

begin -----v (OE *beginnan*, *be-* about+**ginnan*, a Teutonic verb meaning 'begin', OS and OHG *biginnan*); **F** commencer, **S** comenzar, iniciar, **I** cominciare, iniziare, **G** beginnen, anfangen; to set oneself to do (*sth*), to enter upon, to commence; ***be·gin·ner** *n* one who begins; ***be·gin·ning** *vbl sb*

be·gone ----- *exclamation, lit, go away, begone, and I don't want to see you anymore*

be·go·nia ----- *n* (named after Michael Bégon, a French botanist; 18c); **F** *bégonia m*, **S** *begonia f*, **I** *begonia f*, **G** *Begonie f*; a tropical herbaceous plant, having richly-coloured foliage, introduced to Britain from Jamaica in 1777

begot----- *past tense of beget*

***be·got·ten** *past participle of beget*

be·grudge----- *v* (*be-*+*grudge*, ME *grucchen* to murmur; 14c); **F** *donner à contrecœur*, **S** *dar de mala gana*, tener envidia a, **I** *dare a malincuore*, invidiare, **G** *nur ungern geben*, j-m *mißgönnen*; to show dissatisfaction, to grumble at, *he begrudges spending any money*

***be·grudg·ing·ly** *adv*

be·guile----- *v* (*be-*+*guile*, cognate with **wile**; 13c); **F** *enjôler*, séduire, **S** *engañar*, seducir, **I** *abbindolàre*, **G** *betrügen*, täuschen; to deceive, to divert attention in some pleasant way, *he was beguiled by her charm*; ***be·guil·ing** *adv* attracting, charming, *a beguiling smile*; ***be·guil·ing·ly** *adv*

begum----- *n* *Indian-English*, a married Muslim woman of high social rank, the title she uses

begun ----- *past participle of begin*

be·half *n* (combination of earlier *on his halve* and *bi halve him*, both meaning on this side, ME *behalve*; 14c); **F** *au nom de qn*, de la part de qn, **S** *de parte de*, **I** *a favore di*, a nome di, **G** *im Namen von*, im Auftrag von; **in behalf of sb**, **in sb's behalf**, in order to help sb, *we did it in her behalf*, **on behalf of sb**, **on sb's behalf**, as the representative of sb/sth, *on behalf of my company*

be·have ----- *v* (OE *behabban*, OHG *bihabên*, *be-* thoroughly +*have*, to have or bear oneself, used to express a qualified sense of 'have', as 'detain, contain', see Modern German 'sich behaben', see L *habère*, and **habit**; early 15c); **F** *se comporter*, se conduire, **S** *portarse*, conducirse, **I** *comportarsi*, **G** *sich (gut) benehmen*, sich zu benehmen wissen; *refl* to conduct oneself, to conduct oneself with propriety (said of young people who could misbehave), *behave yourself!*

***be·hav·iour**----- *n* (*behave*+*hav(i)our*, OF *haveir* possession, see L *habère*, and **habit**; 15c); **F** *comportement m*, *conduite f*, **S** *conducta f*, *comportamiento m*, **I** *comportamento m*, **G** *Benehmen n*, *Verhalten n*; the way one behaves, *John's good behaviour*, the way an animal, a chemical, etc, reacts in a particular situation, *animal behaviour*

***be·hav·iourism** ----- *n* **F** *behavio(u)risme m*, **S** *conductismo m*, *behaviorismo m*, **I** *comportamentismo m*, *behaviorismo m*, **G** *Behaviorismus m*; a method of psychological investigation based on the theory of behaviour

be·head ----- *v* (OE *beheafðian*, *be-* priv+*heaf* food head, MHG *behoubeten*); **F** *décapiter*, **S** *decapitar*, descabezar, **I** *decapitare*, **G** *enthaupen*; to decapitate, to deprive of the head, *Ann Boleyn was beheaded by order of Henry VIII*

be·held *past tense and past participle of behold*

be·hest----- *n* *formal* (OE *behæst* to promise, from *behātan* to promise, ME *bihese*, *bihes-te*, cognate with OHG *hizan* to order); **F** *ordre m*, *commandement m*, **S** *por orden de*, **I** *ordine m*, *promessa f*, **G** *Geheiß n*, *Veranlassung f*; a promise, a request, **at sb's behest**, *formal*, because sb has

ordered sth to happen, *at the president's behest*, *the land of behest*, land of promise

be·hind¹ ----- *adv* (OS *behindan*, OE *behindan*, *be-*+*hintan*, ModG *hinten*); **F** *derrière*, par derrière, **S** *detrás*, por detrás, **I** *dietro*, di dietro, **G** *hinten*; towards the back of sb/sth, *they are a long way behind*

be·hind² *prep* **F** *derrière*, **S** *detrás de*, **I** *dietro*, **G** *hinter*; at the rear of, *behind the door*

be·hind³ *n* **F** *derrière m*, **S** *trasero m*, *culo m*, **I** *didietro m*, *sedere m*, **G** *Hintern m*, *Gesäß n*; *informal*, a person's bottom

be·hold *v* *lit* (OS and OE *bihaldan*, *be-*+*haldan* to hold, OHG *bihaltan*, see ModG *behalten*); **F** *voir*, *interj* *voyez!*, **S** *contemplar*, *interj* *fíjese bien!* **I** *vedere*, *scorgere*, *interj* *guarda!*, *guardate!*, **G** *erblicken*, *anschauen*, *interj* *siehe da!*; to look at sb/sth, *behold the results!*

***be·holden** *adj*, **feel/be beholden**, to feel that you have a duty to someone, because they have done sth for you, *I feel beholden to him for the help he gave me*; ***be·hold·er** *n*

be·hove *v* *formal, old fashioned* (OE *bi-*, *behófan*, MHG *behuof* useful thing, MLG *behoven*, Dutch *behoeven*); **F** *incomber à*, **S** *le incumbe*, **I** *essere necessario*, *convenire (a)*, **G** *es obliegt dir*, *ist deine Pflicht*; be necessary for, **it behoves somebody to do sth**, used to mean that it is right for someone to do sth

beige----- *adj/n* (**F** *beige*, MedL *bigus* of two colours; 19c); **F** *beige*, **S** *beige*, **I** *beige*, **G** *Beige n*, *beige adj*; pale-brown in colour, *a beige shirt*

being¹ ----- *n* a person or thing that exists, *a human being*, the state of existing, to begin to exist, *to come into being*

being² *present participle of to be*

be·jew·el -----(*be*+*jewel*; 16c); **F** *parer de bijoux*, **S** *enjoyar*, **I** *ingioiellare*, *adornare*, **G** *mit Edelsteinen besetzen*; to adorn sth with jewels, *a sky bejewelled with stars*

be·la·bour ----- *v* (*be*+*labour*; early 17c); **F** *rouer de coups*, **S** *apalear*, *criticar*, **I** *battere*, *accanirsi su*, **G** (mit den Fäusten) *bearbeiten*; *formal*, to emphasize an idea too strongly, in a way that becomes annoying, **to belabour the point**, to repeat an idea many times in order to emphasize it

be·lated ----- *v* (*be*+*late*; 17c); **F** *attardé/e*, *tardif/ive*, **S** *atrasado/a*, *tardío/a*, **I** *in ritardo*, *tardivo/a*, **G** *verspätet*, *von der Nacht überrascht*; overtaken by lateness of the night, *a belated letter of apology*

belay ----- (OE *beleccan*, OHG *bileccan*, *bilegen*, ModG *belegen*, Dutch *beleggen*, OE *leccan* to lay); **F** *amarrer*, *assurer*, **S** *amarrar*, **I** *legare*, *fissare*, **G** *festmachen*; *techn* to attach a rope to a rock, to make safe someone who is climbing by attaching a rope to a rock

belch¹ ----- *v* (OE *bealchian*, *bælcian*, ME *belken*, cognate with Middle Dutch *belken* roar, cry out); **F** *éructer*, *avoir un renvoi*, **S** *eructar*, **I** *ruttare*, **G** *aufstoßen*; to give out harsh sounds from your mouth, to let air from your stomach come out loudly through your mouth, *the volcano belched smoke and fire*

belch² ----- *n* **F** *éructation f*, *renvoi m*, **S** *eructo m*, **I** *rutto m*, **G** *Rülps m*; the act of belching, eructation

be·lea·guer----- *n* (Dutch *belegeren*, *be*+*lager* camp, ModG *belagern*; see **leaguer**; late 16c); **F** *assiéger*, **S** *asediar*, **I** *assediare*, **G** *belagern*, *umgeben*; to besiege, *a man beleaguered by problems*, to surround with an idea of hostility, *in 1527 Rome was beleaguered by the Landsknechte of Charles V*

***beleaguered** *ppl adj* *besieged*, *invested*

bel·fry -----*n* (ME *berefrey*, OF *belfroy*, MHG *berfrit*, LL *berefredus*, *belfredus*, *machina lignea*); **F** *beffroi m*, *clocher*

m, **S** campanario m, **I** campanile m, **G** Glockenturm m; in a church, the tower that has a bell

belie----- *v* formal (OE *bi-*, *be-* about+*licgan* to lie, OHG *biligan*, MHG *biligen*); **F** démentir, **S** desmentir, contradecir, **I** alterare, travisare, **G** falsch darstellen, widerstellen; to give a false impression of sth, *his optimism long belied the reality*

belief ----- *n* (OE *geleafa*, ME *bileafa*, OHG *giloubo*, MHG *geloube*, G *Glaube*, see **believe**; 12c); **F** conviction f, croyance f, **S** creencia f, opinión f, **I** credenza f, opinione f, **G** Glaube m; the action of confiding in a person or thing, *the belief in scientific progress*, something that you believe, *religious belief*

***believable** *adj* that can be believed, *a believable conjecture*

believe ----- *v* (ME *believen*, OE *belyfan*, *belēfan*, cognate with OHG *gilouben*, Gothic *galaubjan*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** croire, **S** creer, dar crédito a, **I** credere, **G** glauben; to feel certain that sth is true, *I never believed in your words*

***believer** *n* (*believe*+*-er*; 16c); **F** croyant/-ante, **S** creyente m/f, fiel m/f, **I** credente m, **G** Gläubiger m; one who believes, one who has faith, *a believer in God*

Belisha beacon *n* (after *Leslie Hore-Belisha*, Minister of Transport+*beacon*; 20c); also said *Belisha crossing*, in Great Britain, a post with a flashing light, marking a zebra crossing where cars must stop, to allow people to cross the road

belittle *v* (*be-*+*little*; late 18c; the word appears to have originated in the US); **F** rabaisser, déprécier, **S** despreciar, minimizar, **I** sminuire, deprezzare, **G** verkleinern, herabsetzen; to depreciate, to diminish the importance of sb/sth, *she belittled my achievements*

bell *n* (OE *belle*, cognate with Middle Dutch and MLG *belle* bell); **F** cloche f, clochette f, **S** campana f, campanilla f, **I** campana f, campanella f, **G** Glocke f, Klingel f; a hollow metal object shaped like a cap which makes a sound when hit by a clapper inside it, *to ring the bell*, *a church-bell*

bella-donna *n* (ModL; adaptation from It *belladonna* 'fair lady', *bellus* pretty+*domina* a female head of a household; late 16c); a poisonous plant, the substance produced by this plant, used as a drug

bell-bottoms *n* trousers with legs that become very wide below the knee

bell-boy *n* BrE a man in a hotel employed to carry cases, to open doors, etc

belle *adj/n* old-fashioned (ModF, L *bella*, fem of *bellus* beautiful, fair; 17c); beautiful, handsome, *noun* a beautiful woman, *the belle of the party*

bellicose *adj* (It *bellicoso*, L *bellicōsus*, from *bellum* war; 15c); **F** belliqueux/-euse, **S** belicoso/a, **I** bellicoso/a, **G** kriegslustig, kriegerisch; inclined to war, warlike, *a bellicose tribe*

***bellicosity** *n*, the condition of being bellicose, *the bellicosity of the German tribes*, as *Tacitus* narrates

bellied *adj* see **belly** *adj* having a belly, having a big belly

bel-liger-ent *adj/n* (1577 as *belligerant*, apparently through influence of It *belligerante*, 1480, L *belligerāntem*, from *belligerāre* to wage war); **F** belligérant/-ante, **S** belligerante, **I** belligerante m, bellicoso/a, **G** Kriegführend; unfriendly, hostile, *a belligerent behaviour*, formal (of a country), fighting a war, *a non-belligerent nation*; ***bel-liger-ence** *n*

bel-low¹ *v* (origin unclear); **F** mugir, beugler, **S** bramar, rugir, **I** muggire, **G** brüllen; to roar as a bull when excited, esp at rutting time, of human being to cry in a loud and deep voice, *the bull was bellowing*

bel-low² *n* **F** mugissement m, beuglement m, **S** bramido m, rugido m, **I** muggito m, **G** Gebrüll n; the roar of a bull, a loud deep cry

bel-lows *n* (ME *belowes*, OE *belga*, *belgum*, ON *blástrbelgr*, cf German *Blaselbalg*); **F** soufflet m, soufflerie f, **S** fuelle m, **I** mantice, **G** Blaselbalg; an instrument or machine used to blow a fire, for supplying air to a wind-instrument, as an organ or harmonium

***bell-push** *n* a button you push to make a bell ring

***bell-ringer** *n* **F** carillonneur m, **S** campanero m, **I** campanaro m, **G** Glöckner m; one who rings the church bells

belly¹ *n* (OE *bælig* bug, envelope (of beans and peas), later *beli*, ON *belgr* bag, OHG *balg* bag, skin, Gothic *balgs*, from Proto-Germanic, related to **belly**); **F** ventre m, **S** vientre m, **I** ventre m, pancia f, **G** Bauch m, Magen m; the abdomen, the part of the body containing the intestines, the deep interior of anything; ***belly** *adj* ventral, abdominal

belly² *v*, **bellies**, **bellying**, **bellied**, *lit* to fill with air and become rounder in shape, *the sails bellied at the breeze*

belly-ache *n* informal a belly in the stomach

belly button *n* navel

belly dance *n* a dance from the Middle East, in which a woman moves her belly and hips around

belly-flop *n* a bad dive into water, in which the body hits the water flat

bellyful *n* informal, **have a bellyful of sb/sth**, to have more than you can deal with of someone or something bad or annoying, *I have had a bellyful of his bad behaviour*

be-long *v* (OE *gelang*, ME *belongen*, *bi--longen* go along with, OHG *bilangēn*, Middle Dutch *belanghen*, ModG and Dutch *belangen*, see **long** *v*); **F** appartenir à, **S** pertenecer, **I** appartenere (a), essere (di), **G** gehören (zu); to pertain to, to concern, to be the property of, to be connected (with), *this farm belongs to me*

***be-long-ings** verbal noun **F** affaires f/pl, **S** pertenencias, **I** averi m/pl, beni m/pl, **G** Habe f, Zubehör n; things that you own, and that can be carried, *my personal belongings are in this suitcase*

be-loved *adj* (*pple* of *belove*, ME *biluven*, *be+loven* to love, ModG *belieben*, Dutch *believen*; obsolete, except in *pple*, which is used as an *adj*; late 14c); **F** aimé, bien-aimé, **S** querido m, amada f, **I** diletto/a, amato/a, **G** adj geliebt, n der Geliebte; much loved, *Henry's beloved wife*

below *adv* and *prep* (*be* prep+*low* *adj*; it began as a variant of *a-low*, the parallel form to *an-high*, now *on high*; 'below' and 'beneath' constitute the opposite of 'above'; 14c); **F** au en bas, (au) dessous, **S** abajo, por debajo, **I** sotto, in basso, **G** unten, unter; in a low position, in a lower place, lower down

belt¹ *n* (OE *belt*, Old Icelandic *belti*, OHG *balz*, from L *balteus* girdle, belt, MedL *balthesus*); **F** ceinture f, **S** cinturón m, cinta f, **I** cinta f, cintura f, **G** Gürtel m, Gurt m; a band of flexible material used to encircle a person, a strip of leather that you wear around the waist, *to fasten the belt*, an area with particular characteristics, *the corn belt*

belt² *v* to hit hard, with violence, *to belt sb in the face*, of a vehicle informal to travel with great speed, *the car belted along the road*

