I** *scortecciare*, **G** *abrinden*; to strip bark from (a tree)

bark³ *v* (OE *beorcan*, ME *borcen*, *berken*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** *aboyer*, **S** *ladrar*, **I** *abbaiare*, *latrare*, **G** *bellen*, *kläffen*; when a dog makes its loud sound

bark⁴ *n* (from the verb); **F** *aboiement* *m*, *aboi* *m*, **S** *ladrido* *m*, **I** *latrato* *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* *old fashioned* a person who advertises an activity at a public event, *a circus barker*

***barking 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** *orzo* *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** *zucchero* *m* *d'orzo*, **G** *Gerstenzucker* *m*; a sweet made from boiled sugar

***barley water** *n* **F** *tisane* *f* *d'orge*, **S** *hordiate* *m*, **I** *decotto* *m* *d'orzo*, *orzata* *f*, **G** *aromatisiertes Getränk aus Gerstensextrakt*; 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* **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** *granaio* *m*, **G** *Scheune* *f*; a building for the storage of corn, in wider usage for storage of hay, straw, etc

bar-nacle *n* (ME *bernacle*, *bernake*, 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** *lechuzza* *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, to attract attention for your ideas or to woo the electors, *the candidate barnstormed across the country to gain public support*

***barn-storm-ing** *adj* exciting, done with enthusiasm, *a barnstorming campaign*

***barn-yard** *n* the enclosure round a barn, round a farm

bar-om-eter *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** *barone* *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** **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

***bar-on-et** *n* (*baron*+*-et* suffix; early 15c); **F** *baronnet* *m*, **S** *baronet* *m*, **I** *baronetto* *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* **F** *dignité de baronnet*, **S** *dignidad*, *título de baronet*, **I** *titolo* *m*, *rango* *m* *di baronetto*, **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* **F** *de baron*, *seigneurial/e*, **S** *baronial*, **I** *baronale*, **G** *Barons*, *freiherrlich*; connected with the title of 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 *verruca* 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, Port *barroco* a pearl of irregular shape, of unknown origin; 18c); **F** *baroque* *m*, **S** *barroco/a*, **I** *barocco/a*, **G** *Barock* *n*, *barock* *adj*; relating to the baroque art, popular in Europe in the 17th and early 18th centuries

barque *n* (**F** *barque*, **It** *barca*, **L** *barca*; 15c); **F** *trois mâts* *m* *barque*, **S** *bricarca* *f*, **I** *barca* *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*; late 17c); **F** *caserne* *f*, *quartier* *m*, **I** *baracca* *f*, *caserma* *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* 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** *sbarramento* *m*, **G** *Sperre* *f*, *staudamm* *m*; the act of barring

bar-rel¹ *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

barrel² *v* 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* (Anglo-French *barain*, OF *baraigne*, of uncertain origin; early 13c); **F** stérile, **S** estéril, árido/a, **I** sterile, infertile, **G** unfruchtbar, unproduktiv; infertile, *barren ground*, bearing no children

bar-rette *n* (F *barrette*, *dim* of *barre* bar; early 20c); **F** barrette f, **S** pasador m, **I** fermacapelli 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** barricata 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, *abstract*, *the language barrier*

***bar-ring** *vbl sb* the action of the verb **to bar**

bar-ri-ster (F *barre*, MedL *barra*, 16c L *barrasterius*, according to the OED 'probably formed from the English'; 16c); **F** avocat/ate, **S** abogado m, **I** avvocato 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-row¹ *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** tumulo m, altura f, **G** Tumulus m, Hügelgrab n; *hill or hillock, a mound of earth or stones*

bar-row² *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* a keeper or manager of a refreshment bar

bar-ter¹ *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-ter² *n* **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

base¹ *n* (OF *base*, L *basis*, Gr *βάσις* step; 14c); **F** base f, fondement m, **S** base f, basa f, **I** base f, fondamento 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*

base² *v* **F** baser, fonder, **S** basar, fundar, **I** basare, **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*

base³ *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** basso/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**

bash¹ *v* (aphetic form of *abash*; 14c); **F** se cogner la tête f, **S** golpear, aporrear, **I** colpire con violenza, cozzare, **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*

bash² *n* **F** coup m, enfoncement, **S** golpe m, **I** colpo m (violento), **G** heftiger Schlag; 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, modesto/a, **G** schüchtern, scheu; lacking self-possession, shy, *a bashful boy*

