

**bred** past tense and past part. of **breed**

**breech** *n* (AS *brēc*, plural of *bróc*, OE *brēc*, apparently an adoption of L *braca*, breeches, trousers; according to OED it 'has all the marks of an original Teutonic word'; 11c as *brech*es); **F** culasse *f*, **S** recámara *f*, **I** caricatore *m*, culatta *f*, **G** Hinterlader *m*; *technical*, the part of a gun barrel at the back, where the bullets are loaded, hence *breech-loader*

**breech birth** *n* also **breech delivery**, a birth in which a baby's feet come out of the mother first

**breeches** *n* **AmE** **britches** short trousers fastened below the knees, *riding breeches*

**breed**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OE *broedan*, *bredan* bring young to birth, OHG *bruotan*, MHG *brüeten*, *brüeten*, related to *brōd*, analogous to *food*, *feed*, *blood*, *bleed*); **F** procréer, **S** criar, reproducirse, **I** generare, riprodursi, **G** gebären, züchten; (of animals) to have sex and produce young, *horses breed in spring*

**breed**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; 15c); **F** race *f*, génération *f*, **S** raza *f*, casta *f*, **I** razzà *f*, stirpe *f*, **G** Rasse *f*, Zucht *f*, Stamm *m*; race, stock, *a breed of cattle*, *fig. a new breed of managers*

**breed-er** *n* (*breed* + *-er*, late 16c); **F** éleveur/euse, **S** ganadero *m*, **I** allevatore/trice, **G** Züchter/in; a person who breeds animals, *a horse breeder*

**breed-ing** *n* (*breed* verb + *-ing*; 1300); **F** élevage *m*, **S** reproducción *f*, **I** allevamiento *m*, **G** Züchtung *f*, Zucht *f*; the activity of keeping animals and making them produce new animals, *cattle/breeding*, *horse/breeding*; *old fashioned good breeding*, i.e. polite behaviour that is supposed to be connected with the family you come from, *a young man of good breeding*

**breeding ground** *n* **F** terrain *m* propice, foyer *m*, **S** criadero *m*, **I** terreno *m* fertile, terreno *m* di coltura, **G** Erziehung *f*, Ausbildung *f*; a place in which certain ideas, usually bad, can easily begin to develop, *the universities are the breeding ground for social protest*

**breeze**<sup>1</sup> *n* (in 16c as *brize*, *brieze*, northeast wind, Old Spanish *briza*, It *brezza*, French *brise*, etymology uncertain, later acquired the transferred sense of 'north-east trade-wind', with reference to the West Indies); **F** brise *f*, **S** brisa *f*, **I** brézza *f*, **G** Brise *f*, leichter Wind; a light wind, *the North East breeze pushed Columbus's caravels towards El Salvador*

**breeze**<sup>2</sup> *v* *colloquial* (1907): to move in a confident way in a particular direction, *she breezed towards the middle of the room*

**breeze block** *BrE, AmE* **cinder block**,

**breezy** *adj* (*breeze* *n* + *-y*; early 18c); **F** venteux, jovial/e, **S** de mucho viento, jovial, **I** ventoso/a, disinvólto/a, **G** luftig, windig, unbeschwert; with the breeze blowing, *a breezy day*, *fig. confident, relaxed, the breezy air of Joan won all of us*

**breth-ren** *n* *old fashioned* (special plural of *brother*), used to talk to members of an organization, especially to people in church, *let us pray, brethren, let us help our less fortunate brethren*

**brevi-ary** *n* (OF *breviaire*, L *breviārium* summary, from *brevis* short; 16c); **F** bréviaire *m*, **S** breviario *m*, **I** breviario *m*, **G** Brevier *n*; a book of prayers used in the Roman Catholic Church

**brev-ity** *n* (AF *brevete*, MF *briéveté*, L *brevit-ātem* shortness, from *brēvis* short, see **brief**; early 16c); **F** briéveté *f*, **S** brevedad *f*, **I** brevità *f*, **G** Kürze *f*; conciseness, *when writing he is a model of brevity*

**brew**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OE *bréowan*, ME *brewen*, OS *breuwan*, MLG *bruwen*, OHG *brüwan*, ModG *brauen*, through the same Indo-European root apparently related to L *defrūtum* grape juice boiled down into a syrup, L *fermētum* ferment, from *fervēre* to boil); **F** brasser, se préparer, **S** hacer (*cerveza*), prepararse, **I** fermentare, prepararsi, **G** brauen, (zu)beraiten, *fig. in der Luft liegen*; to make beer, *beer brewed in Bayern*,

to make a hot drink of coffee or tea, *the tea is brewing for a few minutes*, said of sth unpleasant that is likely to happen soon, *something unclear is brewing*

**brew**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; early 16c); a type of beer, *a Scottish brew*, a mixture of different ideas, *a brew of sex and alcohol*

**brew-er** *n* (*brew* verb + *-er*; 1300); **F** brasseur *m*, **S** cervecero *m*, **I** birraio *m*, fabbricante *m/f* di birra, **G** Brauer *m*; a person or company that makes and sells beer

**brew-ery** *n* (*brewer* + *-ery*; 17c); **F** brasserie *f*, **S** cerveceria *f*, fábrica *f* de cerveza, **I** fabbrica *f* di birra, **G** Brauerei *f*; a company that makes beer

**briar**<sup>1</sup>, **brier** *n* (OE *brær*, *brer*; the modern spelling *brier* is parallel to *friar*, *frier*, which developed from Middle English *frere*, about the same time; **briar** is a later variant); **F** églantier *m*, **S** escaramujo *m*, espino *m*, **I** spinéto *m*, rovéto *m*, **G** Dornstrauch *m*; a prickly, thorny bush, a wild rose bush

**briar**<sup>2</sup>, **brier** *n* (1868, from French *bruyère* heath plant, OF *bruyere*, Gallo-Romance *\*brucaria*, from *\*brucus* heather. The sense of a pipe made from this root appeared in English in 1882); **F** bruyère *f*, **S** pipa *f* de brezo, **I** pipa *f* di ràdica, **G** Bruièrepfeife *f*; shrub of the heather family whose root is used in making pipes

**bribe**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OF *bribe*, of unclear origin, MedL *briba* a piece of bread given to a beggar; 15c); **F** paiement *m* illicite, **S** soborno *m*, cohecho *m*, **I** dono *m* per corròmpere, **G** Bestechung *f*; a sum of money you get to help somebody in a dishonest way, *he took bribes from wealthy merchants*

**bribe**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; the present meaning appeared in 1528); **F** corrompre, **S** sobornar, cohechar, **I** corròmpere, **G** bestechen; to give a bribe, *he was bribed to silence*

**brib-ery** *n* (*briber* + *-y*; OF *briberie*; late 14c); **F** corruption *f*, **S** soborno *m*, cohecho *m*, **I** corruzión *f*, **G** Bestechung *f*; the act of taking or giving bribes, *he was suspected of bribery and corruption*

**bric-a-brac** *n* (according to Littré, after the phrase *de bric et de broc*, 'by hook or by crook'; 19c); **F** bric-à-brac *m*, **S** chucherias *f/pl*, curiosidades *f/pl*, **I** cianfrusàglie *f/pl*, **G** Antiquitäten *f/pl*, Nippsachen *f/pl*; ornaments of little value, *bric-a-brac are sold in market stalls*