***belt-ed** *adj* with a belt around it, *a belted jacket*

***belt-way** *n* a ring road, especially the one around Washington DC

be-moan *v* (OE *bi-*, *bemænan* to moan, see **moan**); **F** pleurer, **S** lamentar, **I** lamentare, **G** beklagen, betrauern; to express grief or disappointment, to lament, *bemoan one's fate*

be-muse *vt* (OE *be-mænan*, *be-muse* *v*, cf **amuse**; 18c); **F** confondre, **S** aturdir, confundir, **I** confondere, lasciare perplesso, **G** verwirren; to make (somebody) confused, *she*

was bemused by his attentions; ***be-mused** *adj* looking as if you are confused, bewildered

bench *n* (OE *benc*, OS, OHG, Middle Dutch *bank*, which are originally the same word as *bank*, introduced into English through Romanic; in sense of 'the seat where the judges seat in court translates L *bancum*, Anglo-French *baunc*, *baunk*); **F** banc m, banquette f, **S** banco m, **I** panca f, banco m, **G** Bank f, Richterbank f; a long seat, usually of wood, with or without a back, the judge's sit in court; **the benches**, in the British Parliament, a seat where a particular group of politicians sit, *the Opposition benches*

***bench-mark** *n* **F** référence, repère (de nivellement), **S** cota f, punto m topográfico, **I** caposaldo m di livellazione, termine m di paragone, **G** -Vergleich ??? ??? ??? -----; something that can be used as a standard to compare other things with, *price of housing is a benchmark of the cost of life*

bend¹ *v/tr/intr* (OE *bendan* tighten (a bow), ON *benda* to bend, MHG *benden*, of Germanic origin); **F** courber, ployer, fléchir, **S** encorvar, doblar, torcer, **I** curvare, piegare, **G** biegen, krümmen; to constrain with a 'bend' or bond, to bow or curve, to bow oneself, to direct a weapon

bend² *n* **F** courbure f, tournant m, virage m, **S** curva f, recodo m, vuelta f, **I** curva f, svolta f, piegatura f, **G** Biegung f, Krümmung f, Windung f, Kurve f; to lean, to make sth lean, *to bend the head*

***bend-er** *n* *slang* (*bend+er*); a period during which one drinks a lot of alcohol, *to go on a bender*

bends *plural n* the medical condition that divers get when they come up to the surface too quickly

***bendy** *adj* easy to bend

be-neath *prep/adv* (OE *binidan*, *be+nidan* below, down, MHG *niden(e)*, ModG *nieden*, see **nether**); **F** dessous, au-dessous, **S** abajo, debajo, **I** sotto, al di sotto di, **G** darunter, unterhalb; in a low or lower position, *a marriage beneath her social condition, beneath the clothes, fig. beneath my dignity*

Bene-dic-tine *adj/n* (**F** *Bénédictin*, **L** *benedictus*; 17c); **F** Bénédictin/-ine, **S** Benedictino/a, **I** Benedettino/-a, **G** Benediktiner m; belonging to the religious order founded by St Benedict

***bene-dic-tion** *n* (ME *benediccioun*, **L** *benedictiōnem*, **L** *bene+dicere* to speak well of, OF *benediccion*; early 15c); **F** bénédiction f, **S** bendición f, **I** benedizione f, **G** Segnung f; a blessing, a prayer asking God to bless and protect someone

bene-fac-tion *n* (**LL** *benefactiōnem*, the action of the verb *benefacere*, see **benefit**; 17c); **F** bienfaisance f, **S** beneficio m, **I** beneficenza f, opera f di carità, **G** Wohltat f, Geschenk n; the act of doing good, a present, especially money, that one gives an organization or a person to help them

***bene-fac-tor** *n* (**L** *benefactor*, from *benefacere*, see **benefit**; 16c); **F** bienfaiteur/-trice, **S** bienhechor/-ora, benefactor/-ora, **I** benefattore/-trice, **G** Wohltäter m; one who gives money for charitable purposes, *a generous benefactor helped us*

***bene-fice** *n* (OF *benefice*, **L** *beneficium*, *bene* well+*-ficium* a doing, from *facere* to do; 14c); **F** bénéfice m, **S** beneficio m, **I** beneficio m, **G**; the pay and position of a priest who is in charge of a parish, *ecclesiastical benefice*

***be-ne-fi-cent** *adj* (**L** *beneficent-*, probably formed on the pattern of *benevolent*, *magnificent*, etc; early 17c); **F** bienfaisant/-ante, **S** benéfico/a, **I** benéfico/a, caritatevole, **G** wohlthätig, wohlthuend; doing good, *a beneficent institution*

***bene-fi-cial** *adj* (**F** *benéfical*, **L** *beneficiāl-em*, from *beneficium*; 15c); **F** avantageux-euse, salutaire, **S** beneficioso/a, provechoso/a, **I** benéfico/a, che reca giovamento, **G** nützlich, wohlthuend; advantageous, profitable, *a beneficial treatment*

***bene-fi-ci-ary** *n* (**L** *beneficiārius*, **F** *benéficiaire*, see suffix *-ary*; 17c); **F** bénéficiaire m, **S** beneficiario/a, **I** beneficiario m,

G Begünstigter m; one who gets money from somebody who is dead, *the main beneficiary of their uncle's inheritance, hist* holding a benefice, pertaining to a benefice, *esp* a feudal tenure

***benefit** *n* (ME and Anglo-French *benfet*, **F** *bienfait*, **L** *benefactum* good deed, *bene* good+*facere* to do; 14c); **F** avantage m, profit m, **S** beneficio m, utilidad f, **I** beneficio m, vantaggio m, **G** Vorteil m, Nutzen m; advantage, *they received a lasting benefit*

be-nevo-lent *adj* (OF *benivolent*, **L** *bene volent-em*, *bene* well+*volentem* wishing, willing; 15c); **F** bienveillant/e, **S** benévolo/a, **I** benevolo/a, benevolente, **G** gütig, mildtätig; well wishing, of a generous disposition, *a benevolent man*

Ben-gali *adj* belonging to Bengal, *n* a native of Bengal, the language of Bengal

be-nigh-ted *adj* (*pple* of **benight** *v*, *be+night*; 16c); **F** plongé dans (les ténèbres de) l'ignorance, **S** ignorante, **I** ottenebrato/a, ignorante, **G** von der Dunkelheit überrascht; without understanding, intellectually unenlightened, *old fashioned* overtaken by the darkness of the night

be-nign *adj* (OF *benigne*, **L** *benignus* good natured app???) *benignus*, *bene* well+*-genus* born, from *gignere* to create, Gr *γεννομαι* come into being; 14c); **F** bénin/-igne, **S** benigno/a, **I** benigno/a, **G** gütig, günstig; of a kind disposition, *a benign temperament*

bent *adj* (*pple* of **bend** *v*); **F** courbé/e, plié/e, **S** encorvado/a, torcido/a, **I** piegato/a, curvo/a, **G** entschlossen; crooked, constrained into a curve, *a bent old man, UK slang* dishonest, *a bent politico*

bent *n* (from the adjective, probably an analogy of words like 'descent-descend', 'extend-extent' etc; 16c); **F** penchant m, inclination f, **S** inclinación f, **I** inclinazione f, disposizione f, **G** Neigung f; a curved position, an inclination, *Peter has a natural bent for literary subjects, to be bent on (doing) something*, to be determined to do something, usually bad, *she was bent on tormenting her husband's life*

ben-zene or **benzine** *n* *chem* (*benzoic(acid)+-ene*; the name was coined as *Benzin* in 1833 by the German chemist E. Mitscherlich, and borrowed as **benzine** in 1835); **F** benzène m, benzine f, **S** benceno m, bencina f, **I** benzene m, benzina f, **G** Benzol n, Benzin f; a colourless liquid obtained from coal, used for making plastics; the **benzine** is obtained from petrol, and is used for cleaning clothes

be-queath *vt* (OE *becwethan* to give by will, from *be-* about+*cwethan* say; the word is retained in the traditional language of wills); **F** léguer (à), **S** legar, **I** lasciare in eredità, legare per testamento, **G** hinterlassen, überliefern; to leave by will, *he bequeathed his fortune to a research center*

be-quest *n* (ME *biqueste*, OE *bí-cwisse*, *bí* be+cwis something said; bequest answers to the verb **bequeath**, the later change being parallel to that of **behest**); **F** legs m, **S** legado m, **I** lascito m, legato m, **G** Vermächtnis n, Hinterlassenschaft f; the act of bequeathing, a legacy, *he made a bequest to his first wife*

be-rate *v* (*be+rate* to scold, mainly *AmE*; 16c); **F** réprimander, **S** censurar, **I** rimproverare, **G** heftig ausschelten, auszanken; to scold, to chide severely, *John was severely berated by his father*

be-reave *v* (OE *bí-beræfian*, OS *biroban*, Middle Dutch *beroven*, MHG *berouben*, OHG *biroubōn*, ModG *berauben*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** priver, déposséder, **S** privar, **I** privare, **G** berauben, hilflos zurücklassen; to deprive, *those who have been bereaved*

***be-reaved**, *adj*, *the bereaved husband*

***be-reave-ment** (18c); **F** deuil m, **S** aflicción f, pérdida f, I privazione f, **G** schmerzlicher Verlust, Trauerfall m; the fact of being bereaved or deprived of something

***be-reft** *adj* *pple* of **bereave**, robbed, deprived of something

beret *n* (**F** *béret*, earlier *berret*, **MedL** *birretum*, **LL** *birrus*; 19c); **F** béret m, **S** boina f, **I** berretto m, **G** Baskenmütze f; a round flat woollen cap with a band around the head

berk *n* **BrE** *slang*, a stupid person

Bermuda shorts *n* short trousers that come down to the knees

berry *n* (**OE** *berie*, **OHG** *beri*, **OS** *win-beri* grape, **MHG** *ber*, *bere*, **ModG** *Beere*); **F** baie f, **S** baya f, grano m (of coffee), **I** bacca f, **G** Beere f; any small round fruit, not having a stone, *eg* *gooseberry*, *raspberry*, *strawberry*, etc

ber-serk, **-er** *adj* (**Old Icelandic** *berserkr*, referring to a Norse warrior who fought with extraordinary courage; early 19c); **F** furieux/euse, **S** perder los estribos, **I** furioso/a, forsennato/a, **G** wütend, rasend; frenzied, madly violent, *esp* in the phrase *to go berserk*

berth¹ *n* (a nautical term of uncertain origin, apparently a derivative of **bear** *v*, or a new formation on **bear**; 1622, but the sense of 'sleeping place in a ship' is first recorded in 1796); **F** couchette f, poste m de mouillage ou d'amarrage, **S** camarote m, amarradero m, **I** cuccetta f, ancoraggio m, **G** Liegeplatz m, See-Raum m, Bett *n*; place to sleep on a ship, in a train or in a caravan, *he slept in a berth in the train from London*, a place where a ship or boat can take an anchorage, a dock

berth² *v* **F** accoster le long du quai, **S** atracar, **I** ormeggiare, ancorare, **G** docken, vor Anker legen; to bring a ship into a berth, arrive at a berth

be-seech *v* (**OS** *sēcan*, **ME** *be+sec(h)en*, *seken* to seek; *cogn* with **Old Frisian** *bisēka*, **ModG** *besuchen*; see **seek**); **F** supplier, implorer, **S** suplicar, **I** supplicare, implorare, **G** dringend bitten, ersuchen; *lit*, to implore, to beg, to ask anxiously for sth

beset *v* (**OE** *beseltan* surround, cognate with **Old Frisian** *bisetta* surround, **OHG** *bisezzan*, **MHG** *besetzen*, from **Proto-Germanic**); **F** assaillir, **S** acosar, perseguir, **I** assalire, attaccare, **G** umgeben; to besiege, to surround with hostile intentions, *our life is beset with too many problems*

be-side *prep/adv* (**ME** *bisiden*, **OE** *besidan*, *be* by+*sīdan* side, by the side); **F** à côté de, auprès de, **S** junto a, al lado de, **I** accanto a, vicino a, **G** neben; by the side of, to the side of, *Catharine was sitting beside Peter*

***be-sides** *prep/adv* (**ME** *bisiden* beside+-s, variant form of the adverbial genitive ending in *-es*; 13c); **F** en outre, en plus, **S** además, además de, **I** anche, oltre a, **G** außerdem, noch dazu; *besides Joan, there were Peter and Andrew*

be-siege *v* (**ME** *be+sege(n)*, aphetic form of *asegen*, see **assiege**, **siege**, **L** *sedes* seat; late 13c); **F** assiéger, **S** asediar, **I** assediare, **G** belagern; to lay siege to a castle, to a town, etc, *Troy was besieged by the Greeks*

be-smirch *v* (**be+smirch** *v*; early 17c); **F** salir, tacher, **S** manchar, mancillar, **I** imbrattare, appannare, **G** besudeln; to discolour, as with smoke or mud, *fig.* to dishonour, to discredit, *to besmirch the reputation of somebody*

be-sot-ted *adj* (past participle of **besot**, **be+so-**, **French**, to affect with a foolish affection; 16c); **F** entiché, abruti/e, **S** entontecido/a, **I** ebbro/a, infatuato/a, **G** dumm, törricht; infatuated, *he was besotted by his girl friend*

be-sought *pple* of **beseech**

be-spectacled *adj*; **F** qui porte des lunettes, **S** con gafas, **I** occhialuto/a, **G** bebrillt; wearing spectacles, having spectacles on

be-spoke *pple* *adj* of **bespeak**

best *adj & adv* (**OE** *betst*, **ME** *beste*, **OHG** *bezzist*, **Danish** *best*, **OS** and **Middle Dutch** *best*, **Sw** *bäst*; early 13c); **F** meilleur/ure, le meilleur, **S** mejor, **I** migliore, **G** best; superlative of good and well, *the best of my students*

***bestial** *adj* (**OF** *bestial*, **L** *bestialis* like a beast, from *bestia* beast; late 14c); **F** bestial/ale, **S** bestial, **I** bestiale, **G** tierisch; similar to a beast, cruel, *bestial instincts*