***bash-ing** *n coll* very strong criticism, *athe 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); fundamental, pertaining to the bases, *the basic principles of physics*

***basic-ally** *adv*

***basics** *n* the fundamental principles, the basis of a science, etc, *the basics of computer science*

basil *n* (MF *basile*, ML *basilicum*, Gr *βασιλικόν φυτόν*, 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

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

basilisk *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 *bac(c)hīnus*, MedL *bacīnus*, 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 sheltered 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, fondamento 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** riscaldarsi, crogiolarsi, **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*

bas·ket *n* (*etym* uncertain, but cf **L** *bascauda*, a kind of basin, of British origin; early 13c); **F** corbeille f, panier m, **S** cesta f, cesto m, **I** cesto m, canestro 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*

***bas·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 unsuccessful financially, *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** *corpetto* 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

bass¹ *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*

bass² *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*

bass³ *n* (**OE** *bærs*, *bears*, cognate with **MHG** *bars*, **ME** *bace*, 1602 *basse*); **F** *perche* f commune, **S** *róbalo* m, **I** *spigola* f, **G** *Barsch* m; a sea or freshwater type of fish, of the perch family

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

bas·sinet *n* (**OF** *basin*, **F** *bassin*, *dimin* of *bassin*; 19c); **F** *moïse* m, **S** *cuna* f *de mimbres*, **I** *culla* f (*di vimini*), **G** *Korbwiege* f, *Korb(kinder)wagen* m; a bed for a baby, shaped like a basket

***bas·sist** *n* someone who plays a bass instrument

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

***bas·soon·ist** *n* a performer of the bassoon

bas·tard *adj/n* (**OF** *bastard*, *fil*s *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** *bastardo/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*

baste¹ *v* (of uncertain origin, cp **OF** *basser* to soak; early 16c); **F** *arroser*, **S** *pringar*, **I** *ungere* (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*

baste² *v* mainly **AmE** for **tack** to sew together, (**OF** *bastir*, **It** and **Romanic** *bastire* to build, construct; 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 **Romanic**, of uncertain origin; late 16c); **F** *bastion* m, **S** *bastión* m, *baluarte* m, **I** *bastione* m, *baluardo* 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*

bat¹ *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** *mazza* f, *racchetta* 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*

bat² *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*r, **I** *battere*, *colpire* (*la palla*), **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

bat³ *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** *pipistrello* m, **G** *Fledermaus* f; a flying mammal like a mouse with wings, that flies at night

batch¹ *n* (**OE** *gebæc* baking, **ME** *bach* the process of baking, from *bacan* to bake, see **bake**; 16c); **F** *fournée* f, *lot* m, **S** *colección* f, *serie* f, **I** *lotto* m, *gruppo* 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*

batch² *v* 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 *pple adj* (shortened form of **abaten** *abate*, *bate* *v+·ed*; late 16c); **F** *en retenant son haleine*, **S** *con aliento* m *entrecortado*, **I** *col fiato* m *sospeso*, **G** *mit verhaltenem Atem*, *gespannt*; hold back, lessen, **with bated breath** in an anxious way, *to wait with bated breath*

bath¹ *n* (**OE** *baeth*, cognate with **OHG** *bad*, **Dutch** **Swedish** **Danish** *bad*, from **Proto-Germanic**; cp also **L** *balneum* bath, **Gr** *βαλανεῖον*); **F** *bain* m., **S** *baño* m, *bañera* f, **I** *bagno* m, **G** *Bad* n; the act of washing yourself or somebody else, *I will have a bath*, *the child needs a bath*

bath² *vt/i* **F** *baigner*, *prendre un bain*, **S** *vt* *bañar*, *dar un baño* a, *vi* *tomar un baño*, **I** *vi* *fare il bagno*, *vt* *fare il bagno* a, **G** *baden*, *ein Bad nehmen*; to wash someone in a bath, *to bath the children*, to wash yourself in a bath, *I will have a bath*

bathe¹ *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*

bathe² *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

***bath·ing** *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 Hypsous* 'On the Sublime', borrowed to **English** *pathos* from