**brick**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OF *briche* broken piece, fragment; apparently the OF word was derived from the Teutonic verb *brek-an* to break, see also MLG *bricke*, and Middle Dutch *bricke* a tile, brick; 1416 as *bryke*); **F** brique *f*, **S** ladrillo *m*, tabique, **I** mattóni *m/pl*, **G** Ziegel-, Backstein *m*; a block of clay baked to make it hard and used to build houses, *a house of bricks*

**brick**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 17c); **F** briqueteur, garnir de briques, **S** cerrar con ladrillos, **I** rivestire di mattóni, **G** mit Ziegelsteinen belegen oder pflastern; **brick up sth**, *phrasal verb*, to build a wall of bricks around sth, *to brick the walls of a house*

**brick-bat** *n* (*brick* *n* + *bat* *n*; 16c); an insulting remark, *the spectators hurled brickbats at the performers*

**brick-lay-er** *n* (*brick* *n* + *layer* *n*; late 15c); **F** maçon *m*, **S** albañil *m*, **I** muratore *m*, **G** Maurer *m*; a person who builds walls using bricks

**brick-lay-ing** *n* (*brick* + *laying*; late 15c); the job of laying bricks

**brick-work** *n* (*brick* + *work*; late 16c); the bricks that have been used to build something, *the brickwork is in need of repair*

**bridal** *adj* **F** de mariée, **S** nupcial, **I** della spòsa, **G** bräutlich; relating to the bride, *a bridal bouquet*

**bride** *n* (OE *brýd*, ME *brid*, *brude*, Old Icelandic *brúdr*, OS *brūd*, OHG *brut* 'daughter-in-law', ModG *Braut*; unknown outside Teutonic; the MedL *bruta*, OF *bruy*, are also from OHG, and have the same sense of 'daughter-in-law'); **F**

fiancée f, **S** novia f, **I** spòsa f, **G** Braut f; a woman just married, or about to be married

**bride-groom** *n* (OE *bryðguma*, from *bryð* bride + *guma* man, cognate with L *homin-*, OHG *brütigomo*, the spelling *bridegrome* was current in 16c); **F** marié, **S** novio m, **I** spòso m, **G** Bräutigam m; a man on his wedding day, or just after he is married

**brides-maid** *n* a girl or unmarried woman who helps a bride at the wedding

**bridge**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *brycg*, Old Frisian *brigge*, *bregge*, Middle Dutch *brugge*, MLG *brugge*, MHG & ModG *Brücke*); **F** pont m, **S** puente m, **I** pónte m, **G** Brücke f; a structure built over a river, a road, a railway, etc, *a bridge on the river*, *a railway bridge*, *a bridge between two teeth*, also called **bridgework**, *the captain was on the bridge of the ship*, *fig. his work is a bridge between two centuries*, to take a decision, *to cross the bridge*, a card game, *we spent the afternoon playing bridge*

**bridge**<sup>2</sup> *v* (OE *brycgian*, from *brycg* noun; 14c); **F** construire un pont sur, **S** tender un puente sobre, **I** collegàre con un pónte, **G** eine Brücke schlagen über (*acc*), überbrücken; to build a bridge over a river, etc, *the Romans bridged the river down to the valley*, to reduce the differences between two persons or things, *Kathy managed to bridge the gap between herself and her sister*

**bridge-head** *n* **F** tête f de pont, **S** cabeza f de puente, **I** tèsta f di pónte, **G** Brückenkopf m; a strong position that an army has taken in the enemy's territory

**bridging loan** *n* an amount of money lent by a bank for a short period, for example when you buy a new house while selling the old one

**bridle**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *bridgels*, *bridel*, Old Frisian *bridel*, MLG & Middle Dutch *breidel*, OHG & MLG *brittel*, related to *bregdan* move quickly, see **braid**); **F** bride f, frein m, **S** brida f, freno m, **I** briglie f/pl, fréno m, **G** Zaum m, Zaumzeug n; a set of leather bands to control a horse, *to bridle a horse*

**bridle**<sup>2</sup> *v* (OE *bridel* bridge; late 11c); **F** brider, mettre un frein à (*ses passions*), **S** embridar, refrenar, **I** imbrigliàre, méttère il fréno a, **G** (auf)zäumen; to put a bridle on a horse, *fig. to put a bridle on one's ambitions*

**bridle path** *n* a rough path suitable for people riding horses or walking

**brief**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *bref*, from OF *bref*, L *breve* a letter, a dispatch, neuter of *brevis* short, Gr *βραχύς*; from Latin the word entered at an early stage all the Teutonic languages, see ModG *Brief* - but to English it came via French, and remained as an official or legal word); **F** dossier m, **S** escrito m, **I** compendio m, riassunto m, **G** Schriftsatz m; a set of instruction or information, *he was given a strict brief to reorganize the library*

**brief**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 19c); **F** fournir des directives à (*qn*), **S** dar órdenes a, dar instrucciones a, **I** riassumere, dare istruzioni a, **G** instruieren; *formal*, to give someone instruction or information, *the speaker briefed the press about the recent developments*

**brief**<sup>3</sup> *adj* (see the noun; early 14c); **F** court/e, sommaire, **S** breve, corto/a, **I** brève, conciso/a, **G** kurz, lasting a short time or containing few words, *a brief visit*, *a brief conversation*

**brief-case** *n* **F** serviette f, porte-documents m/inv, **S** cartera f para documentos, **I** cartèlla f, bórsa f (*da avvocato*), **G** Aktentasche f; a light case for carrying papers

**briefing** *n* (*brief* verb + *-ing*; 19c); **F** instructions f/pl, directives f/pl, **S** órdenes f/pl, instrucciones f/pl, **I** istruzioni f/pl, **G** Instruktion f, Einweisung f; a set of instructions or informations that are given at a meeting, *a full briefing for the press will take place at eleven a.m.*

**brief-ly** *adv* **F** brièvement, en bref, **S** brevemente, en pocas palabras, **I** brevemente, in pòche paròle, **G** kurz, in Kürze; for

a short time, *we stopped off briefly in Rome during our journey to Sicily*, in a few words, *he spoke briefly to inform us of the news*

**briefs** *n pl*, a piece of short tight underwear worn by men and women

**brier**, see **briar**

**brig** *n* (*abbreviation* of **brigantine**, early 18c; the sense of a place of detention, 1852, is of unclear origin, probably because the brigs were used as prison ships); **F** brigantin m, prison f (*à bord d'un navire*), **S** bergantin m, calabozo m, **I** brigantino m, prigióne f (*di una nave*); **G** Brigg f, Bau m; a ship with two masts and square sails, *AmE* a prison, especially on a ship

**Brig**, *n abbreviation* of **Brigadier** (in writing)

**brigade** *n* (**F** *brigade*, *It* *brigata* company, crew, from *brigare* to fight, wrangle, *LL* *briga* strife, contention; 17c); **F** brigade f, **S** brigada f, **I** brigata f, **G** Brigade f; a group of soldiers that forms a unit and consists of two or more battalions, *an artillery brigade*, *informal* a group of people who share the same opinions or have something in common, *the anti-smoking brigade*, see also **the fire brigade**

**brigadier** *n* (after French *brigadier*; late 17c); in the British army an officer whose rank is above that of a colonel and below that of the major-general, and who is in charge of a brigade

**brigadier general** *n* an officer of high rank in the US army

**brig-and** *n literary* (OF *brigand*, *It* *brigante* a trooper, skirmisher, from *brigare*, see **brigue** and **brigade**; in *MedL* in 14thc it occurs in the form *brigantii*, *brigantes*; **Brigantes** were a people in the north of England in Roman times); **F** brigand m, bandit m, **S** bandido m, bandolero m, **I** bandito m, **G** Bandit m, (Straßen)Räuber m; a robber, especially one of a group, that attacks people in the roads and forests, a bandit