***bestial** *n* **Scots** for cattle

bestiality *n* (**ME** *bestialite*, **F** *bestialité*, *bestial+ity*; 14c); **F** bestialité f, **S** bestialidad f, **I** bestialità f, **G** Bestialität f, tierisches Wesen *n*; sexual intercourse between a human and an animal, cruel behaviour, *the bestiality of the war*

bestir *v* (**OE** *bestyrian*, *be+styrian* to stir, see **stir**; 14c); **F** se démener, s'activer, **S** menearse, **I** darsi da fare, **G** sich bemühen; to stir up, to rouse into activity, *to bestir oneself*, to start doing sth after a period during which one has been doing nothing, *it is time to bestir yourself*

best man *n* (of **Scotch** origin; early 19c); **F** témoin m, **S** padrino m de boda, **I** testimone m dello sposo, **G** Freund des Bräutigams; the friend who helps a bride-groom at the wedding

bestow *v* (**ME** *bistowen*, *bi* be+*stowen* to place, see **stow**; 14c); **F** accorder, donner, **S** conceder, **I** concedere, conferire, **G** schenken, erweisen; to give, to confer (a title, a distinction), *to bestow something upon someone*

best-seller -----

bet¹ *n* (of uncertain origin, probably an aphetic form of **abet** *n* in the sense of instigation, support; late 16c); **F** pari m, **S** apuesta f, postura f, **I** scommessa f, **G** Wette f; an agreement to risk money in a game, in a competition, etc, *my bet is he will lose the race*

bet² *v* **betting**, past tense and past participle **bet** or **betted**; **F** parier, faire un pari, **S** apostar, **I** scommettere, **G** wetten; to risk money in a race or game, etc, *I will bet twenty pounds*

beta blocker *n* a drug used for treating blood pressure

betel *n* (**Portuguese** *betel*, **Malayalam** *veṭṭila*, **Tamil** *veṭṭilei*; 16c); **F** bétel m, **S** betel m, **I** betel m, **G** Betelnuß f; the leaf of a plant, chewed in India as a masticatory, the plant which yields this leaf

***betel nut** *n* the nut of the Areca Palm

bête noire *n* (**French**, black-beast; 19c); **F** bête f noire, **S** bestia f negra, **I** bestia f nera, **G** Schreckgespenst *n*; a person who is a particular object of aversion on the part of somebody, an insufferable person

be-tide *v* (**ME** *bitide-n*, *bi-* be+*tide-n* to happen, see **tide**; 11c); *lit*, see **woe**; **F** malheur à lui, **S** acontecer, **I** accadere a, succedere a, **G** geschehen; to happen (to), *whatever may betide, I will not leave you*

be-token *v* (**ME** *bitacnien*, *bitok(e)nen*, cf **OHG** *bizeichanon*, **ModG** *bezeichnen*, **Dutch** *beteekenen*, *bi-* be+*tācnian* to signify, from *tācn* token; 12c); **F** pressentir, présager, **S** anunciar, presagiar, **I** far presagire, **G** bezeichnen, bedeuten; to give evidence of sth, to be an emblem of, to symbolize, to be of omen of sth, *a cloud betokening rain*

be-tray *v* (**ME** *bi- betraien*, *be+traien* tray, **OF** *traïr*, **L** *tradere* to hand over to an enemy or opponent; 13c); **F** trahir, **S** traicionar, **I** tradire, **G** verraten; to handover treacherously to an enemy, to deceive, to disclose (in breach of trust)

***be-trayal** *n* **F** trahison f, **S** traición f, **I** tradimento m, **G** Verrat m, Treubruch m; the act of betraying

be-troth *v* (ME *bitreuthen*, *bi-* *be-*+ME *treuth* a pledge, truth *n*; early 14c); **F** (se) fiancer, **S** prometer en matrimonio, **I** fidanzare, promettere in matrimonio, **G** (sich) verloben; to engage a woman in a contract of marriage, to promise to marry

***be-troth-al** *n* (see *prec+al*; 19c); **F** fiançailles, **S** desposorios m/pl, esponsales m/pl, **I** promessa f di matrimonio, **G** Verlobung f; engagement for marriage

***be-trothed** *adj/n formal*; **F** fiancé/e, **S** prometido/a, **I** fidanzato/a, **G** Verlobte(r); *betrothed to somebody*, having promised to marry somebody

bet-ter¹ *adj* (ME *betre*, *betre*, about 1300 *better*, OE *bettra*, used in Old Germanic languages as comparative of **good**, OHG *bezziro*, ModG *besser*); **F** meilleur/eure, **S** mejor, **I** migliore, **G** besser; the comparative degree of **good**, of superior quality

bet-ter² *adv* **F** mieux, **S** mejor, **I** meglio, **G** besser; comparative of **well**, *John works better than Louis*

bet-ter³ *v*; **F** améliorer, **S** mejorar, **I** migliorare, **G** verbessern; to improve, *to better one own's performances*

bet-ter⁴ *n* **F** mieux, **S** apostador/ora, **I** il meglio, **G** das Bessere; **the better** is the one that is higher in quality, **to get the better of sb**, to behave better than usually, **so much the better, for the better**, etc

***bet-ter-ment** *n*; **F** amélioration f, **S** mejoramiento m, **I** miglioramento m, **G** Verbesserung f; improvement

bet-ting *n*; **F** les paris m/pl, **S** juego m, el apostar, **I** il fare scommesse, **G** Wetten *n*; the making of bets, the act of risking money, *the betting is that the challenger will win the race*

betting shop *n* a shop where you can bet on horse races

be-tween *prep/adv* (ME *betwēnen*, *betwene*, OE *betwēonum*, *bi-*, *be-* *by*+*twēonum* two each, cf L *bini* two, a set of two, after 1400 appears as *betwene*); **F** entre, **S** en medio, **I** tra, fra, **G** zwischen; intermediate to two points, *between the door and the window*

be-twixt *adv/prep old use* (OE *betwixt*, *betweok*, OS *twisc*, OHG *zwis*, Sanskrit *dvīs*, Gr *δύς* and L *bis*, cf **G** *zwischen*); between, in a middle position

bevel *n* (apparently derived from an OF **bevel*, not found, but implied in ModF *beveau*, *buveau*; 16c); **F** biseau m, **S** cartabón m, bisel m, **I** smussatura f, superficie f smussata, **G** Abschrägung f, Facette f; edge, angle, usually along the edge of a piece of wood or glass

***bevelled** *pple adj*, having a sloping surface

be-ver-age *n formal* (OF *bevrage*, *buverage*, MedL *biberagium*, from *bibère* to drink; early 14c); **F** boisson f, **S** bebida f, **I** bevanda, bibita, **G** Getränk *n*; liquor for drinking, a drink

be-vvy *n pl bevvies n informal* (ME *bevey*, *beue*, OF *bevee*, *buvee*, drink, drinking, cf Italian *bevuta* drinking party; 15c); a drink, an alcoholic drink

bevy *n* (group, flock, 15c, later applied to a group of ladies, from Anglo-French *bevée*, of unclear origin); **F** bande f, troupe f, **S** bandada f, grupo m, **I** gruppo m, stormo m, **G** Schar f, Schwarm m; a large group of women or girls, *a bevy of beauties*

be-wail *v lit* (*be-*+*wail*; early 14c); **F** pleurer, se lamenter sur, **S** lamentar, **I** lamentare, **G** beklagen, betrauern; to express sadness about sth, *he bewailed the loss of his patrimony*

be-ware *v* (*be* *v*+*ware* *adj*, see OE *bewarian* to defend, and *warian* to guard, keep clear of, L *verēri*, to be afraid of, Gr *όπαω*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** se méfier, se garder, **S** tener cuidado, **I** guardarsi da, **G** sich in acht nehmen; used to warn somebody that sth is dangerous, *beware of the dog!*

be-wil-der *v* (*be-* thoroughly+*wilder* to lead one into the wilds, apparently back formation from **wilderness**; late 17c); **F** désorienter, dérouter, **S** desconcertar, **I** confondere, sconcertare, **G** verwirren; perplex, confuse, *he was bewildered by his wife's reaction*

***be-wil-der-ing** *adj*, confusing, perplexing

***be-wil-der-ment** *n* confusion, perplexity

be-witch *v* (ME *biwicchen*, *bi-*+*wicchen*, OE *wiccian* to enchant, from **witch**; 13c); **F** enchanter, ensorceler, **S** hechizar, **I** incantare, stregare, **G** berücken, betören; to affect by witchcraft, *Catherine bewitched Peter*

***be-witch-ing** *adj*

be-yond *prep adv* (OE *begeondan*, *bi-*, *be-* *by*+*geond*, see **yonder** and **behind**; 14c); **F** au-delà, **S** más allá, más lejos, **I** oltre, al di là di, **G** jenseits, außer; further on than, *beyond the river*, *beyond doubt*, *beyond expectation*

bi- *prefix* (*bi-*, L *bi-* consisting of two, cognate with Gr *δι-*, twice, doubly, having two; found in English early in the 14c); two or twice, a bimonthly magazine, a bilingual community

bi-an-nual *adj* (*bi* twice+*annual* yearly; 19c); **F** semestriel/elle, **S** semestral, **I** semestrale, **G** halb-jährlich; appearing twice a year

bias¹ *n* (etymology unknown, see Middle French *biais* direction oblique, apparently from Greek *ἐπικάρσιος* cross-wise, oblique, through assumed L **(e)bigassius*; 16c); **F** ayant un parti pris pour, **S** sesgo m, propensión f, **I** partito preso, inclinazione f, **G** Hang m, Tendenz f; prejudice, slant

bias² *v* (**F** *biaiser*, cf *prec*; 17c); **F** rendre partial, influencer, **S** influir en, torcer, **I** rendere parziale, influenzare, **G** beeinflussen; to influence attitudes, decisions, *the factors which biased my brother's choice*

***biased** *adj* prejudiced

bi-ath-lon *n* (*bi-*+Gr *ἀθλον* contest, after *pentathlon*, etc; 20c); a sport that combines cross-country skiing and rifle shooting; compare **decathlon**, **pentathlon**, etc

bib *n* (ME *bibben* to drink, an adaptation of L *bibère* to drink, see **imbibe**; late 16c); **F** bavette f, **S** babero m, **I** bavaglino m, **G** Lätzchen *n*; a piece of cloth tied around a baby's chin, to protect his clothes while eating

Bible *n* (Anglo-Latin *biblia*, MedL *biblia*, LL *biblia sacra* holy books, Gr *βιβλίον* book, pl *βιβλία*; 14c); **F** Bible f, **S** Biblia f, **I** Bibbia f, **G** Bibel f; the holy book of Christianity, and which consists of Old and New Testament

***bib-lical** *adj* relating to the Bible, *Biblical exegesis*

biblio- combining form (Gr *βιβλιο* stem of *βιβλίον* book, in compound forms in Greek like *βιβλιογραφία*, and in modern formations, eg **bibliophile**; it began to appear with some frequency early in 19c);

***bibli-og-raphy** *n* (**F** *bibliographie*, Gr *βιβλιογραφία* writing of books; 17c); **F** bibliographie f, **S** bibliografia f, **I** bibliografia f, **G** Bibliographie f; a list of books about a particular subject, *the Adam Ferguson bibliography*

***bib-lio-phil**e *n* (Gr *βιβλίον* book+*φίλος* friend; 19c); **F** bibliophile m/f, **S** bibliófilo/a, **I** bibliòfilo/a, **G** Bibliophile m/f; one who loves or collects books

bi-cam-er-al *adj* (*bi-* prefix+LL *camera* chamber+*-al*, MedL *bicamerātus*; 19c); **F** bicaméral/e, **S** bicameral, **I** bicamerale, **G** Zweikammer; having two legislative chambers, *bicameral system*

***bi-carb** *n coll abbr* for **bicarbonate**

bi-car-bon-ate hydrogen carbonate

***bicarbonate of soda**

bi-cen-ten-ary *n* plural **-ies** (*bi-* prefix+*centenary*, L *centenārius* that is or contains a hundred, from *centēni* a hundred each; 19c); **F** bicentenaire m, **S** bicentenario m, **I**

bicentenario m, **G** zweihundertjährig; the year 200 years after an event, *the bicentenary of the Wealth of Nations*

***bi-cen-ten-nial** *adj*, in *AmE* noun for **bicentenary** (*bi-* prefix+*centennial*, *L* **centennium* space of a hundred years, occurring every two hundred years; 19c); **F** bicentenaire m/f, **S** bicentenario/a, **I** bicentenario/a, **G** zweihundertjährig; that occurs every two hundred years, *bicentennial celebrations*

bi-ceps -----*adj* & *n* (*L* *biceps*, *bi-* two+-*ceps* caput head; 17c); **F** biceps m, **S** bíceps m, **I** bicipite m, **G** Bizeps m; a muscle on the front of the upper arm

bicker ----- *v* (OE *becka* pickaxe, ME *bikeren* to attack, Middle Dutch *bicken* to attack, OHG *bicchan*, MLG *bicken*; early 14c); **F** se quereller, se chamailler, **S** disputar, altercar, **I** bisticciare, litigare, **G** (sich) zanken, quengeln; to quarrel, to argue about something unimportant, *they never stopped bickering*; ***bickering** *n* a petty arguing about unimportant things

bi-cycle *n* (*bi-* two+-*cycle* wheel, on the pattern of earlier **tricycle**; 19c); **F** bicyclette f, **S** bicicleta f, **I** bicicletta f, **G** Fahrrad n; a vehicle with two wheels, two pedals and a handbar, *I go to school by bicycle, to ride a bicycle, he got on his bicycle*

***bicycle clip** *n* one of the two bands you wear on your trousers when riding a bicycle, to prevent your trousers to be caught in the chain

***bicycle lane** *n* cycle lane

***bi-cyc-list** *n* *old fashioned*, a person who rides a bicycle

bid¹ *v* **bid-ding**, **bid**, **bid** (originally two distinct verbs, ME *bidden* beg, request, and *beden* offer, OE *beódan*; ME *bidden*, OE *biddan* is cognate with OHG *bitten* ask for, ModG *bitten*; ME *beden*, OE *bēodan* is cognate with OHG *biotan* to offer, ModG *bieten*; after 1400-1500 the two forms were totally confused); **F** faire une offre f, **S** licitar, ofrecer, **I** fare un'offerta, **G** bieten; to offer a certain price, to make an offer, especially at an auction, *John will bid £1,000, to bid for votes or support*

bid² *n* (late 18c); **F** enchère f, offre f, **S** oferta f, postura f, **I** offerta f, **G** ein (Preis) Angebot machen, Gebot n; an offer by a person or a company to pay an amount of money for sth, especially at an auction, *the highest bid was from a Japanese company, my bid was turned down*

bid³ *v* (**bid-ding**, **bade**, **bidden**, or **bid-ding**, **bid**, **bid**); *literary*, to say good-bye, especially *to bid farewell, to bid sb good morning*, etc

***bid-dable** *adj* (of Scotch origin; 19c); **F** obéissant/e, docile, **S** obediente, sumiso/a, **I** docile, obbediente, **G** fügsam, folgsam; obedient, docile, *a biddable man*, said of card-playing, capable of being bid

***bid-der** *n* (*bid* v+-*er*; 14c); **F** enchérisseur/euse, **S** postor/ora, **I** offerente m/f, **G** Bieter m; one who bids, one who offers to pay a certain amount for something that is being sold, *the bidders offered up to one million dollars, the highest bidder*