Greek *bathos* 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* a room containing a bath and other toilet facilities

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

***bath-water** *n* the water used for a 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 *attendente m*, G *Offiziersbursche m*; an officer's personal attendant

baton *n* (OF *baston*, VL **baston-em* a stick; 16c); F *bâton m*, S *bastón m*, I *bastone m*, G (Kommando)Stab *m*; a staff carried as the symbol of office or authority, *the Marshall'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 *battailon*, It *battaglione*, augmentative of *battaglia* battle, LL *battalia* battle array; 16c); F *bataillon m*, S *batallón m*, I *battaglione m*, G *Bataillon n*; a military unit composed of two or three companies

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

bat-ter¹ *v* (OF *batre* to beat, *bat v+freq* suffix *-er*; 14c); F *maltraiter*, S *apalear*, I *battere*, *colpire*, G (zer)schlagen; to strike with repeated blows, *to batter a wife*, to attack with artillery, *Cromwell's artillery battered Neidpath Castle*

bat-ter² *n* (see **batter** *v*, and OF *bateure* action of beating; 15c); F *pâte f*, S *batido m*, I *pasta 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* to suffer badly, *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 *ariete 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 *battere* beat, strike, F *battre* to beat+*-ery*; 16c); F *batterie f*, S *batería 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-tle¹ *n* (ME *batayle*, OF *bataille*, LL *battuālia*, from *battuēre* to beat; late 13c); 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-tle² *v* F *se battre*, *lutter*, S *luchar*, I *combattere*, *lottare*, G *kämpfen*, *streiten*; to fight, *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 *parapetto 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* 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 *Nippsache 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 *bawdy* procurer, *pander+dy*, ME *baude* a procurer of prostitutes, OF *baud*, merry, licentious; early 16c); F *obscène*, S *verde*, I *osceno/a*, *licenzioso/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 *baulatus* a bark; 15c); F *hurler*, *brailleur*, S *cantar en voz muy fuerte*, *gritar*, I *urlare*, *gridare*, G *schreien*, *grölen*; to bark or howl as a dog

bay¹ *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 *baia 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

bay² *adj* (Anglo-Latin *bai*, Old French *bai*, L *badius* reddish-brown; 14c); F (cheval) *bai m*, S *caballo m bayo*, I (cavallo/a) *baio/a*, G *kastanienbraun* (Pferd); a horse reddish brown in colour

bay³ *n* (ME *abai* at bay with barking dogs, OF *abai*, *abaier* to bark, see MedL *batate* 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

bay⁴ *v* F *aboyer*, S *ladrar*, I *latrare*, G (dumpf) *bellen*; of a dog, to make a long, deep sound

bay⁵ *n* (OF *baie*, from L *bacca* berry; 14c); F *laurier m*, S *laurel m*, I *alloro m*, *lauro 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 *baionetta 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**

BQ *abbr* **barbecue**

BC *abbr* **before Christ**

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

be *v* (OE *bēon*, *bēom*, 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** essere, stare, accadere, **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*, *béce* 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 walks along 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

beacon *n* ----- (OE *béacon*, *béacen* 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** faro *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*, grano *m* di un rosario, **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* an officer in British churches, who helped the priest

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

***beady** *adj* 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 *béguéule*, from *béer* to gape open wide+*gueule* throat; 15c); **F** beagle *m*, briquet *m*, **S** beagle *m*, sabueso *m*, **I** cane *m* inglese da lepre, **G** Beagle *m*; a small dog with short legs and long ears, used for hunting hare

beak¹ *n* (ME *bec*, *beck*, OF *bec*, LL *beccus*, of Gaulish origin); **F** bec *m*, **S** pico *m*, rostro *m*, **I** becco *m*, rostro *m*, **G** Schnabel *m*; beak, bill of a bird, *the beak of the eagle*

beak² *v* **F** becqueter, picorer, **S** picotear, *picar*, **I** beccare, **G** picken; to seize with the beak