**bright** *adj* (OHG *beraht*, *bereht*, MHG *berht*, ON *bjartr*; early 14c as *bright*); **F** brillant/e, éclatant/e, **S** claro/a, luminoso/a, **I** chiàro/a, luminoso/a, **G** hell, leuchtend; full of light, shining, *bright colours*, intelligent, successful, *bright ideas*

**bright-en** (*bright* + *-en*; late 16c); *v* **F** faire briller, s'éclaircir, **S** abrillantar, animarse, **I** far brillàre, illuminàrsi, **G** hell(er) machen, sich aufhellen; to become or make sth brighter in colour, *to brighten the hair*, said of the weather, *the sky was brightening after the rain*, to become more cheerful, *her eyes brightened*

**bright-eyed** *adj* said of a person, full of enthusiasm

**brill** *adj BrE informal* very good

**bril-iant** *adj* (**F** *brillant* shining, *It* *brillare* to glitter, apparently from *berillo* beryl, *L* *beryllus*, Gr *βήρυλλος* a beryl; late 17c); **F** brillant/e, éclatant/e, **S** brillante, genial, **I** brillante, geniale, **G** leuchtend, brillant; very clever, *a brilliant idea*, *a brilliant performance*, successful, *a brilliant career*

**bril-liance** *n* (*brilliant* + *-ance*; 18c); the condition of being brilliant, *the brilliance of a diamond*; **brilliantly** *adv* in a brilliant way, *he brilliantly won the competition*

**bril-lian-tine** *n* **F** brillantine f, **S** brillantina f, **I** brillantina f, **G** Brillantine f; an oil used in the past to make men's hair smooth

**brim**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *brim*, *brimme* edge of the sea; of uncertain etymology, but cf ON *barmr* brim, MHG *brem* edge, German *Berme*, Dutch *berm*, late 11c as *brimme*); **F** bord, **S** borde m, **I** órlo m, bórdó m, **G** Rand m; the top edge of a cup, glass, basin, etc, *a glass filled to the brim with red Italian wine*, *the brim of the hat*

**brim**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 17c); **F** être plein jusqu'au bord, **S** desbordarse, **I** riempire fino all'orlo, essere piéno fino all'órlo, **G** voll sein (*von*); to be full with sth, *the eyes of*

*Lucia brimmed with tears, the glass brimmed over onto the table*

**brim-ful** *adj* (*brim* + *-full*; early 16c); **F** plein/e jusqu'au bord, **S** lleno/a hasta el borde, rebosante de, **I** cólmo/a, trabocante, **G** rand-, überfull; full to the brim, completely full of sth, *brimful of energy*

**brim-stone** *n* (AS *brynstán*, ME *brimstone* burning stone, stems of *burn* verb + *stone* n); **F** soufre m, **S** azufre m, **I** zólfo m, **G** Schwefel m; the common name for sulphur

**brin-dle** *adj* also **brindled** (ME *brended*, *brend* brown colour, a horse of this colour; **brindle** is a variant of earlier **brinded**, probably by assimilation to such words as **kindled**, **mingled**; 15c as *brinded*); **F** moucheté/e, tacheté/e, **S** manchado/a, mosqueado/a, **I** grigio m pezzato/a, **G** gestreift, scheckig; said of animals, with the fur brown or grey mixed with other colours

**brine** *n* (OE *brýne*, *brīne*, Middle Dutch *brīne*, Dutch *brijn*; origin unknown); **F** saumure f, **S** salmuera f, **I** salamòia f, **G** Sole f, (Salz)Lake f; water with salt in it, particularly in order to preserve food, *olives in brine*, sea water; **the briny**, *literary* the sea; **briny** *adj* said of water strongly impregnated with salt, like sea water

**bring** *v* **brought**, **brought** (OE *bringan*, Old Frisian *bringa* to bring, OHG *bringan*); **F** amener, apporter, **S** traer, conducir, **I** portàre, **G** bringen; to bring or take sth or someone towards a place, *I brought my girlfriend to the party*, to cause a situation, *the end of the story brought me unhappiness*, law *the police will bring charges against him*

**bring-and-buy sale** *n* a sale where people bring things they want to sell, and buy things brought by other people

**brink** *n* (ME *brink* seashore, bank of a stream, from a Scandinavian source, cp Danish *brink* edge, MLG *brink* edge of a field, Middle Dutch *brink*); **F** bord m, **S** borde m, **I** órlo m, màrgine m, **G** Rand m; the edge or margin of a steep place, *the brink of the precipice*, *the brink of a ditch*, the edge of the land bordering a river, a lake, the sea, fig. *the brink of anarchy*, *the brink of war*

**brink-man-ship** *n* (1950s); **F** politique f du risque calculé, **S** política del borde del abismo, **I** política f del rischio calcolato, **G** Politik des äußersten Risikos; in politics, the activity of going to the very brink of war, in order to frighten people forcing them to make concessions

**brío** *n lit* (Italian, *liveliness*, *vigour*; 18c); enthusiasm, confidence, see the musical phrase *con brío*

**brì-quette**, **briquet** *n* (**F** *briquette*, diminutive of *brique* brick; late 19c); **F** briquette f, **S** briqueta f, **I** bricchétta f, bricchétto m, **G** Brikett n; a small block of coal dust pressed together and used as fuel, for example in barbecues

**brisk** *adj* (origin uncertain, apparently from French *brusque*, as from Cotgrave, see also **brusque**; late 16c); **F** vif/ve, actif/ve, **S** enérgico/a, vigoroso/a, **I** enèrgico/a, vigoroso/a, **G** lebhaft, energisch; quick, *a brisk movement*, active, confident, *the brisk voice of Katherine*

**bris-ket** *n* (OF *bruschet*, *brischet*, MF *bruchet*, *brichet*, but see Old Icelandic *brjōsk* gristle, related to *brjōst* breast; 14c as *brusket*); **F** poitrine f, avant cœur (de bœuf), **S** carne f de pecho, **I** pùnta f di pètto, **G** Brust(Stück) n; meat that comes from the chest of a cow

**bris-tle**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *byrst*, ON *burst*, ME *burstel*, brostle, Middle Dutch *borstel*, OHG *burst* bristle; 14c); **F** soie f (de porc), **S** cerda f, **I** sétola f, **G** Borste f; short stiff hairs that grow on the back of a hog and are used by brushmakers, shoemakers, etc

**bris-tle**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 15c); **F** se hérisser, **S** erizarse, **I** rizzàrsi, **G** sich sträuben; to become suddenly annoyed at what somebody says or does, *to bristle with rage*, (of an animal's fur or of hair) to stand up, *the dog's fur bristled*

**brist-ly** *adj* full of bristles, *bristly hair*

**Brit** *informal* someone from Britain

**Brit-ain** *n* the island containing England, Scotland and Wales

**Brit-an-nia** *n* (Latin, poetic name for Great Britain); Great Britain as personified in a figure of woman wearing a helmet and carrying a trident

**Brit-an-nic** *adj* *old fashioned* used mainly in titles relating to Britain or the British Empire, *her Britannic Majesty*

**Briti-cism** *n*, also **Brit-ish-ism**, (19c); a word or expression typical of English as spoken in Britain; cp **Americanism**

**Brit-ish** *adj* (OE *Brettish*, from *Bret*, *Brett-as*, *Bryttas*, the natives of ancient Britain; general use in current sense, late 14c); **F** britannique, **S** inglés, británico/a, **I** britànnico/a, **G** britisch; belonging to Great Britain or its inhabitants