***bid-ding** *n* **F** enchères f/pl, mises f/pl, **S** orden f, mandato m, **I** ordine m, offerta f/pl (at an auction), **G** Gebot n; the act of offering a price, especially at an auction

bide *v* ----- (OE *bidan* stay, cognate with Middle Dutch *bīden*, OHG *bītan* to wait, Old Gothic *beidan* to wait; this word has been replaced by **abide**, but is still preserved in North England and Scotland, except in such use as 'bide one's time', to await one's opportunity); **F** attendre le bon moment, **S** esperar la hora propicia, **I** attendere il momento opportuno, **G** den rechten Augenblick) abwarten; to remain in expectation, to wait, **to bide one's time**, to wait the right moment to do something

bidet ----- *n* (*F* *bidet*, 'petit cheval', as in Rabelais, 1534, apparently from *bider* trotter; origin uncertain); **F** bidet m, **S**

bidet m, bidé m, **I** bidet m, bidè m, **G** Bidet n; an oval basin fitted in a bathroom, used for washing the bottom

bi-en-nial ----- *adj* (*L* *bienni-s* of two years, from *biennium* space of two years, *bi-* two+*annus* year; 17c); **F** biennal/e, **S** bienal, **I** biennale, **G** alle zwei Jahre eintretend; lasting for two years, taking place every two years

bier *n* ----- (OE, before 1200 as *bere*, West Saxon *bær*, from the stem to *beran* carry, OHG *bāra* bier, from Proto-Germanic and Indo-European; the modern spelling has developed after 1600 under the influence of French **bière* coffin, Frankish *bera*, OF *biere*); **F** bière f, **S** fèretro m, **I** fèretro m, catafalco m, **G** (Toten)Bahre f; stand for a coffin or corpse, a frame on which a coffin or a corpse is placed

biff -----*slang* (imitative; late 19c); to strike, to deal a blow, to hit

bi-focals ----- *n* (of American origin, *bi-*+*focal*; late 19c); **F** bifocal, **S** lente m bifocal, **I** occhiali m/pl bifocali, **G** Bifokal- Zweistärkenlinse f; glasses with lenses having two foci, *bi-focal lenses*

bi-fur-cate ----- *vi* (MedL *bifurcātus* two-forked, from *L* *furca* fork; early 17c); **F** bifurquer, **S** bifurcarse, **I** biforcarsi, **G** sich gabeln; to divide into two branches or forks, *the river bifurcates at one mile from here*; ***bi-fur-ca-tion** *n*

big *adj* comparative **bigger**, superlative **biggest** (ME *big*, *bigge*, first known in 13th c. in writers of Northumbria and North Lincolnshire, apparently of Norse origin, cp Norwegian dialect *bugge* strong man); **F** grand/e, gros/se, **S** grande, voluminoso, **I** grande, grosso/a, **G** groß, dick; large in size, *a big body*, important, relevant, *a big difference*, *a big story*, doing a lot, *a big drinker*; ***big-ness** *n* rare

***bigam-ist** *n* (*bigamy*+*-ist*; early 17c); **F** bigame m/f, **S** bigamo/a, **I** bigamo/a, **G** Bigamist/in; a person who lives in bigamy; ***bigamous** *adj*

big-amy *n* ----- (*F* *bigamie*, *bigame*, MedL *bigamia*, LL *bigamus* twice married, *bi-* two, twice+Gr *-γάμος* marriage; 13c); **F** bigamie f, **S** bigamia f, **I** bigamia f, **G** Bigamie f; the condition of having at the same time two wives or husbands

***Big Apple** *slang* (from **apple**, used by jazz musicians to mean job; 20c); the city of New York

***big band** *n* a large group of musicians playing band or dance music; **big band** music was popular in the 1930s and 1940s

***big bang** *n* the explosion of the original mass of matter from which the universe originated

***Big Brother** *n* the head of state in George Orwell's novel *1984*, hence an omnipotent state authority

***big buck(s)** *US slang*, big money

***big business** *n* a type of activity that people spend a lot of money, *English teaching has become big business*, large companies having a lot of influence, *politics and big business*

***big cat** *n* any large animal of the cat family, i.e. lions, tigers, etc

***big dipper** *n* *old fashioned BrE* a small train at an amusement park, *AmE* the plough

***big game** *n* large wild animals which people hunt for game

***big-gie** *n* *slang* also **biggy** an important person, sth impressively large or influential

***big-headed** ----- *adj* *informal*, used to show disapproval, big-headed is a person who thinks very high of himself, who believes that he is important, etc, *a big-headed man*

***big-hearted**----- *adj* generous towards other people, kind, *Peter is a big-hearted man*

bight *n* ----- (OE *byht* a bend, see the place-name *Syde biht* in Lancashire, 1278, MLG *bucht*, ModG *Bucht* bay, Middle and Modern Dutch *bocht*); **F** anse f, baie f, **S** ensenada f, cala f, **I** ansa f, **G** Bucht f; a curve or bent in a

coastline, *the Great Australian Bight*, a corner or recess of a bay, a bend in a river, etc

bigot ----- *n* (of uncertain origin, see F *bigot*, a Normand surname, 1155, but apparently from English 'by God', in the name of God; late 16c); **F** sectaire m/f, **S** fanático/a, intolerante, **I** bigotto/a, fanático/a, intollerante m/f, **G** Fanatiker, blinder Anhänger; a prejudiced person, a person who has strong opinions, especially in matters of religion

***bigot-ed** ----- *adj* (*bigot+ed*; 17c); **F** sectaire m/f, **S** fanático/a, intolerante m/f, **I** bigotto/a, fanático/a, intollerante m/f, **G** bigott, fanatisch; blindly attached to some creed, unreasonably devoted to a party

***bigot-ry** ----- *n* (F *bigoterie*, *bigot+-ry*; 17c); **F** sectarisme m, **S** fanatismo m, intollerancia f, **I** bigottismo m, fanatismo m, intolleranza f, settarismo m, **G** Fanatismus m, Bigotterie f; the condition of a bigot, obstinate attachment to a creed, to a party, etc

the big screen *n* the cinema, when in contrast with the 'little screen', i.e. the TV

***big-ticket** *adj* costing a lot of money, *a big-ticket item*

***big time** *n* great success, *finally he made/hit his big time*

***big toe** *n* the largest toe on the human foot

***big top** *n* the large tent in which circus performances take place

***big wheel** *n* *AmE* **Ferris wheel** a large wheel at a park carrying seats at its rim, that takes people around in the air

***big-wig** *informal*, an important person in an organization

bijou *adj pl bijoux* (F *bijou* 1460, Breton *bizou* finger ring, from *biz* ringer, *cf* Cornish *bis*, *bes* fingerring; 17c); **F** objet m d'art de facture délicate, **S**?????....., **I** gioiello m, ninnolo m, bijou m, **G**?????.....; *a bijou house, a bijou language school*

bike¹ *n* (abbreviation of **bicycle**; late 19c); **F** bicyclette f, vélo m, **S** bici f, bicicleta f, **I** bicicletta f, **G** (Fahr)rad n; a bicycle, *I usually go to work by bike*, a motorcycle

bike² *v* **F** aller en bicyclette, faire du vélo, **S** ir en bicicleta f, **I** andare in bicicletta f, **G** radeln; to go somewhere on a bicycle or motorcycle; ***biker** *n* a person who rides a motorcycle

bi·kini *n* (name of an atoll in the Marshall islands, where atomic bomb tests were carried out in 1946); a women's two-piece very brief beach garment

bi·la·bial *adj* in linguistics a bilabial sound is one that is made using both lips, e.g. 'p' or 'b'

bi·lat·eral----- *adj* (*bi-* pref+*lateral*, L *later-*, nominative *latus* side; 18c); **F** bilatéral/e, **S** bilateral, **I** bilaterale, **G** bilateral, zweiseitig; pertaining to two sides

bil·berry *n* (apparently of Norse origin, but *cf* Danish *böllebær*, *bölle+bær* berry; 16c); **F** myrtille f, **S** arándano m, **I** mirtillo m, **G** Heidel-, Blaubeere f; a small fruit that grows in northern Europe; it has edible blue or black berries

bile *n* (F *bile*, L *bilis* bile, anger; 17c); **F** bile f, **S** bilis f, **I** bile f, **G** Gallenflüssigkeit f; the fluid secreted by the liver

bilge *n* (apparently a corruption of earlier *bulge*, a ship's hull, see OF *boulge* bilge, ModF *bouge*, LL *bulga* leather sack, Gaulish *bulga*; early 16c); **F** carène f, **S** pantoque m, **I** carena f, **G** Kielraum m, Bilge f; the bottom of a ship's hull

bil·har·zia *n* (ModL, after Theodor Bilharz, who discovered the parasite in 1852); a trematode worm, parasitic in the veins of the pelvic region and urinary organs of human beings

bi·lin·gual *adj* (L *bilinguis* speaking two languages, *bi-*two+*lingua* language; 19c); **F** bilingue, **S** bilingüe, **I** bilingue, **G** zweisprachig; speaking two languages

***bilious** *adj* (MF *bilieux*, L *biliōsus* full of bile, L *bile*, see **bile**; 16c); **F** bilieux/euse, colérique, **S** bilioso/a, **I** bilioso/a, **G** gallig, gereizt; pertaining to, or having to do with bile

bilk *v* (etymology unclear, probably an alteration in pronunciation of the verb **balk**; 17c); **F** tromper, **S** defraudar, estafar, **I** truffare, ingannare, **G** betrügen; to elude, to cheat, to defraud, *esp* of money, *he was bilked out of £10,000*

bill¹ ----- *n* (Anglo-Latin *billa*, Anglo-French *bille* schedule, account, LL *billa*. In classical L *bullā* was 'a locket, containing an amulet hung round the neck of children', whence, in MedL, 'a seal', 'a document furnished with a seal', eg a Papal bull, by extension any official or formal document; in this sense in English *bullā* became *billa*, *bille*; 14c); **F** facture f, addition f, billet m de banque, projet m de loi, affiche f, bec m (d'oiseau), **S** cuenta f, factura f, proyecto m de ley, cartel m, pico m (de ave), **I** fattura f, conto m, disegno m (o progetto) di legge, manifesto m, cartellone m (pubblicitario), becco (m) di un uccello, **G** Tratte f, Rechnung f, (Gesetzes)Vorlage f, Tafel f, Schnabel m; a written document which shows how much you owe sb for services or goods, *the telephone bill, the restaurant bill*, a new law submitted to Parliament, *the Commons approved the Education Bill*, *hist the Bill of Rights*, a printed notice advertising an event, *to post bills*, the curved outer part of a bird's mouth, *the eagle's bill*; **double bill**, cinema or theater where you can see two performances, one after the other; **topping the bill**, to be the most important performer, an actor who topped the bill, **to fill/fit the bill**, to be suitable for sth, *a journey to Florence would fit the bill*

bill² ----- *v* **F** envoyer une facture à, **S** pasar a uno la factura de algo, **I** mandare (o spedire) il conto a, **G** jemandem etwas in Rechnung stellen; to send somebody a bill for something, *we bill monthly our customers*

***bill-board** *n* **F** panneau m d'affichage, **S** cartelera f, valla f publicitaria, **I** tabellone m pubblicitario, **G** Reklametafel f; a board on which advertising posters are stuck

bil·let¹ ----- *n* (ME & Anglo-French *billette* a letter or note, Anglo-Latin *billetta*, diminutive of *billa*, *bille*, bill; 14c); **F** billet m de logement, **S** alojamiento m, **I** allòggio m, quartiere m (militare), **G** Quartierzettel m; a place, in a private house, where soldiers live temporarily, a note assigning quarters to soldiers, a written order for soldier's food and lodging, *the cavalry billets were in a row of farms*

bil·let² *v* **F** cantonner des troupes dans une ville, **S** alojar, **I** alloggiare, acquartierare, **G** einquartieren; to put soldiers in a private house, to live there temporarily, *the cavalry was billeted outside the town*

bil·let *n* (OF *billete*, diminutive of *bille* trunk of a tree, MedL *billa* and *billus* branch, trunk of a tree, ME *bylet*, apparently of Celtic origin; 14c); **F** bille f, billette f, **S** tronco m, cepo m, **I** ciòcco m, billétta f, **G** Holzscheid n; a piece of wood cut for firewood, a small bar of metal, iron, etc

bill-fold *n* *AmE* a wallet

bill-hook *n* (*bill* n+*hook* n; early 17c); **F** serpe f, croissant m, **S** podadera f, podón m, **I** roncola f, falcetto m, **G** Hippe f; a tool with a blade on top of a pole, used for cutting off branches of trees

bil·liards *n* (Middle French *billard*, OF *billart* a stick with curved end, *dim* of *bille* piece of wood, see *billet*, in English made plural as in other games, like **draughts**, **skittles**, **bowls**, etc; late 16c); **F** billard m, **S** billar m, **I** biliardo m, **G** Billard(spiel) n, **G**; a game played with ivory balls on a rectangular cloth-covered table

***bill-ing** *vbl sb* (*bill* v+-*ing*; late 19c); the importance of a performer in a play, especially as shown by prominence of the name on the poster advertising the event, *top/star billing*,

the sending out of bills to customers, *the total billing was £1000*

bill-ion *n* (F *billion*, formed in 16th century to denote the second power of a million, *bi-* two+*million*, first occurring in Locke's *Human Understanding*, 1690); F billion m, milliard m, S billón m, mil millones m/pl, I miliardo m, G Milliarde f; a thousand millions

***bil-lion-aire** *n* F milliardaire m/f, S millardario/a, I miliardario/a, G Milliardär m; one who possesses a property worth one billion or more

***bill of exchange** *n* (see **bill**); a signed document ordering the payment of a sum of money to somebody on a fixed date

***bill of lad-ing** *n* a list of the goods that a ship etc is carrying

***Bill of Rights** *n* a written statement of the political rights of the citizen of a country, such as the Bill of Rights of 1689

***bill of sale** *n* a document stating that something has been sold to somebody else

bil-low¹ *n* (cf ON *bylgia* billow, Danish *bølge*, Sw *bölja*, MHG *bulge*, Middle Dutch *bulge* bubble, ModG *Bulge* leather bag; 16c); F lame f (de mer), S oleada f, I ondata f, cavallone m, maròso m, G Woge f, Nebel(etc)Schwaden m; *literary* a large wave of the sea, produced by a high wind, a moving cloud of something, such as smoke or cloth, *billows of smoke in the sky*

bil-low² *v* F se soulever en vagues, ondoyer, S ondular, ondear, I ondeggiare, levarsì a ondate, G wogen; to surge, swell, undulate, *a sail billowing in the breeze*

***billy** *n pl* **billies**, also **billycan** (probably from Scottish *billypot*, and *billy* a comrade, a companion; 19c); F bouilloire f, S cazo m, I bollitore m, G Kochtopf m; a metal cooking pot used for cooking when you are camping

***billy club** *n* AmE a short wooden stick used as a weapon by police officers

***billy goat**

bimbo *n* *informal* (It *bambino*, little child, baby; 20c); F an insulting word for a young woman, sexually attractive but not intelligent, *he used to pick up bimbos at the pub*

bi-month-ly *adj/adv* (*bi-*+*monthly*; 19c); F bimestriel/elle, tous les deux mois, S bimestral/e, bimestralmente, I bimestrale, ogni due mesi, G zweimonatlich, alle zwei Monate; occurring every two months, *a bi-monthly magazine, the magazine appears bimonthly*

bin¹ *n* (OE *binn(e)* manger, cf L *benna*, in Festus, 2nd century, a Gaulish word meaning cart with a basket top, It *benna* dung-cart, F *benne* basket-cart, ModG *Benne*, Dutch *benne*, *ben* large basket; 16c); F coffre m, huche f, S hucha f, arcón m, papelera f, I recipiente m, contenitore m, G (großer)Behälter, Kasten m; a container for putting rubbish in, *I will throw these papers in the bin*; a **dustbin** is a bin which is kept outside

bin² *v* *informal* F?????, S poner en una caja, I conservare qualcosa in un recipiente m o contenitore m, gettare qualcosa nel cestino m, G ...?????.....; to put or store something in a bin, *to bin the bread*, to throw something away, *please, bin anything unnecessary!*

bin-ary *adj & n* (LL *binārius*, from L *bini* two together, related to *bis* twice, *duo* two; 14c); F binaire, S binario/a, I binario/a, G binär, aus zwei Einheiten bestehend; compounded of two, dual; the **binary system** is used in computers, and combines the numbers 0 and 1

bind¹ *v* **bound bound** (OE *bindan*, Old Icelandic *binda*, OHG *bintan*, Gothic *bindan*, ModG *binden*, related to **band** fasten); F attacher, lier, S liar, obligar, adherirse, I attaccare, legare, G binden, verbinden, vereinigen; to fasten, to tie up, *to bind something with a string, to bind a book*

bind² *n* *informal* a difficult situation, *her mother's health is a real bind for her*, to be bound to sth, *I am bound to secrecy*;

to be **in a bind**, to be in a situation which prevents you from doing what you would like to do