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

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

beam¹ *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** trave *f*, fascio *m* di luce, **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**² *v* 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 *faba*); **F** haricot *m*, fève *f*, **S** judía *f*, fríjol *m*, **I** fagiolo *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 or *Faba 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

bear¹ *n*----- (OE *bera*, ME *bere*, OHG *bero*, Middle Dutch *bere*, cognate with L *ferus* wild); **F** ours *m*, **S** oso/a, **I** orso/a, **G** Bär; a plantigrade quadruped of the genus *Ursus*

bear² *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* tolerable, *his daughter made life bearable to him*

***bearer** *n* person who brings a letter, a message, etc., *the bearer of this letter*, a person whose job is to carry sth, *the standard-bearer*

beard¹ *n*----- (OE *beard*, Dutch *baard*, ModG *Bart*, *cf* L *barba*); **F** barbe *f*, **S** barba *f*, **I** barba *f*, **G** Bart *m*; the hair that grows upon the face of an adult man

beard² *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·er** *n* see under **bear**

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

***bear·ing** *vbl sb* 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** bestia *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

beat¹ *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** battere, *colpire*, **G** schlagen, *klopfen*; strike with repeated blows

beat² *n* **F** battement *m*, **S** latido *m* (of heart), ritmo *m*, **I** colpo, *battito*, **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** battitore *m*, **G** Schläger *m*, *Klopfer* *m*; a person who beats, *a wife beater*

***bea·tif·ic** *adj* (L *beatificus*, via French *béatifique*, from *beatus* blessed, *pple* of *beāre* to bless+*-ficus* making; 17c); **F**

béatifique, **S** beatífico/a, **I** beatífico/a, **G** glücklich, seligmachend; that makes blessed, that imparts happiness, *the beatific vision of Paradise in Dante's Divine Comedy*

be·atify *v* (F *béatifier*, L *beatificāre* to make happy; 17c); **F** béatifier, **S** beatificar, **I** beatificare, **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, bättito m (del cuore), **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, Liebhaber m; a man who gives particular attention to dress, a dandy, a boy-friend

beaut *n* (*abbr* of **beauty**; 19c); *AmE* indicating sth very good, very attractive, *Caroline's dress is a 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** bello/a, **G** schön; having beauty, attractive to look at, *a beautiful young lady*, *beautiful weather*

***beau·ti·fully** *adv*

***beaut·ify** *v/tr* to adorn, embellish; *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** bellezza 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** castoro 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 causa di, **G** weil, da; for the reason that, *we were late because of a traffic jam*

beck *n* a small stream, **at sb's beck and call**, always willing and ready to do what someone asks, *I am at your beck and call*

beckon¹ *v* (OE *biecnan*, from *béacen* a sign, ME *becken* and *bekenen*, cf **beacon** *v*); **F** faire signe (à quelqu'un), **S** llamar con señas, hacer señas a, **I** chiamare con un cenno, **G** (zu)winken, ein Zeichen geben; to nod, to make a signal with the head or the hand, *she beckoned me to sit down*

beckon² *n* a gesture of the head

be·come *v* (OE *becuman* to arrive, come about, *be+cuman* come, OHG *biqueman*); **F** devenir, **S** convenir, volverse, llegar a ser, **I** diventare, divenire, **G** werden; to come about, to come to be, *John became serious after the reprimand*

***be·com·ing** *ppl* *adj* **F** convenable, **S** decoroso/a, conveniente, **I** grazioso/a, conveniente, **G** schicklick, kleidsam; suitable, befitting, that makes attractive, *a becoming lady*, *a becoming dress*

BEd *abbr* for **Bachelor of Education**

bed (OE *bed*, OS *bed*, *beddi*, Dutch *bed*, OHG *betti*, MHG *bette*); **F** lit m, **S** cama f, lecho m, **I** letto 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* **F** punaise f des lits, **S** chinche f, **I** cimice f dei letti, **G** Wanze f; a small insect that lives in dirty beds, where it bites people, sucking their blood

***bed·cham·ber** *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** *n* the sheets, covers, etc, that you put on a bed, the grass that an animal sleeps on