**British English** *n* the English language as spoken in Great Britain

**Brit-ish-er** *n* *old fashioned* someone from Britain

**Briton** *n* (ME *Breton*, **F** *Breton*, **L** *Britto*, *Britt-ōnem*; the word acquired its current sense after the union of England and Scotland, 1707); **F** Britannique m/f, **S** inglés/esa, **I** inglese m/f, *hist* britanno, **G** Brite m, Britin f, *rhetorical*, a native of Great Britain, used mainly in newspapers, *three Britons were questioned by police*, **North Briton** a Scotsman

**Brit-pop** *n* a type of pop music played by British groups in the 1990s, influenced especially by the Beatles

**brit-tle** *adj* (ME *britul*, *britil*, *bretil*, OE *bryttian*, *brēotan* to brake, tear to pieces, shatter); **F** fragile, **S** frágil, **I** frágile, **G** zerbrechlich; hard but easily broken, *brittle bones*, unkind, *brittle laugh*, i.e. a laugh that does not show real humour

**bro** *n pl* **bro**s *informal* brother

**broach**<sup>1</sup> *vt* (ME *broche*, **F** *broche* pointed tool, **It** *brocca*, **RomL** *\*brocca* spike, pointed instrument, *feminine* of **L** *brocchus* projecting, prominent, said of a person, having prominent teeth; the same word as **brooch**; the verb use, in the sense of begin to talk about, appears in 1579); **F** aborder (une question), **S** abordar, comenzar a hablar de, **I** toccàre un argomento, **G** anschneiden; to mention a subject that may be embarrassing, *he broached the subject of John's debts*

**broach**<sup>2</sup> *n* see **brooch**

**B-road** *n* in Britain a road less important than an A-road, and that joins villages and small towns

**broad** *adj* (OE *brād*, ME *brod*, Swedish & Danish *bred*, OHG, MHG & ModG *breit*); **F** large, **S** extenso/a, amplio/a, **I** àmpio/a, làrgo/a, **G** breit, umfassend; wide, *a broad avenue*, *a broad street*, fig. *a man of broad views*, said of the accent, *a broad Scottish accent*

**broad-based** *adj* based on a large variety of people or ideas, *a broad-based programme*

**broad bean** *n* **F** fève f, **S** haba f, **I** fàva f, **G** Saubohne f; a large green bean

**broad-brush** *adj* incomplete, lacking details, *a broad-brush strategy*

**broad-cast** *adj/adv/n* (*broad* adv + *cast* past part.; late 18c); scattered abroad

**broad-cast** *v* (*broad* adv + *cast* verb; early 19c); to transmit a radio or TV programme, *to broadcast live from Beirut*

**broad-cast-er** *n* (*broadcast* verb + *-er*; early 20c); **F** reporter radiophonique, **S** cronista m/f de radio, locator/ora, **I** giornalista m/f televisivo o radiofònico/a, **G** Rundfunk-, Fernsehprecher/in; someone who speaks on radio and TV programmes, *a well-known broadcaster*

**broad-cast-ing** *vbl n* (*broadcast* verb + *-ing*, early 20c); *n* **F** radiodiffusion f, television f, **S** radiodifusión, **I** radiodifusión f, teletrasmisión f, **G** Fernsehübertragung f, Rundfunk m; the business of transmitting radio and TV programmes, *the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)*

**broad-en** *v* (from past part. *broadened*; early 18c); **F** élargir, **S** ensanchar, **I** allargàrsi, ampliàre, **G** (sich) verbreitern; to become wider or to make sth wider, *the street broadens down to the valley*, fig. *to broaden the scientific knowledge*

**the broad jump** *n* *AmE* for **the long jump**

**broad-leaved, broad-leaf** *adj* **F** à larges feuilles, **S** de hoja ancha, **I** a fòglie làrghhe, **G** mit weit Blatt; said of plants having broad leaves

**broadly** *adv* (*broad* *adj* + *-ly*; late 16c); **F** largement, **S** extensamente, **I** ampiamènte, **G** weitgehend; in general, *broadly speaking*, without considering details, *broadly similar*

**broad-minded** *adj* **F** large d'esprit, **S** de amplias miras, **I** di àmpie vedùte, **G** großzügig, tolerant; having an inclination towards listening to other people, tolerant, *a broad-minded man*; **broadmindedness** *n*

**broadness** *n* (*broadly* *adv* + *-ness*; late 14c); **F** largeur *f*, **S** extensión *f*, **I** larghèzza *f*, **G** Weite *f*; the quality of being broad

**broad-sheet** *n* *BrE* a newspaper that is printed on large paper, *broadsheets and tabloids*

**broad-side**<sup>1</sup> *n* (*literally* 'the broad side' of a ship; 16c); **F** (tirer une) bordée *f*, **S** (soltar una) andanada *f* verbal, **I** bordàta *f*, **G** Breitseite *f*, massive Attacke *f*; a fierce attack in words against somebody, *the chairman fired a broadside at his critics*, the firing of all the guns on one side of a warship at the same time

**broad-side**<sup>2</sup> *adv* (19c); **F** par le travers, **S** de costado, **I** di traverso, **G** seitlich; with the side facing towards sth, *the ship hit the pier broadside*

**broad-side**<sup>3</sup> *v* *AmE* (early 20c); to crash into the side of sth, *the truck broadsided our car*

**broad-sword** *n* (*broad* + *sword*; 1000); a large sword with a broad blade

**brocade** *n* (*Sp* *brocado*, *It* *broccato* embossed cloth, from *brocco* small nails, protruding tooth, *L* *broccus* having projecting teeth, see **broach**; 16c); **F** brocard *m*, **S** brocado *m*, **I** broccàto *m*, **G** Brokat *m*; a thick heavy fabric with a pattern woven from gold or silver silk

**broccoli** *n* (*It* *broccoli*, plural of *broccolo* cabbage-sprout, diminutive of *brocco* stalk, see **broach**; late 17c); **F** brocoli *m*, **S** brécol *m*, bròculi *m*, **I** bròccolo/i *m*, **G** Spargelkohl *m*, Brokkoli *pl*; a variety of the cauliflower, one of the cultivated forms of the cabbage

**brochure** *n* (*French*, a stitched work, from *brocher* to stitch; 19c); **F** brochure *f*, dépliant *m*, **S** folleto *m*, **I** opùscolo *m*, fascicolo *m*, **G** Broschüre *f*; a short printed work of a few leaves, merely stitched together

**brogue**<sup>1</sup> *n* (of unclear origin, probably a special use of **brogue**, see next, a shoe worn in rural Ireland and Scotland, in the sense of 'speech peculiar to those who wear brogues'; 16c); **F** accent *m* irlandais, **S** acento *m* irlandés, **I** accènto *m* irlandése, **G** irischer Akzent; a strongly marked accent, peculiar to Irish and Scottish speakers

**brogues**<sup>2</sup> *n/pl* (early 16c); **F** chaussure *f* de marche ou de golf, **S** abarca *f*, **I** scàrpa *f* sportiva da uòmo, **G** derber Straßenschuh; a strong leather shoe with a pattern of small holes in the leather, formerly worn in rural Ireland and Scotland

**broil** *v* *AmE* for **grill** cook (*ME* *brulen*, *broillen*, from *OF* *bruller*, *brusler*, *Latin* *ustulāre* to scorch, from *urēre* to burn, by influence of Germanic *-br*, as in *OHG* *brant*; late 14c); **F** cuir sur le gril, griller, **S** asar a la parrilla, **I** cuocere alla griglia, **G** braten; to cook meat or fish on fire, on a grill, cp **barbecue**, *broiled chicken*, fig. *to become very hot*, *we broiled in the sun*