***bind-er** *n* F relieur/-euse, S encuadernador/ora, cartera f, I rilegatore/trice, macchina f cucitrice, G (Buch)Binder/in, Aktendeckel m, Bindemittel n; one who binds books, a substance that makes things stick together, *a plastic binder*

***bind-ing**¹ *pple adj* that binds together, obligatory, coercive, *a binding agreement*

***bind-ing**² *n* the cover that holds the pages of a book together, a cord that is wound around something

***bind-weed** *n* (*bind v*+*weed*; 16c); F liseron m, S convòlvulo m, I convòlvolo m, G Winde f; a climbing plant of the genus *convolvulus*, that winds itself around other plants

binge¹ *n* *informal* (' a special use of dialectal *binge* to soak (a wooden vessel), 1854, by extension 'to drink heavily', in allusion to soaking up alcohol', Barnhart; according to OED *dialectal binge* 'appears to be a different word', and the origin of **binge** is 'with a feeling for the initial sound of *bow*, *bend*, *beck*, and the closing sound of *cringe*'); F bombe f, S borrachera f, I bicchieràta f, bagórdo m, G Freßgelage f; a spree of drinking, eating, etc

binge² *v* to do too much of sth, as eating and drinking

bingo *n* (of unclear origin); a slang term for *brandy*, 1861, a modern development of *lotto*, 1929

***bin-liner** *n* BrE a plastic bag placed inside a container to hold waste

***bin-man** *n* *colloquial* BrE dustman

bin-ocu-lars *n* (F *binoculaire*, L *bini* two each+*oculi* eyes+-*ar*, F *binoculaire*; 18c); F jumelles f/pl, S telescopio m o microscopio m para ambos ojos, I binòcolo m, G Fernglas n; a pair of tubes with glass to look through, that make objects appear as nearer and more distinct, *to look to the moon through binoculars*

***bin-ocular** *adj* performed by both eyes, suitable for both eyes, *binocular vision*

bi-no-mial¹ *adj* (ML *binōmius* having two names, F *binôme*, alteration of L *binominis*, *bi-* two+*nomen* name; 16c); F binôme, S de dos términos, I binòmio/a, G binomisch, aus zwei Namen bestehend; *math* consisting of two terms, *the binomial theorem*

bi-no-mial² *n* F binôme m, S binomio/a, I binòmio/a, G Binom n; a mathematical expression consisting of two terms

bio- a combining form meaning 'life', entered English through New Latin *-bio* as a borrowing of Greek *βιο*, *βίος* life, cognate with L *vivus* living

***bio-chem-ist** *n* one who works in biochemistry

***bio-chem-is-try** *n* (*bio-*+*chemistry*; late 19c); the science dealing with the substances present in the living organisms, *biological chemistry*

***bio-degrad-able** *adj* chemicals or materials that are naturally changed into substances that do not damage the environment, *biodegradable liquids*

***bio-di-ver-sity** *n* the variety of biological life, ie plants and animals, in a particular environment

***bio-graph-er** *n* (see *biography*+-*er*, replacing earlier 'biographer'; early 18c); F biographe m/f, S biógrafo/a, I biògrafo/a, G Biograph; a writer of biographies, *James Boswell, Dr Johnson's biographer*

***bio-graphy** *n* (late Gr *βιογραφία*, from *βίος* life+*γραφία* writing, MedL *biographus*; late 17c); F biographie f, S biografia f, I biografia f, G Biographie f; an account of someone's life, written by someone else, *Dr Johnson's biography*

***bio-logic-al** *adj* relating to biology

***biological clock** *n* a system in the body that controls when certain activities, like sleeping, eating, etc, take place, *insomnia disrupts her biological clock*

***biological diversity**, *n*, see **biodiversity**
 ***biological warfare** *n* the use of biological bacteria as weapons in war
 ***biologist** *n* **F** biologiste m/f, **S** biólogo/a, **I** biòlogo/a, **G** Biologe m; a scientist who studies biology
 ***biology** ----- *n* (from **G** *Biologie*, **Gr** βίος life+-λογία discoursing; 19c); **F** biologie f, **S** biología f, **I** biologia f, **G** Biologie f; the science of living things, *molecular biology*
 ***bio-mass** ----- *n* the quantity of animals and plants in a particular area
 ***bi-onic** ----- *adj* (**Gr** βίος life+-onic, after *electronic* adj; early 20c); pertaining to bionics
 ***bi-onics** ----- *n* (*bio+electronics*; 20c); **F** bionique f, **S** electrónica f biológica, **I** biònica f, **G** Bionik; the study of systems which function in the manner of living systems
 ***bio-physics** ----- *n* the physics of the living organisms
 ***bio-pic** *n* *informal a film based on the events of someone's life*
 ***bi-opsy** ----- *n* (**F** *biopsie*, **Gr** βίος life+ὄψις visual impression; late 19c); **F** biopsie f, **S** biopsia f, **I** biopsia f, **G** Biopsie f; examination of tissues removed by a living body
 ***bio-sphere** ----- *n* (**G** *Biosphäre*, *bio+sphere*; 19c); **F** biosphère f, **S** biosfera f, **I** biosfèra f, **G** Biosphäre n; the regions of the earth and atmosphere that are occupied by living organisms
 ***bio-tech-nology** ----- *n* (*bio+technology*; 20c); **F** biotechnologie f, **S** biotecnología f, **I** biotecnologia f, **G** Biotechnologie f; the use of cells and bacteria in industrial processes, for example in energy production, manufacture of drugs, etc
bi-par-tisan ----- *adj* composed of members of the two parties
biped----- *adj & n* (**L** *biped-em*, *bi-* two+*pedem* foot; 17c); **F** bipède m, **S** bípedo m, **I** bìpede m, **G** Zweifüßler m; an animal with two legs, for example hen or birds
bi-plane ----- *n* an old type of plane with two sets of wings, one above the other
birch¹ ----- *n* Northern and Scottish **birk** (**OE** *birce*, cf **OS** *birka*, **OHG** *birca*, Middle Dutch *berke*, Modern Dutch *berk*, ModG *Birke*, a word of Indo-European origin); **F** bouleau m, verge f, **S** abedul m, palo m, **I** betulla f, verga f di betulla, **G** Birke f, Birkenholz n, (Birken)rute f; a genus of forest tree, genus *Betula*, typical of northern regions, whose wood is valued for furniture making
birch² *v* **F** donner le fouet à, fouetter, **S** castigar con el palo m, **I** fustigare, **G** mit der Rute züchtigen; to punish with a birch rod
bird ----- *n* (**ME** *byrd*, *bryd*, **OE** *brid*; there is no corresponding form in any of the Germanic languages; *etym* unknown); **F** oiseau m, **S** ave f, **I** uccello m, **G** Vogel m; an animal with feathers and wings, usually able to fly, *sea birds*, *a flock of birds*
 ***bird-brain** ----- *n* *informal* **F** (avoir) une cervelle de moineau, **S** casquivano/a, **I** cervello m di gallina, **G** Spatzen(ge)hirn; a stupid or silly person; **bird-brained** *adj*
 ***bird-cage** --- --- *n* **F** cage f d'oiseau, **S** jaula f de pájaro, pajarera f, **I** gabbia f per gli uccelli, **G** Vogelbauer n; a cage in which birds are kept
 ***bir-die** ----- *n* *coll* (*bird* sb+-ie, -y; late 18c); a little bird
 ***bird of paradise** ----- *n* a brightly coloured bird found in New Guinea
 ***bird of passage** ----- *n* a bird that flies from a country to another, according to the seasons
 ***bird of prey** ----- *n* a bird that kills other birds or little animals for food
 ***bird-song** ----- *n* the musical noises made by a bird or birds
 ***bird table** *n*

***bird-watch-er** *n* somebody who observes birds in their natural environment, generally for scientific purposes
Biro *n* (after the name of László Biró, the Hungarian inventor; 20c); a particular make of ball-point pen
birth ----- *n* (**ME** *burthe*, *burde*, *birde*, **OS** *byrth*, **OE** *gebyrd* birth, **OHG** *giburt*; early 14c); **F** naissance f, genèse f, **S** nacimiento m, **I** nascita f, **G** Geburt f; the act of bringing forth a new individual from his mother's body, *Joan gave birth to two twins*, the fact of being born in a particular place, *he is an Italian by birth*
 ***birth certificate** *n* an official document certifying where and when you were born
 ***birth control** *n* the control of the number of births, using contraceptives, *pill is an efficient method of birth control*
 ***birth-day** *n* the day, recurring every year, in which you were born, *my 65th birthday*
 ***birth-ing** *n* the act of giving birth to a baby
 ***birth-mark** *n* a mark that is present in the skin at birth, a naevus
 ***birth mother** *n* the woman who gives birth to a child, as distinct from an adoptive mother
 ***birth-place** *n* the place where you were born
 ***birth rate** *n* the number of births for unit of 1000 individuals of population, *a low birth rate*
 ***birth-right** *n* a right you should have because of the place and family you were born in, *freedom is the birth-right of any European born citizen*
bis-cuit *n* (a Romanic word, **ME** *besquite*, borrowed from Old French *bescuit* 'twice-cooked', **L** *bis* twice+**OF** *cuire*, **L** *coquère* to cook; 14c); **F** biscuit m, **S** galleta f, **I** biscotto, **G** Biskuit n, Keks m; a small dry sweet, round or rectangular in shape, *we had a cup of tea and some biscuits*
bi-sect *v* (**L** *bi-* two+*sectus*, pple of *secāre* to cut; 17c); **F** couper en deux parties égales, **S** bisecar, **I** dividere in due parti uguali, **G** in zwei Teile zerschneiden; to cut in two, divide in two parts
bi-sex-ual¹ ----- *adj* (*bi+sexual*, **L** *sexus* gender; 19c); **F** bisexuel/elle, **S** bisexual, **I** bisessuale, **G** bisexuell; of two sexes, sexually attracted to both men and women; *biology*, having both male and female sexual organs
bi-sex-ual² ----- *n* a person who is bisexual, compare **heterosexual**, **homosexual**
bishop ----- *n (**OE** *biscop*, *bisceop*, **OS** *biskop*, Middle Dutch *bisscop*, **LL** *episcopus*, **Gr** ἐπίσκοπος overlooker, overseer, ἐπί on+-σκοπός watcher); **F** évêque m, **S** obispo/a, **I** vescovo m, **G** Bischof m; a superintendent or overseer in Christian Church, *the Bishop of St Asaph*
 ***bish-op-ric** ----- *n* (**OE** *bisceoprice*, *bisceop+rīce* realm, dominion); **F** évêché m, **S** obispado m, **I** vescovado m, **G** Diözese f, Bistum n; the district for which a bishop is responsible, *the bishopric of Edinburgh*, the condition of being a bishop, *a bishopric was conferred upon him*
bison ----- *n (**F** *bison*, **L** *bison*, cf **OHG** *wisant*, *wisunt*, ModG *Wisent*; late 14c); **F** bison m, **S** bisonte m, **I** bisonte m, **G** *European Wisent* m, *American Bison* m; a large hoofed animal of the cow family covered with long hair; it is found especially in north America
bis-tro ----- *n* (**F** *bistro*, of uncertain origin, probably related to *bistouille* mauvais alcohol; 20c); **F** bistro m, bistrot m, **S** bistrot m, **I** bistrò m, bistrot m, **G** *Bistro* n; a small wine shop, a small restaurant
bit ----- *n* (**OE** *bite* morsel, **ME** *bit*, *bītan* to bite, cognate with **OF** *bīta*, **OHG** *bizz*, ModG *Bissen* a bite); **F** morceau m, un petit peu, (*ordinateur*) bit, mors m (*d'une bride*), foret m, **S** trozo m, porción f, bit m, unidad f de información, freno m, bocado m, broca f, barrena f, **I** un p' di, pezzetto m, bit m, mörso m, fréno m, pünta f, trivèlla f, **G** Stückchen n, ein**

bißchen, ein wenig, Bit n, Gebiß n, Holzbohrer m, Lochbohrer m; a small piece, a fragment, a part of something, *a bit of bread*, *computing* the smallest unit of information used by a computer, (*horses*) the metal bar that is put in the horse's mouth for the rider to control it, (*tool*) a tool for drilling

bitch -----n (OE *biece*, ME *bicche*, cognate with Old Icelandic *bikkja* female dog, & Old Danish *bikke*, Barnhart); **F** chienne f, **S** perra f, **mujer f** de mal genio, **I** cagna f, **megèra f**, **G** Hündin f, Schlampe f; the female of the dog, a lewd or sensual woman

***bitchy** ---- *adj* informal unkind, unpleasant about other people, *bitchy words*, *she is often bitchy in her remarks*

bite¹ ----- *v* **bit bitten** (OE *bitān*, ME *biten*, cognate with OS *bitan* to bite, Old Frisian *bita*, Middle Dutch *biten*, ModG *beissen*, cognate with L *findere* to cleave, split); **F** mordre, donner un coup de dents à, **S** morder, **I** mordre, **G** beißen; to use your teeth to cut through something, *he was biting into a French baguette*, *a mosquito bit my arm*, *the fish bites the hook*, abstract, *the cold wind bites my face*

bite² n **F** coup m de dent, touche f, morceau m, **S** mordedura f, mordisco m, **I** morso m, **G** Beißen n, Biß m; the act of biting something with your teeth, *take a bite of this bread*, *the bite of the mosquito*, abstract, *the bite of the recession*

***bite-sized** *adj* small enough to put into your mouth to eat in a bite, *bite-sized pieces of bread*

bit-ing *adj* that bites, abstract *biting remarks*, *biting cold*

bit-map n a computer image stored with a fixed number of bits

bit part n a small part in a film

bit·ten *pple* of **bite**

bit·ter ----- *adj* (OE *biter*, *bitre*, cognate with OS & OHG *bittar* bitter, Old Icelandic *bitre*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** amer/ère, aigre, **S** amargo/a, penetrante, **I** amàro/a, pungente, àspro/a, **G** bitter, verärgert; in the sense of angry, *bitter remarks*, of people, *John's bitter disappointment about his unsuccessful performances*, feeling of unhappiness, *bitter tears*, of food, *bitter coffee*, of weather, *bitter wind*

***bitters** ---- n a bitter liquid made from plants that is added to alcoholic drinks to give flavour, *a dash of bitters was added to our whisky*

***bitterness** ----- n **F** amertume f, âpreté f, aigreur f, **S** amargor m, amargura f, **I** asprèzza f, sapóre m amàro, **G** Bitterkeit f; the condition of being bitter, *the bitterness of his remarks*, *of his disappointment*, *of the coffee*, *of the wind*