***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** adornare, **G** (ver)zieren, schmücken; to deck out, to adorn, *she is bedecked with rings*

be·devil *v* (*be+devil*; 18c); **F** taquiner, tourmenter, **S** endiablar, fastidiar, **I** tormentare, **G** plagen, verwirren; to treat diabolically, to torment, *industrial relations bedevilled by strikes*

***bed·fel·low** *n* a person who shares a bed, a political associate

***bed·head** *n* the part of the bed which is behind the head of the person sleeping in it

bed·lam (ME *bedlem*, *Bethlem*, from the hospital of St Mary of Bethlehem in London, in 1402 mentioned as a hospital for lunatics); **F** charivari m, tohu-bohu m, **S** manicomio m, confusión f, **I** manicomio m, confusione 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 *bedūni*; 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·dragged** *adj* wet, dirty, untidy

***bed·rid·den** *adj* obliged to stay in bed because of illness or injury

***bed·rock** *n* *geol* an hard area of rock which holds up the earth above, *fig. the bedrock of society*

***bed·room** *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 era 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* the wooden or metal frame of a bed, generally of an old-fashioned bed

***bed-time** *n* 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** ape *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 *fagus*, Gr *φάγος*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** hêtre *m*, **S** haya *f*, **I** faggio *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** manzo *m*, carne *f* di bue, **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* abounding in beef, resembling a beef, a *beefy man* is strong and has a big body

***bee-hive** *n* 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 pp* of **be**

beep¹ *n* **imitative**, a high sound made by an electronic equipment, 'please, leave a message after the beep',

beep² *v* if a machine beeps, it makes a short high sound, *when driving she beeps impatiently*

***beep-er** *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 *bibere* to drink); **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*, borrowed from L *bēta* beet); **F** betterave *f*, betterave fourragère, **S** betarraga *f*, remolacha *f*, **I** barbabietola *f*, **G** Rübe *f*, Bete *f*, Mangold *m*; a plant with edible root, which is fed to animals or used to make sugar;

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

bee-tle¹ *n* (OE *bitula*, *bitela*, from *bītan* to bite); **F** scarabée *m*, coléoptère *m*, **S** escarabajo *m*, coleóptero *m*, **I** coleottero *m*, scarabeo *m*, **G** Käfer *m*; any insects of the coleopterous order, with a hard back, usually black

bee-tle² *v* **informal** to go somewhere quickly, **beetle off/away**, to *beetle 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** accadere, capitare, **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, essere adatto a, **G** sich ziemen, sich schicken für; to be suited, to be suitable, *this befits him*

before¹ -----*prep* (OE *beforan*, *be-* about+*foran* before, OHG *bifora*, MHG *bevor*); **F** devant, **S** delante de, **I** prima di, innanzi a, **G** vor; in front of, previous to, *before lunch*

before² *conj* **F** avant que, **S** antes (de) que, **I** prima che, innanzi che, **G** bevor, ehe; earlier than the time when, *before I go I want to get an answer*

before³ *adv* **F** auparavant, **S** delante, adelante, **I** prima, più presto, **G** vorn, voran; at an earlier time, *long before*

before-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, sostenere, **G** Freundschaft erweisen, behilflich 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** mendicare, supplicare, **G** bitten um; to ask for help, for money or food

began *past simple* of **begin**

beget *v* -----*begot*, *begat*, *begotten*, (OE *begit-an* to acquire, Gothic *bigitan*, *be+gitan* to get); **F** procréer, engendrer, **S** engendrar, **I** generare, procreare, **G** zeugen, hervorbringen; to get (by effort), to procreate, to generate

beg-gar¹ -----*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'; but see here , above, **beg v**); **F** mendiant/ante, gueux/euse, **S** mendigo/a, **I** mendicante *m*, **G** Bettler(in), Arme(r) *m*; one who lives by asking people for money and food

beg-gar² *v* **F** réduire qn à la mendicité, **S** arruinar, reducir a la miseria, **I** ridurre in miseria, mandare in rovina, **G** an den Bettelstab bringen; *lit* to make someone very poor, **beggar belief/description**, used for expressing sth very difficult to believe, *this picture beggars description*