**broil-er** *n* *AmE* (*broil* verb + *-er*; 17c); **F** poulet *m* de chair (à rôtir), grill, rôtissoire *m*, **S** pollo *m* para asar, parrilla *f*, grill *m*, **I** póllo *m* da cuòcersi alla griglia, graticola *f*, griglia, **G** Brathühnchen *n*, Bratrost *m*, Grill *m*; a small chicken suitable for broiling, a grill

**broke** *adj* *informal* (*OE* *broc* misery, from *brecan* to break; early 18c); **F** fauché/e, à sec, **S** no tener un céntimo, **I** senza un sòldo, al vèrde, **G** bankrott, ruiniert; *to be broke*, to have no money, *my father's business went broke* (lost all the money and had to stop doing business), *I am broke*, I have no money

**broken** *adj* *past part.* (see **break** verb; 737); **F** cassé/e, brisé/e, irregulier/ère, **S** accidentado/a, quebrado/a, **I** frantumàto/a, spezzàto/a, **G** zerbrochen, gebrochen, uneben; damaged, *broken glass*, fig. *a broken promise*, interrupted, *broken sleep*, said of a language that is spoken by a foreigner not fluently and with mistakes, *he speaks in broken English*, said of ground that has a rough surface, *broken ground*

**broken-down** *adj* a vehicle that is in very bad conditions, *a broken-down car*

**broken hearted** *adj* extremely sad, *he was broken hearted when his girlfriend left him*

**broken home** *n* a home where the parents are separated

**broken-ly** *adv*

**broker**<sup>1</sup> *n* (*ME* *brokour* commercial agent, *AF* *abrokur*, *brocour* retailer of wine, *OF* *brocheor*, from *broche* pointed tool, see **broach**; see *AL* *brocarius* 'interpres et consiliarius contractuum'; 14c); **F** courtier/ère, agent de change, **S** agente *m* de negocios, **I** mediatóre *m*, agènte *m* di càmbio, **G** (Handels)Makler, Broker *m*; a person who buys and sells shares in companies for other people, see **stockbroker** and **insurance broker**

**broker**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 17c); to arrange a plan, *the deal was brokered by our business adviser*

**broker-age** *n* (*broker* + *-age*; 15c); **F** courtage *m*, **S** corretaje *m*, **I** intermediazióne *f*, brokeraggio *m*, **G** Maklergebühr *f*, Maklergeschäft *n*; the business of being a broker, the amount of money charged by a broker for his work, *the brokerage will cost the 7%*

**broly** *n* clipped and altered form of **umbrella**

**bromide** *n* (*brom-* *ine* + *-ide*, see the parallel form *chlorine/chloride*; 19c); **F** bromure *m*, **S** bromuro *m*, **I** bromùro *m*, **G** Bromid *n*; *chem* a compound of bromine with an element or organic radical, a drug used to calm

**bronchial** *adj* (*ModL* *bronchiālis*, from *bronchia* + *-al*, *LL* *bronchium*; 18c); **F** bronchique, **S** bronquial, **I** bronchiāle, **G** Bronchial; affecting the bronchial tubes, *bronchial infection*

**bronchitis** *n* (*LL* *bronchia* + *-itis* inflammation; early 19c); **F** bronchite *f*, **S** bronquitis *f*, **I** bronchite *f*, **G** Bronchitis *f*; an illness that affects the bronchial tubes, *chronic bronchitis*

**bronco** *n* *pl-os*; an untamed horse on the Mexican frontier of the US, especially in a rodeo

**bron-to-saurus** *n* (*ModL*, from Greek *βροντή* thunder + *-o* + *σαύρα* lizard; 19c); **F** brontosauure *m*, **S** brontosauro *m*, **I** brontosàuro *m*, **G** Brontosaurus *m*; an extinct genus of dinosaurian reptiles existing during the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods

**Bronx cheer** *slang* *AmE* a rude sound made sticking out the tongue out and blowing

**bronze** *n* (*F* *bronze*, *It* *bronzo* brass, apparently from *LL* *brunitius* brownish, *MedL* *brundum*; the word **bronze** was introduced for the material of ancient works of art; early 18c); **F** bronze *m*, **S** bronce *m*, **I** brónzo, **G** Bronze *f*; a brown-coloured alloy of copper and tin

**the Bronze age** *n* the period between the Stone Age and the Iron Age

**bronzed** *adj past part.* (early 19c); **F** bronzé/e, halé/e, **S** bronceado/a, **I** abbronzato/a, **G** bronziert/e; said of a person whose skin has been turned brown by the sun, tanned

**bronze medal** *n* **F** médaille en bronze, **S** medallero/a de bronce, **I** medaglia di bronzó, **G** Bronzemedaille f; a metal given as third prize in a competition, after the golden medal and silver medal

**brooch** *n* (the same word as **broach**, the differentiation of spelling being only recent; 13c); **F** broche f, **S** alfiler m (de pecho), prendedor m, **I** fermaglio m, spilla f, **G** Brosche f; a piece of jewellery with a pin on the back, to be fastened to your clothes

**brood**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *brōd*, cognate with Middle Dutch *broet*, OHG & MHG *bruot* heath, warmth, hatching; 14c); **F** couvée f, volée f, **S** camada f, nidada f, **I** covàta f, nidiàta f, **G** Brut f; progeny, offspring, *the hen and her brood*

**brood**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 15c); **F** couver, ruminer (une idée), **S** empollar, fig. meditar tristemente, **I** covàre, fig. rimuginàre (sth), **G** brüten, brüten (über); sit in to hatch, *the pidgeon was brooding in her nest*, to think about things that make you worried, *he spent the weekend brooding about his financial problems*

**brood-ing** *adj literary* thinking anxiously about sth, *John's brooding silence*,

**brood mare** *n* a mare kept for brooding

**broody** *adj* said of a hen that is ready to lay eggs and sit on them, *the hen is broody*, thinking unhappy thoughts, *John feels broody about his family problems*

**brook**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *brōc*, ME *brok*, Middle & Modern Dutch broek, LG *brōk* marsh, OHG *bruoh*, MHG *bruoch* marshy ground, from Proto-Germanic); **F** ruisseau m, **S** arroyo m, **I** ruscellò m, **G** Bach m, Strom m; a small stream, a rivulet

**brook**<sup>2</sup> *v* (OE *bruccan*, OS *brūkan* to use, ModG *brauchen*; early 16c); *formal* **F** (ne pas) souffrir, **S** aguantar, permitir, **I** (non) sopportàre, (non) tolleràre, **G** erdulden; to not allow sth, *he brooks no delay*

**broom** *n* (OE *brōm*, ME *brom*, cognate with OHG *brāmo*, *brāma* bramble, Middle Dutch *brāme*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** genêt (à balai), balai m, **S** escoba f, pichana f, **I** scòpa f, ramàzza f, **G** Besen m; a brush at the end of a long handle, used for sweeping floors, a wild bush with small yellow flowers found on sandy banks and heaths in Britain

**broom cupboard** *n* a cupboard used for keeping cleaning equipment

**broom-stick** *n* (*broom + stick*; late 17c); **F** manche m à balai, **S** palo m de escoba, **I** mànico m di scòpa, **G** Besenstiel m; a broom with a long handle and thin stick, that witches fly on in stories