***bitter lemon** n a fizzy non-alcoholic drink that tastes of lemon and is grey-green in colour

***bit·ter·ly** ----- *adv* showing bitterness or anger, *he was bitterly disappointed*

***bitter-sweet** ----- *adj* **F** aigre-doux/ce, doux-amer/ère, **S** agridulce, **I** àgro-dólce, dolceamàro, **G** bittersüß, halbbitter; bitter and sweet at the same time, *a bitter-sweet love story*

bittern n --- (Anglo-Latin *butorius*, OF *butor*, L *butio* bittern+*taurus* bull, so called from its booming voice; in popular English it is called bull; early 16c); **F** butor m, **S** avetoro m, **I** tarabùso m, **G** Rohrdommel f; a bird of the heron family, that lives on wet ground, and is typical of Europe and Asia

***bitty** ---*adj* informal having many small parts that are not connected to each other, *a bitty novel*

bitu·men ----- n (L *bitumen* asphalt; 15c); **F** bitume m, **S** betún m, **I** bitùme m, asfàlto m, **G** Bitumen n, Asphalt m; a black substance used to surface roads and roofs

***bi·tu·min·ous** -----*adj* having the qualities of bitumen

bi·valve -----*adj/n* (L *bi-* pref+*valve*, L *valvæ* a double or folding-door; 17c); **F** mollusc bivalve m, **S** molusco m

bivalvo, **I** mollusco m bivalve, **G** zweischalige Muskel f; an animal having a shell in two valves or parts, *eg* the oyster

biv·ouac -----n (F *bivouac*, *bivac*, cf Swiss-German *beiwacht*, denoting the patrol of citizens -*Schaarwache*, adding *beigegeben*- to assist the ordinary town watch by night, see also Dutch *bijwacht*; 17c); **F** bivouac m, **S** vivaque m, vivac m, **I** bivàcco m, **G** Biwak n; a temporary shelter for troops or for people climbing a mountain

bi·zarre ---- *adj & sb* (F *bizarre*, apparently from French dialect of Berry *bigearrer* to quarrel, see root *bi-* twice; 17c); **F** bizarre, **S** original, extravagante, **I** bizzàro/a, stravagante, **G** bizarr; unusual, strange, *a bizarre man*

blab¹ ----- n (etymology obscure; occurs in Chaucer, c. 1374 as *blabbe* chatterer, cf Old Dutch *labben* to chatter, ON *blabbra*, **G** *plappern*); **F** bavard/e, jaseur/euse, **S** hablador/ora, **I** chiàcchiera f, pettegolézzo m, **G** Schwätzer/in; an open-mouthed person, a loose talk or chatter, a divulging of secrets

blab² -----*v* **F** bavarder, **S** divulgar, chismear, **I** ciarlàre, **G** ausplaudern, schwatzen; to talk as a blab

***blab·ber** ---- n a person who talks meaninglessly

black¹ ----- *adj* (OE *blæc*, cognate with OHG *blach*, Old Icelandic *blakkr*, from Proto-Germanic **blak-*, cognate with Greek *φλόξ* flame of fire); **F** noir/e, **S** negro/a, **I** nero/a, scuro/a, **G** schwarz, dunkel; a dark colour, *the black colour of skin*, *the Black community*, *black shoes*, *black coffee*, *fig. to be in black despair*, *a black look*

***black**² n the dark colour; **to be in the black**, to have in your bank account more money than you owe

***black**³ *v* to make something black, *BrE* to refuse to deal with somebody for political reasons, to boycott, *all the scheduled meetings have been blacked*

***black arts** n magic arts used for evil purposes

***black·ball** *v* to vote against someone, to prevent him from joining a club

***black belt** n a belt that can be earned in sport, like the judo and karate, the person who has earned such a belt

***black·berry** n **F** mûre f, **S** mora f, zarzamora f, (*plant*) zarza f, **I** mòra f, **G** Brombeere f; a small dark raspberry-like fruit that grows on the prickly shrub of the rose family

***black·berry·ing** ---- n the act of picking blackberries, *to go blackberrying*

***black·bird** ----- n **F** merle m, **S** mirlo m, **I** merlo/a, **G** Amsel f; a European bird, the male being black with a yellow beak, the female being brown

***black·board** n **F** tableau m noir, **S** pizarra f, encerado m, **I** lavagna f, **G** Tafel f; a board either black or white that is written on with chalk or markers, used especially in schools

***black box** ---- n **F** boîte f noire, **S** caja f negra, **I** scatola f nera, **G** Flugschreiber m; a small box in a plane that records all the details of the flight

***black·cur·rant**----- n **F** cassis m, **S** casis m, grosella f negra, **I** ribes m nero, **G** Johannisbeere f; a small black berry that grows in bunches on a bush, called **blackcurrant bush**, and is used for making jam, etc, *blackcurrant jam*

***black economy** n **F** ????., **S**?????, **I** lavóro m sommèrso, attività econòmica in néro, **G** ... ????.

***black·en** *v* **F** noircir, devenir noir, **S** ennegrecer, **I** annerire, diventàre néro, **G** schwärzen; to become black, to make sth black, *to blacken somebody's reputation*

***black eye** ----- n an area of dark skin that forms around an eye when one is hit, for example when receiving a punch

***black·guard** ----- n *old fashioned* a man who has no sense of what is right and wrong, an immoral man

***black·head** n a small plug of fatty matter blocking the duct of a pore on the skin

***black-hole** *n* a region in space whose gravity attracts everything near it, even light; fig. *the endeavour turned to be a financial black hole*

***black ice** *n* a thin layer of ice on the surface of a road

***black-jack** *n* a card game played for money, *AmE* a thick weapon used for hitting people, a pontoon or any floating platform

***black-leg** *n BrE* a person who continues to work when other people he works with are on strike

***black-list**¹ *n F* liste f noire, *S*, *I* lista f nèra, *G* schwarze Liste f; a list of people, countries, etc, who are put in a list to be boycotted or punished, *a blacklist of dictatorial regimes*

***black-list**² *v F* inscrire ou mettre sur une liste noire, *S* estar en la lista f negra, *I* mettere nella lista f nera, *G* j-n auf die schwarze Liste setzen; to put somebody on a blacklist, *clients who do not pay on time are blacklisted by our company*

***black magic** *n F* magie f noire, *S* magia f negra, *I* magia f néra, *G* Schwarze Magie f; a type of magic in which people communicate with evil spirits

***black-mail**¹ *n F* chantage m, *S* chantaje m, *I* ricatto m, *G* Erpressung f; the act of extorting money from someone by threatening to reveal his secrets or faults

***black-mail** *v F* soumettre à un chantage, *S* chantajear, hacer victima de un chantaje, *I* ricattare, *G* erpressen; to extort money from someone by threatening them to reveal their secrets or faults

***black-mail-er** *n F* maître m chanteur, *S* chantajista m/f, *I* ricattatore/trice, *G* Erpresser m; one who commits blackmail

***Black Maria** *n old fashioned F* voiture f cellulaire, *S* coche m celular, furgón m celular, *I* furgóne m cellulàre, *G* 'Grüne Minna', (Polizei)Gefangenenwagen m; a police vehicle used to carry prisoners

***black mark** *n* a mark that affects somebody's reputation, *a black mark against my reputation*

***black market** *n F* marché m noir, *S* mercado m negro, *I* mercàto m néro, borsanèra f, *G* Schwarzmarkt m; a system in which goods are bought and sold illegally, *to buy cigarettes on the black market, black market goods*

***black marketeer** *F* trafiquant du marché noir, *S* especulador m de mercado negro, *I* borsanerista m/f, *G* Schwarzhändler/in; one who sells goods on the black market

***Black Muslim** *n* a member of a group of people who, in the US, follow the religion of Islam

***black-out** *n* a temporary lack of electricity supply, *the eastern part of the US from Canada to Washington suffered a sudden blackout, fig., at the exams of maths my memory suffered a blackout, on the information, the dictatorial regime imposed a news blackout*

***black pudding** *n* a thick dark sausage made from animal blood

***black sheep** *n derogatory F* brebis f galeuse, *S* oveja f negra, *I* pècora f néra, *G* schwarzes Schaf n; a person who is different from the other persons of the family, *John is the black sheep of his family*

***black-smith** *n* (a smith who works with iron or black metal, as distinct from one who works on white metal, eg tin; 13c in a surname) *F* forgeron m, maréchal-ferrant m, *S* herrero m, *I* maniscàlco m, fàbbro m ferràio, *G* (Grob-, Huf)Schmied; a person who repairs things made of iron, such as horseshoes

***black spot** *n BrE* a stretch of road where accidents occur frequently, *the motorway is an accident blackspot, an area where occur more problems than elsewhere, an unemployment blackspot*

***black-thorn** *n F* prunier m épineux, épine f noire, *S* endrino m, *I* prugno m, susino m, *G* Schwarzdorn m; a bush with thorns, small white flowers and a dark fruit

***black tie** *n F* cravate f noire, *S* batín m, *I* cravatta f néra, *G* schwarze Fliege f, Smoking m; a black bow-tie worn with a dinner jacket, especially on a formal occasion, *a black-tie occasion*

***black-top** *n* a black material used for surfacing roads, tarmac

***black widow** *n* a very poisonous American spider, black with red marks

blad·der----- *n* (OE *blædre*, Old Icelandic *blādhra* bladder, MLG *blāder*, bladder, Middle Dutch *blāder(e)*, MHG *blāt(t)ere*, ModG *Blatter*); *F* vessie f, vésicule f, *S* vejija f, *I* vescica f, *G* Harnblase f, Vesica f; a membranous bag in the animal body, the receptacle for urine

blade -----*n* (OE *blæd*, OS *blad*, OHG and MHG *blat* leaf, Old Icelandic *bladh*, cognate with L *folium* leaf, *flos* flower, Gr *φύλλον* leaf, MedL *bladum* corn, grain, OF *bled* corn, wheat F *blé*); *F* lame f, feuille f, *S* hoja f, espada f, *I* làma f, spàda f, *G* Blatt n, Spreite f; the broad leaf-like part of any instrument or utensil, as distinguished from the handle, *the razor blade, the blades of the helicopter, the leaf of a plant, blade of grass*

blah ----- *n coll* (imitative; 20c); *F* bla-bla m, *S* palabrería f, *I* sciocchèzza f, stupidàggine f, *G* Blabla n; insincere, pretentious, nonsensical talk

blame¹ ----- *v* (OF *blāmer*, *blasmer*, LL *blasphemāre* to reproach, Gr *βλασφήμειν* speak ill or to the prejudice of one; early 13c); *F* blāmer, *S* culpar, *I* biasimāre, incolpāre, *G* tadeln, Vorwürfe machen (wegen); find fault with, accuse, *he has only himself to blame*

blame² ----- *n F* reproches m/pl, *S* culpa f, *I* còlpa f, responsabilità f, *G* Tadel n, Vorwurf m; responsibility for something wrong, *to deserve blame, the blame of his failure lies with him; to lay/put the blame for sth on sb*, censure sb for sth

***blame-less** ----- *adj* free from blame of doing something bad

***blame-worthy** ----- *adj* deserving censure for something that is wrong

blanch *v* (F *blanchir* to whiten, from *blanc* white; see *blank* v; late 14c); *F* blanchir, blémir, *S* palidecer, blanquear, *I* sbiancare, imbiancare, *G* bleichen, weiß machen; *literary* to turn pale, *she blanched for the horror*, to make white removing colour from, to put vegetables or nuts into boiling water in order to remove the skin

***blanc-mange** *n* (OF *blanc-manger* white food, from *blanc* white+manger eating, food; 14c); *F* blanc-manger m, *S* crema f (de vainilla, etc), *I* biancomangiàre m, *G* Pudding m; a sweet made of gelatine boiled with milk, forming a white jelly

bland *adj* (L *blandus* soft, caressing, It *blando*; 17c); *F* doux/ce, léger/ère, *S* suave, *I* blàndo/a, *G* mild, sanft; with little colour, lacking interest or energy, *a bland remark, bland help; *bland-ness n*

***bland-ish-ments** *n* pleasant things that you say to somebody or do in order to influence them, *Peter's blandishments did not convince Katherine*

blank¹ ----- *adj* (F *blanc* white, MedL *blancus*, OHG *blanch*, MHG *blanc*; early 14c); *F* blanc/che, vierge, *S* en blanco, virgen, *I* biànco/a, *G* leer, unbeschrieben; (of paper) not written on, *a blank sheet of paper, a blank tape, a blank cheque, a blank expression of the face, blank verse* unrhymed verse

blank² ----- *n F* blanc, vide, *S* blanco m, espacio m en blanco, *I* spàzio m vuòto, *G* unbeschriebenes Blatt; an empty space in a document for you to sign or to write something, *he left blanks in the form for the contract, please, fill in the blanks, coll draw a blank*, to get no results

blank³ --- --- v **F** ...???, **S** obstruir, impedir que haga un solo tanto, **I** ignorare, essere confuso/a, **G** auslöschen, erledigen; *BrE informal* to deliberately ignore someone, *after the end of the story she blanked him*, to be suddenly unable to remember sth, *in the exams my mind blanked*

***blank cartridge** n a cartridge that contains powder but no bullet

***blank cheque** n signed cheque which does not have the amount written on it

blanket¹ ----- n (OF *blankete*, *blanquette*, *blanc* white+ suffix *-ette*, MedL *blanchétus* white woollen tissue; the sense of bed covering is first recorded in 1300); **F** couverture f, manteau m, **S** manta f, frazada f, **I** copèrta f, cóltre f, **G** Decke f, Bettdecke f; a thick cover, mostly made of wool, used to cover beds

blanket² adj **F** compréhensif/ive, général/ale, **S** general, comprensivo/a, **I** globale, complèto/a, **G** generell, einschließend; including, affecting everything, *a blanket insurance*

blanket³ vt literary **F** mettre une couverture à, **S** cubrir, envolver, **I** coprire con una copèrta, ammantare, **G** zudecken, verdecken; to cover something with a thick layer, *the country was blanketed in snow*

***blankety-blank** n *informal only before noun* used in place of a taboo word, *a blankety-blank day*

blanquette n (French, see **blanket** n; 20c); a dish consisting of white meat, such as chicken or veal

blare¹ v (Middle Dutch and Low German *blaren*, MHG *bleren* to shout, ModG *plärren*, apparently imitative; 15c); **F** sonner, retentir, **S** resonar, sonar muy fuerte, **I** squillare, suonare fortemente, **G** schmettern, brüllen; to roar, to sound harshly, *the alarm was blaring*

blare² n **F** sonnerie f, son m, **S** estrépito m, sonido fuerte, **I** strombettiò m, squillo m, **G** Schmettern n, Brüllen n; a loud unpleasant noise, *the blare of car horns*

blarney n *informal* (Blarney stone, a stone in Blarney Castle, near Cork, Ireland. Anyone who kisses it is said to acquire the art of flattery and of persuasive talk, 'the gift of the garb'; as from the character of *Lady Blarney*, in Goldsmith's *Vicar of Wakefield*; 18c); **F** cajolerie f, flatterie séduisante, **S** coba f, labia f, adulación f, **I** adulazióne f, lusìnga f, **G** (plumpe)Schmeichelei; pleasant but untrue thing you tell somebody to persuade them, *to have kissed the Blarney stone*, to have the art of flattery

blasé adj (F *blasé*, *ppl* of *blaser* to exhaust with pleasure; etymology unknown, but in Picard dialect *blasé* is 'gonflé par excès d'alcohol', Le Robert; 19c); **F** blasé/e, **S** hastiado/a de todo, **I** indifferente, scettico/a, **G** gleichgültig; not impressed, not excited or worried about sth, because you have experienced it many times, *she appeared blasé at this new experience*

blaspheme v (ME *blasfemen*, OF *blasfemer*, L *blasphemāre*, Gr *βλασφημεῖν*, transferred to Latin in the Vulgate, and used liturgically in Modern English; it also gave origin to English to **blame**, *qv*; 14c); **F** blasphémer, **S** blasfemar, **I** bestemmiare, **G** lästern; to speak profanely about God and religion, to swear using the name of God; ***blasphemer** n