**Bros** *abbr* for **Brothers**, *Warner Bros*

**broth** *n* (OE *broþ*, OHG *brod* broth, Old Icelandic *brodh*; the MedL *brodum*, *brodium*, is a borrowing from the OHG *brod*, and is the origin of OF *breu*, It *brodo* & other Romance languages); **F** bouillon m, potage m, **S** caldo m, **I** bròdo m, **G** Suppe f; a food made with boiled meat, cereals, vegetables

**brothel** *n* (OE *brothen*, past participle of *brēoþan* go to ruin, ME *brothen* ruined, degenerate; the modern sense arises from confusion between *bordel*, *bordel house*, a place, and *brothel*, a prostitute; late 16c); **F** maison f de prostitution, **S** prostíbulo m, casa f de putas, **I** bordèllo m, càsa f di prostituzione, **G** Bordell n; premises where men pay the service of prostitutes

**brother** *n* (OE *brōthor*, OS *brōthar*, OHG *bruoder*, Middle Dutch *broer*, from Germanic and Indo-European; see Greek *φράτηρ* clansman, L *frater*; the plural *brethren* appeared in Middle English, and was replaced in the 17thc by *brothers*, then acquiring the specialized sense of fellow member of a religion); **F** frère m, **S** hermano m, **I** fratèllo m, **G** Bruder m;

two or more people with the same natural parents, *brothers and sisters*, see **half-brother**, **brother-in-law**, **stepbrother**  
**brother-hood** *n* (about 1300); **F** fraternité f, **S** fraternidad f, **I** fratellànza f, fraternità f, **G** Bruderschaft f, Brüderlichkeit f; the relationship of brothers, *the ties of brotherhood*, fig. *to live in peace and brotherhood*

**brother-in-law** *n* (late 13c); **F** beau-frère m, **S** cuñado m, **I** cognàto m, **G** Schwager m; the brother of your husband or wife

**brother-ly** *adj* relating to brothers, *brotherly love*

**brougham** *n* (after Lord Brougham; 19c); a one horse carriage, with two or four wheels, for two or four persons

**brought** *v past part.* of **bring**

**brow** *n* (OE *brū*, ME *browes*, *brues* forehead, referring to eyelid and eyebrows, and *brew*, *breowen*, cognate with OS *brāwa*, *brāha*, OHG *brāwa* eyebrow); **F** front m, **S** delantero m, frente m, **I** frònte f, **G** (Augen)Braue f, Stirn f; the forehead, *to wrinkle the brow*, the top part of a hill, *the brow of the hill*

**brow-beat** *vt* (*brow + beat*; late 16c); **F** intimider, **S** intimidar (con amenazas), **I** intimidire, **G** tyrannisieren; to intimidate, to make someone do something in a threatening way, *a boss that browbeats workmen into working hard*

**brown**<sup>1</sup> *adj/n* (OE *brūn*, ME *broun*, OHG *brūn*, Swedish & Danish *brun*, from Proto-Germanic; adopted in MedL as *brunus*); **F** brun/e, **S** moreno/a, marrón, **I** brùno/a, marróne, **G** braun; of a colour like the one of wood or coffee, *Peter's brown, lively eyes*

**brown**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the adj; late 12c); **F** brunir, bronzer, **S** poner moreno, broncear, **I** imbrunire, diventàr brùno/a, **G** bräunen, brünieren; to become brown, to make sth brown, *face browned by the sun*

**brown ale** *n* *BrE* a type of dark beer

**brown-field** *n* an area of land in a city that was used by industry and now can be used for a new development

**brownie** a cake made with chocolate and nuts

**brownie point** *n* to earn brownie points, one must do it to make people in authority have a good opinion of them

**brow-nish** *adj* fairly brown in colour

**brown-nose** *v* to behave in a servile way in order to flatter people

**brown-stone** *n* *AmE* a house with the front built in brown reddish sandstone, common in New York

**brown sugar** *n* a type of sugar that is brown in colour

**browse**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OF *broster* to sprout, MF *brouster*, Germanic *\*broustjan*; early 16c); **F** feuilleter des livres, brouter, **S** pacer, curiosear, **I** dàre un'occhiàta, pàscere, **G** grasen, blättern; to look for information in a computer, *to browse the web*, to look through the pages of a book, magazine, etc, *I am browsing the headlines of the newspapers*, said of cows etc, to eat the leaves that are growing high up, *the cow was browsing the leaves in the field*

**browse**<sup>2</sup> *n* (OF *brost*, F *broust*; 16c); a quick look at sth, without any particular purpose, *a quick browse at the pages of the magazine*

**browser** *n* a person who looks through books, magazines etc, for sale, but does not seriously intend to buy, a computer programme that helps search internet

**bruise**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OE *brysan* to crush, *bruise*, ME *brisen*, *bruse*, bruise, from the 16thc fusing with Anglo-French *bruiser*, OF *bruissier*; the French form was established in 17thc); **F** meurtrir, contusionner, **S** contundir, magullar, **I** far venire un livido m, **G** quetschen; to develop a bruise, to injure, *he bruised his arm*

**bruise**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; 16c); **F** meurtrissure f, contusion f, **S** contusión f, magulladura f, **I** livido m, contusióne f, **G**

Quetschung f; an injury or mark of the skin, *a bruise in his leg*

**bruiser** *n informal* a big, strong, rough man

**bruising** *adj/vbl n* (from bruise verb; late 14c); unpleasant, *a bruising experience*

**Brum·mie** *n* a person from Birmingham; *adj a Brummie accent*

**brunch** *n slang* (*br(eakfast) + (l)unch*; coined by Guy Beringer in 1895); a meal that you eat in the late morning, and is combined of **breakfast** and **lunch**

**bru·nette** *n* (F *brunette*, feminine of *brunet*, diminutive of *brun* brown, see **brown**; early 18c); **F** brunette f, **S** morena f, **I** brunetta f, **G** Brünette f; a girl of a dark complexion and with brown hair

**brunt** *n* (ME *brunt* a sharp blow, a sudden attack, of unknown origin, but apparently from a Scandinavian source, cp ON *bruna* to advance in battle with the speed of fire; late 14c); **F** choc m, **S** la mayor parte, **I** ürto m, attacco m, **G** Hauptstoß m; the main force of a blow or of an attack, *to bear the brunt of the attack, of the criticism, etc*

**brush**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *brusche*, OF *broisse*, *broce* brushwood, MedL *\*bruscia*, from L *bruscum* a knot or excrescence on the maple tree, cf MHG *bürste* brush; 14c); **F** brosse f, balai m, **S** escoba f, **I** spazzola f, **G** Bürste f; a tool for cleaning made of bristles, nylon, etc, usually attached to a wooden or plastic handle, *fig. to give a brush to one's teeth*, an occasion when you experience sth unpleasant, *a brush with one's boss, a brush with the law*, a light touch, *his gentle brush to her lips*

**brush**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 15c); **F** brosser, balayer, **S** cepillar, limpiar, **I** spazzolare, **G** bürsten; to clean sth with a brush, *to brush one's hair, to brush the dust*, to touch somebody lightly while passing, *he just brushed her in the corridor*

**brush**<sup>3</sup> *n* *AmE* also **brushwood** (OF *broce*, see Gallo-Romance *\*brocia*, *\*brūcius* heather; 16c); **F** broussailles f/pl, **S** broza f, **I** boscaglia f, **G** Unterholz n; land covered by small trees or shrubs

**brush-off** *n* rude and unfriendly behaviour, **give someone the brush-off**, to refuse to talk to someone, *she gave him the brush-off*

**brush-wood** *n* dead branches from trees and bushes, small bushes on rough land

**brush-work** *n* work done with a brush, a particular work done by an artist using a brush

**brusque** *adj* (F *brusque*, It *brusco*, ulterior history being uncertain, but see LL *bruscum*, variant of *ruscum*, a shrub whose stem-branches end in a sharp spine; cf also **brisk**); **F** brusque, rude, **S** brusco/a, áspero/a, **I** brusco/a, áspro/a, **G** brüsk; abrupt, *brusque movement*, speaking quickly and unfriendly, *a brusque answer*, behaving unfriendly, *brusque manners*

**Brus·sels sprout** *n* an edible plant related to the cabbage, first grown near Brussels

**bru·tal** *adj* (MF *brutal*, MedL *brutālis*; 15c); **F** brutal, **S** brutal, **I** brutale, **G** brutal, roh; violent, cruel, *a brutal attack*, sincere and honest, *brutal frankness*

**brutality** *n*

**brutalize** *v* (*brutal + -ize*; early 18c); **F** brutaliser, rendre brutal, **S** brutalizar, **I** trattare in mòdo brutale, brutalizzare, **G** zum Tier machen, verrohen lassen; to treat sb in a cruel way, *he was brutalized by police*

**brute**<sup>1</sup> *adj* (MF *brute*, L *brūtus* stupid; early 15c); **F** brute, **S** brutal, bruto/a, **I** brutale, **G** tierisch, viehisch; rough and violent, *brute force, brute violence*

**brute**<sup>2</sup> *n* (see adj; early 17c); **F** brute, **S** bruto m, **I** bruto, **G** Tier n, Vieh n; a rough and violent man, *that man is a brute*, a large strong animal, *your dog is a brute*

**bru·tish** *adj* **F** bestial, **S** bruto/a, **I** brutale, animalésco/a, **G** tierisch; rough, unpleasant, *life is brutish*

**BS** *AmE* **B.S.** abbreviation for **Bachelor of Surgery**; **British Standard**, as used on labels, showing a number given by the British Standard Institution which controls the quality of products

**BSc** *n abbr for Bachelor of Science*

**BSE** *n abbr for 'bovine spongiform encephalopathy'*, also known as **mad cow disease**

**BSI** *n abbr for 'British standard Institution'*

**BST** *n abbr for 'British Summer Time'*

**BTEC** *n abbr for 'Business and Technology Education Council'*, *a BTEC diploma*

**btw** *abbr for 'by the way'*, used in writing

**bub·ble**<sup>1</sup> *n* (origin unclear, cf Swedish *bubla*, Danish *boble*, LG *bobbelen*, Middle Dutch *bobbel*, apparently imitative words; 14c as *bobel*); **F** bulle f, bouillon m, **S** burbuja f, ampolla f, **I** bólla f, **G** Blase f; a ball of air or gas in a liquid, *champagne bubbles, soap bubbles*

**bub·ble**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun, or derived from Middle German *bubbeln*); **F** bouillonner, **S** burbujear, **I** formàre bólle, **G** sprudeln, brodeln; to form bubbles, to rise in bubbles (as gas through liquid, etc), *the champagne was bubbling*

**bubble and squeak** *n* a British food made with cooked potatoes and cabbage, that are mixed together and fried

**bubble bath** *n* a special liquid soap that you put in a bath to make bubbles

**bubble·gum** *n* chewing gum that you can blow into the shape of a bubble

**bubble·jet printer** *n* a type of printer in which the ink is directed electronically onto the paper

**bubbly** *adj informal* said of a woman or girl, full of energy and enthusiasm

**bu·bon·ic plague** *n* (LL *bub-ōnem*, L *bubo-ōnis*, Gr βουβών groin + *plague*; *bubo* was borrowed from Latin late in the 14c, but the adjective appeared in the 19c); **F** peste bubonique, **S** peste f bubónica, **I** pèste f bubbònica, **G** Beulenpest f; a disease spread by rats, that causes the swelling of the lymph glands; in the Middle Ages it used to kill a lot of people; also called **Black Death**

**buc·can·eer**<sup>1</sup> *n* (F *boucanier*, one who dries and smokes meat, especially in the Caribbean area, in a *boucan* or *buccan*, a wooden framework on which meat was roasted or smoked over a fire, the Haitian name being *barbacóa*; early 17c); **F** boucanier m, filibustier m, **S** bucanero m, **I** bucanière m, filibustière m, **G** Seeräuber m, Freibeuter m; a pirate of the Caribbean, especially during the 17c, *fig. someone who is determined to be successful in business or politics, having recourse to unscrupulous means*

**buc·can·eer**<sup>2</sup> *v* (see *buccaneering*; late 18c); **F** faire le boucanier, **S** piratear, **I** pirateggiare, **G** Seeräuberei f betreiben; to act unscrupulously or boldly, like a buccaneer

**buc·can·eer·ing** *adj/vbl n* living or acting as a buccaneer

**buck**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *buc*, *bucca* male deer, he-goat, ME *bocke*, Middle Dutch *bok*, OHG *bocch*, MHG *boc*, all meaning primarily *he-goat*; the word could be of Teutonic origin and, ultimately from Indo-European, but could also be an early adoption from L *ibex-icis* wild goat); **F** daim m, chevreuil m (mâle), **S** cabrón m, macho cabrio, gamo m, **I** mäschio (dei cèrvidi), càpro m, **G** Bock m; a male deer, hare or rabbit, *informal US or Australian dollar*

**buck**<sup>2</sup> *v* (said of a horse) to jump, to kick its back legs, to move up and down suddenly, *the boat bucked suddenly*, to resist or oppose something, *to buck the trend of economic recession*

**bucket**<sup>1</sup> *n* (etym. uncertain, but see AF *buket*, ME *buc*, *buk*, *buket* belly, body, from OE *būc* vessel, cognate with OHG

*būh* belly; 13c as *buket*); **F** seau m, **S** cubo m, **I** sécchio m, sécchia f, **G** Eimer m, Kübel m; a container with a handle, used for carrying liquids, *a bucket of water*

**bucket**<sup>2</sup> *v phrasal*, **to bucket down**, to rain heavily, *it bucketed all day*, to move fast hazardly, *the car bucketed down the street*

**bucket seat** *n* a rounded seat with a curved back for one person, especially in a car

**bucket shop** *n BrE informal* a travel company that sells aircraft tickets at a lower price

**buckle**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *bukel*, *bokel*, F *boucle*, L *buccula*, diminutive of *bucca* jaw, mouth); **F** boucle f, **S** hebilla f, **I** fibbia f, **G** Schnalle f; a rim of metal at the end of a belt, used for securing the two ends together, *shoe-buckle*

**buckle**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 14c); **F** boucler, **S** abrochar con hebilla, **I** allacciare, allacciarsi, **G** zuschnallen; to fasten with a buckle, *to buckle the belt*, to become bent, *the steel buckled under the weight of the snow*, *my legs buckle*

**buck naked** *adj AmE informal* completely naked

**buck-ram** *n* a type of coarse cloth made from cotton or linen, used in bookbinding

**buck-shot** *n* many small balls of metal that are fired from a shotgun

**buck-skin** *n* soft leather made from the skin of a deer or a sheep

**buck-teeth** *plural n informal* upper front teeth that stick forward out of your mouth

**buck-wheat** *n* a type of small grain used as a cereal grain and four floor

**bu-col-ic** *adj* (L *bucolicus*, Gr *βουκολικός* rustic, pastoral; early 17c); **F** bucolique, **S** bucólico/a, **I** bucòlico/a, **G** bucolisch; pastoral, pertaining to shepherds, *the bucolic poems of Theocritus and Virgil*