***blasphemy** n (ME *blasf(h)emie*, OF *blasfemie*, LL *blasphēmia*, Gr *βλασφημία*, abstract sb of *βλασφημος*; late 12c); **F** blasphème f, **S** blasfemia f, **I** bestemmia f, **G** Blasphemie f (Gottes)Lästerei f; profane speaking of God or sacred things

blast¹ n (OE *bl(æ)st* strong gust of wind, ON *blāsa* to blow, ModG *blasen*, cf L *flātus*; late 11c); **F** explosion f, bouffée f de vent, coup m de vent, **S** ráfaga f, trompetazo m, **I** esplosióne f, ráffica f, ventàta f, **G** Explosion f,

(heftiger)Windstoß m, Schmetter n; a blowing or strong gust of wind, *a blast of cold air*, a sound of a wind instrument, *the blasts of the ship's syren*, an explosion, *a bomb blast*, fig. *a blast of criticism on the part of the press*; **a blast from the past** *informal* something of the past that you remember and reminds you of a certain time in your life

blast² v **F** faire sauter (à la dynamite), **S** volar, derribar, **I** far esplòdere, suonare, **G** sprengen; to blow up, to destroy with explosives

***blast-ed** adj *coll* used to emphasize that you are annoyed about something, *that blasted ring!*

***blast furnace** n a large oven in which iron ore is melted in order to take out the metal

***blast-off**

blatant adj (in Spenser's *Faerie Queene*, 1596, used in the phrase 'blatant beast'; *etym* uncertain, but cf L *blatire* to babble, or English *to babble*, from L *blaterare*); **F** criant/e, **S** descarado/a, estrepitoso/a, **I** lampante, sfacciato/a, **G** brüllend, lärmend; very obvious, done without shame, *a blatant lie*; ***blatantly** adv in a blatant way, *he lied blatantly*

blather v/intr dialectal variant of **blether**

blaze¹ n (OE *blase*, *bl(æ)se* torch, firebrand, cognate with MHG *blas* torch, candle, OHG *blass*, ModG *Blass*); **F** flamme(s) f/pl, feu m, **S** llamarada f, incendio m, **I** fiammata f, baglióre m, **G** Flamme f, Feuer n; bright flame or fire, especially a dangerous one, *he died in the blaze*, a brilliant light, *the blaze of the sun*, fig. *the blaze of fame*

blaze² v/intr **F** flamber, **S** arder en llamas, brillar, **I** àrdere, avvampare, **G** aufflammen, Bäume anschalten; to burn with a strong flame, *a fire was blazing in the night*

blaze³ n (*etym* uncertain, but see ON *blesi* 'white star on a horse's forehead', Middle Dutch *blesse*, MHG *blasse*, ModG *Blässe*; 17c); **F** marque allongée blanche, **S** mancha f, estrella f, **I** incisióne f, **G** Markierung f; a white mark on the face of a horse or ox

***blazer** n a sports jacket, with the badge of a school, of a club, etc, worn as part of a uniform

***blazing** adj (see **blaze**¹ n); **F** en feu, enflammé/e, **S** brillante, violento/a, **I** fiammeggiante, splendènte, **G** schreiend, eklatant; *only before noun* extremely hot because the sun is shining, *a blazing summer day*, very bright, *a blazing dawn*, *coll* furious, *blazing fury*

blazon¹ n (F *blason*, of uncertain origin; could be referred to a Teutonic word identical with English *blaze* n, or with German *blasen* to blow; 14c); **F** blason m, armoiries f/pl, **S** blasón m, **I** blasóne m, **G** Wappenschild m/n, Wappenkunde f; a shield in heraldry, a coat of arms,

blazon² v/t (from noun, or directly from French *blasonner*; 16c); **F** blasonner, **S** proclamar, **I** diffondere, **G** ausmalen; to display, to make public, *the company's achievements were (em)blazoned on the front page of the newspaper*

bleach¹ v (OE *bl(æ)can* to whiten linen, ME *blechen*, cognate with OHG *blīhan*, ModG *bleichen*, Old Icelandic *bleikja* to bleach); **F** blanchir, décolorer, **S** blanquear, **I** sbiancare, candeggiare, **G** bleichen; to make sth white or pale, either by the sunlight or with a chemical, *she bleached her hair*

bleach² n **F** décolorant m, **S** lejía f, blanqueador m, **I** candeggina f, **G** Bleichmittel n; a chemical substance that is used to make something pale or white; ***bleach-er** n ***bleach-ers** n/pl *AmE* (see **bleach** v; from the bleaching of the sun on the benches; 1889); uncovered seats at sports events, or at a stadium; the occupants of such seats

bleak adj (OE *bleike* pale, *etym* uncertain, cf Old Icelandic *bleikr* pale, see **bleach**; early 14c); **F** lugubre, morne, exposé au vent, **S** nada prometedor/a, crudo/a, desierto/a, inhóspito/a, **I** deprimente, fréddo/a, brüllo/a, espósto/a al vento, **G**

freudlos, trübe, kahl, rauh; not encouraging, *the future looks bleak for our company*, (said of weather) cold, *a bleak winter's day*, (of a place) with no pleasant features, *a bleak landscape*

*blear-ily adv

bleary ----- adj (of uncertain origin, perhaps related to *blur*, but cp OHG *blerre* having blurred vision, and LG *bleeroged*, ME *blereighed*; the adj *blear* arose late in 14c, and *bleary* late in the 15c); **F** trouble, **S** legañoso/a, **I** annebbiato/a, velato/a, **G** mit trüben Augen; of eyes, not able to see clearly, because you are very tired or drunk, *her eyes were bleary, for want of sleep*

*bleary-eyed, adj

bleat¹ v ----- (OE *blætan*, cognate with OHG *blāzan* to bleat, ME *bleten*, Modern Dutch *blaten*, from Indo-European, but see Gr *φλεδών* idle talk, apparently of imitative origin); **F** bêler, se plaindre, **S** balar, quejarse tristemente, **I** belàre, piagnucolàre, **G** blöken, meckern, in weinerlichem Ton reden; to cry as a sheep, as a goat or calf, *informal* to complain with an annoying voice, *John bleated his excuses*

bleat² -----n **F** bêlement m, **S** balido m, **I** belàto, piagnucolio, **G** Blöken n; the sound that a sheep or goat makes, *the bleat of the lamb*

bleed ----- v (OE *blēdan*, Old Frisian *blēda*, OHG *bluotēn*, Old Icelandic *bl(æ)dha*, related to OE *blōd* blood, from Proto-Germanic); **F** saigner, **S** sangrar, desangrar, **I** sanguinàre, **G** bluten, verbluten; to lose blood, *I was bleeding at the nose*, fig. *my heart bleeds for her*

*bleed-er ----- n BrE derogatory **F** salaud m, hémophile m, **S** sangrador/ora, hemofílico/a, **I** sanguisùga m/f, emofiliaco/a, **G** Erpresser m, Bluter m; a despicable person, one you are annoyed with, *medical*, one who suffers haemophilia

*bleed-ing ----- adj of **bleed**, **F** saignant/e, **S** sangrante, dolorido/a, **I** sanguinànte, **G** Bluter m; losing blood, *his wound was bleeding*, fig. *bleeding heart*; n the process of losing blood, *the bleeding of his nose*

*bleeding heart

bleep¹ ----- v (imitative; 20c); to give out a short radio signal

bleep² n a sound or signal given out by an electronic equipment

*bleep-er n a device that beeps on receiving a radio signal

blem-ish¹ ----- vt (ME *blemis*, *blemishen*, OF *blemiss-*, stem of *ble(s)mir*, of uncertain origin; 14c); **F** tacher, ternir, **S** tacha f, mancha f, **I** macchiàre, **G** schaden, verunstalten; to impair or mar the beauty of sth, to spoil somebody's reputation, *the story severely blemished the chairman's record*

blem-ish² -----n (from the verb; 16c); **F** défaut m, imperfection f, **S** manchar, **I** macchia f, **G** Fehler m, Mangel m; a mark on the skin or on an object that spoils its appearance, making it appear less beautiful, *a blemish on his skin*, fig. *a blemish on his reputation*

blench----- v (OE *blencan* deceive, ME *blenchen* move suddenly, cognate with ON *blekkja* to impose upon, to cheat); **F** blémir, sourciller, **S** recular, palidecer, **I** ritràrsi, tiràrsi indietro, **G** verzagen, zurückschrecken; *literary*, to draw back, to shrink away, to elude, to avoid in fear, *she blenched when seeing that man*

blend¹ -----v (OE *blondan* to mix, ME *blenden*, Old Icelandic *blanda* to mix, cognate with OHG *blantan* to mix); **F** mélanger, mêler, **S** mezclar, combinar, **I** mescolàre, miscelàre, **G** (ver)mischen; to mix together, *to blend butter and sugar*

blend² n (from the verb; late 19c); **F** mélange m, **S** mezcla f, combinación f, **I** miscèla f, mistùra f, **G** Mischung f; a mixture of different things of the same type, *a blend of coffee*

*blend-er----- n **F** mixer m, mixeur m, **S** catador/ora, **I** miscelatóre m, frullatóre m, **G** Mischmaschine f; an electric machine used for blending foods and making them liquid

bless----- v (OE *bl(æ)dsian*, *blēdsian*, ME *blesen* to consecrate, originally 'to mark with blood', 'to consecrate'; the sense-development of the word was influenced by its having been chosen, in the English version of the Bible, to translate the L *benedicere* to speak well of, Gr *εὐλογέω* speak well of, praise); **F** bénir, **S** bendecir, **I** benedire, **G** segnen; to consecrate, to extol as holy, to wish happiness to, *to bless the bread and wine, God bless you!*

*blessed----- adj *literary* **F** bienheureux/heuse, **S** bendito/a, beato/a, **I** sàcro/a, benedétto/a, **G** gesegnet, glücklich; happy and enjoying good fortune, *a blessed marriage, a blessed man*, religion, *the Blessed Virgin Mary*

*bless-ing ----- n **F** bénédiction f, **S** bendición f, **I** benedizióne f, **G** Segen m, Segnung f; something that is blessed and improves your life, *her help was a real blessing*

blether¹ ----- n Scottish and Northern dialect (ME *blather*, ON *bladhra* to talk stupidly; 16c); **F** paroles f/pl en l'air, bêtises f/pl, **S** disparates m/pl, **I** chiacchiere f/pl sciòcche, ciànce f/pl, **G** Gewäsch n, Quatsch m; chat, gossip

blether² v **F** dire des bêtises, **S** charlatanear, decir tonterías, **I** chiacchieràre, cianciàre, **G** quatschen; to talk foolishly, to chat about things that are unimportant

*blew --- past tense of **blow**

blight ----- n (unknown origin; the word entered literature from the speech of farmers and gardeners in the 17th century); **F** rouille f, influence f néfaste, **S** añublo m, tizón m, plaga f, **I** carbòncchio m, rovina f, **G** Mehltau m, Vernichtung f; any influence of unknown origin that suddenly destroys plants, a disease in plants caused by fungoid parasites, as mildew, rust, etc, *potato blight*, fig. something that has a bad effect on something or somebody, *alcohol was his blight*

*blight-er ----- n anything that blights

blimey----- interj *informal* (corruption of the imprecation 'God blind me!', or 'blame me!'; late 19c); **F** mince alors!, **S** caray!, **I** accidenti!, càpperi!, **G** ich werd' verrückt!; used to express amazement or surprise, *blimey, it was my husband!*

blimp----- n (of uncertain origin, apparently from 'Type B-limp dirigible', lacking a stiff internal structure; early 20c); a small non rigid dirigible, lighter than air, a barrage balloon so called, Colonel Blimp, a character in David Low's (1891-1863) cartoons, voicing incurably conservative ideas

blind¹ ----- adj (OE *blind*, OS *blind*, ON *blindr*, Modern Danish Swedish and Dutch *blind*, OHG *blint*, ModG & Dutch *blind*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** aveugle, sans issue, **S** ciego/a, sin visibilidad, **I** cieco/a, **G** blind; lacking sight, *the blind*, fig. *blind with rage*, closed at one end, *blind alley*

blind² ----- n (from the adjective; late 11c); **F** store m (à l'italienne), **S** los ciegos, persiana f, **I** avvolgibile m, persiana f, veneziana f, **G** Rolladen m, Rouleau n; a covering for a window, especially one made of cloth, also **roller blind**, **venetian blind**, AmE **shade**, **window shade**

blind³ -----vt (OE *blendan*, Gothic *gabblindjan*, ME *blinden*, Modern Dutch *verblinden*); **F** aveugler, **S** cegar, **I** accecàre, abbagliàre, **G** blind machen, fig. verdunkeln; make blind, *he was blinded in a car accident*

*blind date n a meeting between two people who have never met before, arranged for romantic reasons

*blind-er -----n an outstanding performance, particularly in sport, *to play a blinder of a game*, coll a heavy drinking session

***blind-fold**¹ ----- *adj* **F** les yeux bandés, **S** con los ojos vendados, **I** con gli òcchi bendàti, **G** mit verbundenen Augen; wearing a blindfold, with the eyes covered, *prisoners were sitting blindfold*

***blind-fold**² *v* **F** bander les yeux à ou de (quelqu'un), **S** vendar los ojos, **I** bendàre gli occhi, **G** die Augen verbinden; to put a piece of cloth over someone's eyes, *the prisoner was blindfolded*

***blind-fold**³ *n* **F** bandeau m, **S** venda f, **I** bènnda f, **G** Binde f, Band m; a piece of cloth that is put over somebody's eyes, to prevent them from seeing, -----

***blind-fold**⁴ *adv* **F** aveuglément, les yeux fermés, **S** con los ojos cerrados, **I** a òcchi chiùsi, alla ciéca, **G** mit verbundenen Augen; used to mean that sth is to you very easy to do, *I can do it blindfold*

***blind-ing** ----- *adj* **F** aveuglant/e, **S** intenso/a, cegador/a, **I** accecànte, abbagliànte, **G** blendend; very bright, such as to make it difficult for you to see, *blinding light, blinding rain*, fig. *a blinding rage*, very impressive, *a blinding victory*; **a blinding flash**, sth that suddenly becomes clear, *a blinding flash of inspiration*

***blind-ingly** *adv* extremely, *a blindingly clear problem*

***blind-ly** *adv* without being able to see what you are doing

***blind man's buff** ----- *n* a children's game, in which one child whose eyes are covered tries to catch the others

***blind-side** ----- *v* to hit the side of a vehicle by accident, *Joan's car was blindsided by a van*

***blind spot** ----- *n* something that you are not able or not willing to understand, *the boy has a blind spot for the spelling*, an area of the road that you cannot see when you are driving, an area where a radio signal cannot be received

blink¹ ----- *v* (appears in English late in 16c, borrowed from Middle Dutch *blinken* to glitter); **F** battre ou cligner des paupières, **S** guñar, parpadear, **I** battere le palpebre, **G** blinken, mit den Augen verschließen; move the eyelids, to look with the eyes half closed, to close your eyes and quickly open them again, *he just blinked at the news*, of a light, to go on and off continuously, *the neon sign was blinking*

blink² *n* the action of blinking, *idm in the blink of an eye* within a very short period

***blink-ered** ----- *adj* *blinkered opinions, blinkered attitudes*, i.e. very limited, very conservative

***blink-er** *n* ----- **F** clignotant m, **S** intermitentes *m/pl*, **I** lampeggiatóre m, lùce f intermittènte, **G** Blinkleuchte f, Blinklicht n; a light on the flank of a vehicle which goes on and off, to indicate the direction the vehicle is about to take

blink-ered ----- *adj* *disapproving* said of a person who is unable to see or to understand other people's point of view, *blinkered opinions, blinkered outlook*

***blink-ers** ----- *n/pl* **AmE** **blinders** **F** oeillère f, **S** anteojeras *f/pl*, **I** paraòcchi *m/pl*, **G** Scheuklappen *f/pl*; pieces of leather that are attached at the side of a horse's eyes to prevent it from seeing sideways, fig. meaning that somebody has narrow-minded opinions, *that man has blinkers*

***blink-ing** ----- *adj* *old fashioned* used to mean that you are annoyed, *a blinking music*

blip¹ ----- *v* (imitative, a small flashing light on a radar screen, 1945, earlier, 1894, in Mark Twain, 'a quick popping sound'); to hit or blow sharply

blip² *n* a sudden sharp blow, a small flashing light on a radar screen, a minor problem, *the budget problems are only a blip*

bliss ----- *n* (OE *blis*, ME *blisse*, influenced by *bless*; derived from the root of *blithe*, q.v.); perfect happiness, *marital bliss, what a bliss!*

***bliss-ful** *adj* full of bliss, joyful, happy in the highest degree

blis-ter¹ ----- *n* (ME *blester, blister*, see OF *blestre* a lump, derived from a Scandinavian or West Germanic source, cf OHG *blāst* breathing, blowing, see **blast**); **F** ampoule f,

cloque f, **S** ampolla f, **I** vescica f, bólla f, **G** Blase f, Pustel f; a swelling on the skin containing clear liquid, caused by burning or rubbing

blis-ter² *v* **F** provoquer des ampoules, **S** ampollar, causar ampollas en, **I** prodùre, coprirsi di vesciche, **G** Blasen hervorrufen, Blasen ziehen; to form blisters, *his skin was blistering*

***blis-ter-ing** *adj* done with great energy, *at a blistering pace*, angry, *blistering remarks*, hot, *the blistering sun of Sicily*

blithe ----- *adj* (OE *blithe* joyous, kind, cognate with OHG *blīdi*, Middle Dutch *blīde*, Old Icelandic *blīdr* cheerful, from a proto-Germanic root); **F** joyeux/euse, folâtre, **S** alegre, **I** gioiòso/a, allègro/a, **G** vergnügt; happy, cheerful, merry

blitz¹ *n* (**G** *Blitz*, short for *Blitzkrieg*, *Blitz* lightning+*Krieg* war; before 1939); **F** blitz m, **S** guerra f relámpago, **I** guèrra f làmpo, **G** Blitzkrieg m; something which is done quickly and with a lot of effort, *a blitz of the police against criminality*, a violent and intensive attack, *a blitz of the second cavalry division against the enemies*

***blitz**² *v* to attack suddenly and intensely

***blitz-krieg** *n* (from German); a sudden military attack, aiming at gaining a quick victory

bliz-zard ----- *n* **AmE** (according to OED the word is apparently onomatopoeic, and was in colloquial use in the West in 19c, from dialectal *blizz* violent rainstorm+intensive suffix *-ard*, and became general in the American newspapers during the severe winter of 1880-81; nevertheless it could be of German origin, brought into common use by German settlers); **F** blizzard m, **S** ventisca f, **I** bufera f di neve, **G** Blizzard m; a snowstorm with violent wind, 'those fearful blasts known as 'blizzards' which send the 'poudre', or dry snow, whirling in icy clouds' (*Standard*, 22 January 1881, as in OED)

bloat *v/t/i* (etymology unclear, apparently OE *blāwan*, ME *blot, blout, blouen* to blow; early 17c); **F** gonfler, bouffir, **S** hinchar, poner abotagado/a, **I** gonfiàre, dilatàre, **G** aufblasen, aufanschwellen; to swell or make sth swell, to become bigger or rounder, to grow turgid, *his appearance was bloated by alcohol*

***bloat-ed** ----- *adj* full of liquid or gas, therefore bigger than normal, full of food after eating too much, *a bloated face*

blob----- *n* (*etym* uncertain, the verb 'appears in 15c, expressing the action of the lips in producing a bubble', OED; cf *bubble* as meaning *blister*, from ME *blober* a bubble; early 18c); **F** tache f (de couleur), pâte m (d'encre), **S** gota f, borrón m, **I** góccia f, màcchia f, **G** Tropfen m, Klümpchen n; a small drop of liquid, a globule of liquid

bloc----- *n* (French, from OF *bloc* piece of wood, see **block**; early 20c); **F** bloc m, **S** bloque m, **I** blòcco m, **G** Block m; a group of parties, nations, etc, formed to support a particular interest, *a trade/trading bloc, the former Communist bloc*

block¹ ----- *n* (OF *bloc* piece of wood, cf OHG *bloh* block, Middle Dutch *blok*, MLG *block*, Swedish *block*, Danish *blok*; late 14c); **F** bloc m, **S** bloque m, obstáculo m, **I** blòcco m, ostàcolo m, **G** Block m, Klotz m; a piece of solid material, *a bloc of wood, a bloc of marble*, a building that contains flats and offices, *a block of flats, she lives three blocks away from here*, a group of things sold together, *a block of tickets*, a structure put across a road to stop traffic, *a road block*

block² ----- *v* **F** bloquer, obstruer, **S** obstruir, cerrar, **I** bloccàre, ostruire, **G** blockieren, hindern; to stop sth from moving, *the road is blocked by the snow, police blocked the man*

***block-ade**¹ ----- *n* (*block+ade*; late 17c); **F** blocus m, **S** bloqueo m, **I** blòcco m, **G** Blockade f; the action of blocking

a harbour by hostile ships, *the naval blockade of La Rochelle, the economic blockade*

***block·ade**² *v* **F** bloquer, faire le blocus de (une place), **S** bloccare, **I** mettere il blocco m, **G** blockieren; the action of surrounding a place, especially a port, to prevent people from entering or coming out

***block·age** *n* **F** obstruction f, **S** obstrucción f, obstáculo m, **I** blocco m, bloccaggio m, **G** Blockierung f; sth that blocks or obstructs movement, an obstruction, *a blockage in the arteries*

***block and tackle** *n* **F** poulie f, roulet m, **S** polea f, **I** puléggia f, **G** Scheibe f; a device for raising heavy objects off the ground, which works with a system of ropes and pulleys

***block·buster** *n* (*block+burst-er*, in *coll* become *buster*; late 20c); an aerial bomb capable of destroying a whole block of buildings; also *transf* and *fig.*, an expensively produced and commercially successful film, novel, etc, a powerful thing or person

***block capitals** *n/pl* also **block letters** letters written separately and using the capital letters, *please, print your address in block capitals*

***block·head** *n* (*block sb+head*; 16c); **F** lourdaud m, **S** zopenco/a, imbécil, **I** testa f di legno, **G** Dummkopf m; a wooden head, hence a head with no more intelligence than this

***block vote** *n* a number of votes which are made by one person who represents a group

bloke---- *n* *slang* **F** type m, **S** tío m, sujeto m, **I** un individuo m, un tizio m, **G** Kerl m; a man, a fellow

blonde----- *adj & n* (OF *blonde*, MedL *blondus*, but cp MHG *blunde*, *blunt*; late 15c); **F** blond/e, **S** rubio/a, güero/a, **I** biondo/a, **G** blond(Haar), hell; (of hair) of a light colour

blood¹ ---- *n* (OE *blōd*, OS *blōd*, Dutch *bloed*, OHG *bluot*, Old Icelandic *blōdh*, Gothic *blōth*); **F** sang m, **S** sangre f, **I** sàngue m, **G** Blut n; the red liquid circulating in the arteries and veins

blood² *v* **F** initier, donner (aux troupes) le baptême du feu, **S** tener el bautismo m de fuego, **I** iniziàre, avere il battésimo del fuòco, **G** Initiation f, Einweihung, Bluttaufgabe haben; to stain with blood, to give someone the first experience of sth, *he was blooded in hunting at the age of 16*, initiate troops in battle, *the Regiment was blooded in Normandy*

***bloody** *adj* **F** ensanglanté/e, **S** sangriento/a, cruento/a, **I** sanguinànte, sanguinoso/a, **G** blutig, blutbefleckt; involving a lot of violence and blood, *a bloody contest*, covered with blood, *his bloody nose*, *fig. his bloody hands*; *adv* used to emphasize a comment, *a bloody fool*

***blood bank** *n* a place where blood is stored for transfusion

***blood·bath** *n* **F** carnage m, massacre m, **S** masacre m, matanza f, **I** bàgno di sàngue, **G** Blutbad n; a massacre, a violent event where many people are killed, *the battle of Floddenfields was a bloodbath for the Scots*

***blood brother** *n* **F** frère m de sang, **S** hermano m de sangre, **I** fratello m di sàngue, **G** leiblicher Bruder; a man who, generally in a ceremony, has promised to consider another man as his brother, and to be very loyal to him

***blood clot** *n* **F** caillot m de sang, **S** coágulo m sanguíneo, **I** grùmo m di sangue, **G** Blutgerinnsel n; a lump that is formed when blood becomes thick, *a blood clot in the brain was removed with an operation*

***blood count** *n* **F** numération f globulaire, **S** recuento m sanguíneo, **I** contéggio m dei glòbuli del sàngue, **G** Ausrechnung der weiße und rote Blutkörperchen; the number of red and white cells in somebody's blood

***blood·curdling** *adj* **F** à vous tourner les sangs, à (vous) figer le sang, **S** horripilante, espeluznante, **I** che fa gelàre il

sàngue, orripilante, **G** Reißer m; said of something that causes horror, *a blood-curdling story*

***blood donor** *n* **F** donneur/euse de sang, **S** donante m/f de sangre, **I** donatòre m di sàngue, **G** Blutspender m; someone who gives his blood to be used for transfusion

***blood group** *n* *AmE* **bloodtype**; **F** groupe m sanguin, **S** grupo m de sangre, **I** grùppo m sanguigno, **G** Blutgruppe f, Blutgruppenbestimmung f; any of the different types human blood is distinct in, *blood group/type A*

***blood heat** *n* **F** température f du corps humain, **S** calor m natural de la sangre, **I** temperatura f corpòrea, **G** Blutwärme f, Körpertemperatur f; the normal temperature of human body

***blood·hound** *n* **F** limier m, **S** sabueso m, **I** segùgio m, bràcco m, **G** Schweiß-, Bluthund m; a large type of dog endowed with acuteness of smell

***blood·ed** *adj* (said of horses) of good breed, *a blooded stallion*, in combination with an adjective, *warm-blooded, cold-blooded, etc*

***blood·ied** *adj* **F** ensanglanté/e, **S** sangriento/a, **I** copèrto/a di sàngue, insanguinato/a, **G** blutig; covered in blood, *his bloodied nose*

***blood·less** **F** exsangue, sans effusion de sang, **S** exangüe, incruento/a, **I** esàngue, incruento/a, sènza spargimènto di sàngue, **G** blutlos, -leer, unblutig; very pale, *a bloodless face*, without killing or violence, *the bloodless revolution of 1688*

***blood·let·ting** *n* **F** effusion f de sang, saignée f, **S** efusión f de sangre, sangría f, **I** spargimènto m di sàngue, salasso m, **G** Aderlaß m, Blutvergießen n; bloodshed, especially between social groups, *ethnic bloodletting*, a medical treatment used in the past to take some of an ill patient's blood, *fig. financial bloodletting*

***blood·lust**----- *n* a strong inclination to shed blood and kill

***blood money** *n* *disapproving* money paid to a person to kill someone, money paid to the family of a murdered person

***blood orange** *n* a type of orange with red juice

***blood poisoning**----- *n* a serious infection of the blood, septicaemia, toxæmia

***blood pressure** ----- *n* **F** tension f (de sang), **S** presión f sanguínea, **I** pressióne f sanguigna, **G** Blutdruck m; the pressure at which blood flows from the heart around the body

***blood·red** *adj* **F** rouge (comme du) sang, **S** sanguíneo/a, **I** rósso sàngue, **G** blutrot; bright red in colour, like blood

***blood relation**, also **blood relative** *n* **F** consanguin/ine, **S** pariente consanguíneo/a, **I** parènte di sàngue, consanguineo/a, **G** Blutsverwandter m; someone related to you by birth, as distinct from one related by marriage

***blood sausage** *n* black pudding

***blood·shed** *n* **F** effusion f de sang, **S** efusión f de sangre, mortandad f, **I** carneficìna f, **G** Blutvergießen n; the killing of people, usually in fighting or war, *further bloodshed was avoided, thanks to a truce*

***blood·shot** *adj* said of your eyes, when the parts that are normally white are red

***blood sport** *n* a sport in which animals are killed

***blood·stain** *n* a spot of blood on something

***blood·stock** *n* horses of pure breed, especially for racing

***blood·stream** *n* **F** le sang m, **S** corriente f sanguínea, **I** correntè f sanguigna, **G** Blut(kreislauf m); the blood flowing through the body, *the drug will be injected directly into the bloodstream*

***blood·sucker** *n* **F** sangsue f, parasite m, **S** sanguiuèla f, **I** parassita m, sanguisùga m, **G** Blutsauger m; an animal, eg the leech, that sucks blood, *informal*, someone who expects money from other people, and does not make any effort towards providing it for himself, *his son has been for years a bloodsucker*

***blood test** *n* **F** analyse f du sang, **S** análisis m de sangre, **I** anàlisi f del sàngue, **G** Blutprobe f; a medical test of the blood, to see if it shows any disease

***blood-thirsty** ----*adj* **F** sanguinaire, **S** sanguinario/a, **I** sanguinàrio/a, **G** blutdürstig; someone who enjoys killing and wounding, *a bloodthirsty tyrant*, showing violence, *a bloodthirsty theatrical performance*

***blood transfusion** *n* **F** transfusion f de sang, **S** transfusión f de sangre, **I** trasfusióne f di sàngue, **G** Blutübertragung f; the process of putting new blood into someone's body for medical purposes

***blood type** *n* see **bloodgroup**

***blood vessel** *n* **F** vaisseaux sanguins, **S** vaso m sanguíneo, **I** vàsò sanguìgno, **G** Blutgefäß n; any of the tubes through which blood circulates, see **artery**, **vein**

***bloody**¹ *adj* **F** ensanglanté/e, sacré (*eg, un sacré menteur*), **S** sangriento/a, cruènto/a, maldito/a, **I** sanguinànte, cruènto, maledétto, dannàto, **G** blutbefleckt, blutig, verdammt; covered in blood, *a bloody battle*, *BrE informal* used to express anger or to emphasize what you are saying, *a bloody story*, *bloody hell!*

***bloody**² *v* **F** ensanglanter, souiller², **S** ensangrentar, **I** insanguinàre, macchiàre di sàngue, **G** mit Blut beflecken, blutig machen; to stain with blood, to make sth bloody; *informal*, **bloody well**, used to show irritation

Bloody Mary *n* an alcoholic drink made by mixing vodka and tomato juice

***bloody-minded** *adj derogatory* said of a person unhelpful, inclined to cause difficulties, *a bloody-minded fellow*