**bud** *n* (ME *budde*, *bodde*, of uncertain etymology; possible cognates are in MLG *buddech* thick, OS *būdil*, MHG *biutel* bag, sack; late 14c as *budde*); **F** bourgeon m, bouton m, **S** brote m, capullo m, **I** germoglio m, **G** Knospe f, Auge n; a swelling on a plant, from which a flower develops, *the tree is in bud*

**Bud-dhism** *n* the religion and philosophy that developed in India in the fifth and sixth centuries BC out of the teaching of Buddha

**bud-ding** *adj* (*bud* verb + *-ing*; late 14c); said of a person that is beginning to develop and become successful, *a budding artist*

**buddy**<sup>1</sup> *n coll AmE* a friend, *John and Joan are great buddies*, used to address a friend, *buddy, drink up!*

**buddy**<sup>2</sup> *v* **buddy up to/with sb**, to act as a friend with sb

**budge** *v* (MF *bouger* to stir, VL\**bullicāre*, L *bullire* to bubble, see **boil**; late 16c); **F** recouler, bouger, céder, **S** mover, moverse, bullir, **I** scostare, smuovere, cambiare idèa, **G** sich (von der Stelle) rühren, von etwas abrücken; to move slightly, *I cannot budge the table*, to cause to change an opinion, *it is difficult to budge such a stubborn man*

**budgeri-gar** *n* (Australian Aboriginal *gijirrigaa*; 19c); **F** perruche f, **S** periquito m, **I** parrocchetto m canòro, **G** Wellensittich m; a small Australian bird blue, green or yellow, with a long blue tail, often kept as a pet; shortened to **budgie**

**budget**<sup>1</sup> *n* (MF *bougette*, OF *bouge* leather bag, L *bulga* leather bag, related to **bulge** and **belly**; early 15c as *bowgette*; the modern sense appeared in 1733, in *open the budget*, said of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in presenting the annual statement of finances); **F** budget m, bilan m, **S** presupuesto m, **I** bilancio m, **G** Budget n, (of a family) Haushaltsplan m; the official statement by government of a country's taxes, etc, *the government budget*, *the budget deficit* the plan of how to

spend a quantity of money available to a company, to an institution, etc, *the annual budget of our company*

**budget**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 17c); to calculate how much money one will spend for a particular purpose, *we have budgeted £800 for the new carpet*

**budget**<sup>3</sup> *adj* economical, low in cost, *budget holidays*

**budget account** *n BrE* an arrangement with a shop to pay your bills in fixed monthly instalments, a bank account for the payment of bills that are credited with regular payments from the customer's current account

**budget-ary** *adj* (*budget* + *-ary*; late 19c); relating to the budget, *budgetary constraints*

**budgie** *n informal* for **budgerigar**

**buff**<sup>1</sup> *n informal* (MF *buffle*, It *bufalo*, probably because this leather was originally obtained from buffaloes; late 16c as *bufle leather*); **F** (peau f de) buffle m, couleur f chamois, enthousiaste m/f, **S** piel f de ante, entusiasta m/f, **I** pèlle f di bùfalo, colòr m cuòio, entusiasta m/f, **G** Büffelleder, Lederfabe f, Fan m; a yellow brown colour, *a buff uniform*, a devotee, a person who knows a lot about a particular subject, *a computer buff*

**buff**<sup>2</sup> *adj* yellow brownish in colour, *a buff envelope*

**buff**<sup>3</sup> *v* to polish with a cloth, *to buff one's shoes*

**buf-falo** *n* (It *buffalo*, Port *bùfalo*, LL *bufālum*, variant of *bubalus* a wild ox, Gr *βούβαλος*; late 16c); **F** buffle m, **S** búfalo m, bisonte m, **I** bùfalo m, bisònte m, **G** Büffel m, Bison m; a wild animal of the cow family, that lives in Africa and Asia; see **bison**

**buf-fer**<sup>1</sup> *n* (*buff* + *-er*, see MF *bufle* a blow, from OF; see **buffer**; 19c); **F** amortisseur m, heurtoir m, **S** amortiguador m, parachoques m, **I** respingenti m/pl, protezione f, **G** Puffer m, Stoßdämpfer m; the springs at the front and back of a train to take the shock if the train hits sth, sth that protects another thing or person from being harmed, *the airbag acts as a buffer between driver and steering wheel*, fig. *a buffer against inflation*, computing, an area in the computer's memory for storing data temporarily

**buf-fer**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 19c); **F** atténuer, protéger, **S** atenuar, proteger, **I** attenuare, protegere, **G** puffern; to provide protection against sth or sb, *a plan to buffer your savings*, *to buffer the effects of recession*

**buf-fer state** *n* a smaller country between two large countries *the buffer states of Eastern Europe between Soviet Union and the European Community*

**buf-fer zone** *n* an area of land between two opposing armies

**buf-fet**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OF *buffet*, *bouffet*, diminutive of *bufle*, see **buff** n; early 18c); **F** buffet m, **S** comida f buffet, bofetada f, **I** buffet m, **G** Bufett n; a meal at which people serve themselves at a table where all the food is put, *a cold buffet*

**buf-fet**<sup>2</sup> *v usually passive* (said of wind, rain, etc); **F** bourrer de coups, **S** abofetear, **I** colpire, percuòtere, **G** jemandem Schlag versetzen; to knock sb/sth roughly, *Southern Italy was buffeted by snow*, *rain buffeted the cottage all night*

**buffet car** *n BrE* a part in a train where you can buy food

**buf-foon** *n derogatory* (F *buffon*, *bouffon*, It *buffone*, from *buffa* a jest, connected with *buffare* to blow out the cheeks; 16c); **F** bouffon m, **S** bufón m, **I** buffòne m, **G** Possenreißer m; someone who behaves in a silly way, a person who sets out to amuse people with jokes and comic behaviour

**bug**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *bugge*, a crawling insect, see **bugbear**; early 17c; the sense of a defect or flaw in a machine was originally *AmE*, and appeared in 1889); **F** virus m, insecte m, bogue f, micro m clandestin, marotte f, **S** virus m, bicho m, fallo m, micrófono m oculto, entusiasmo m, **I** infezione f, insètto m, virus m, micrófono m spia (also, informal, cimice f), passione f, **G** Bazillus m, Insekt m, Defekt m, Sprechkapsel f, Enthusiasmus m; *informal* an infectious illness that people

catch very easily from each other but is not very serious, *to catch/pick up a bug, a stomach bug, a flew bug*, AmE any small insect with mouthparts adapted for piercing, a fault in a computer system or program, *there is a bug in my computer program*, a very small device hidden in a room that allows you to listen to what people are saying, *a telephone bug*, informal a sudden strong enthusiasm for sth, *after attending a Beethoven concert in Bonn I caught the bug*

**bug<sup>2</sup>** *v slang* to annoy someone, *Janet's insistence on having an affair has bugged him*, to put a bug (a very small electronic equipment) somewhere secretly in order to listen to conversations, *the rooms of the Embassy had been bugged*

**bug-bear** *n* (*bug* goblin, scarecrow + *bear*; late 16c); **F** croque-mitaine m, épouvantail m, **S** pesadilla f, obsesión f, **I** spauracchio m, **G** Buhmann m, Schreckenspest n; a goblin, a ghost said to devour naughty children

**bug-ger<sup>1</sup>** *n* (**F** *bougre* heretic, LL *Bulgarus* Bulgarian, a name given to a sect of heretics who came from Bulgaria in the 11th century, and to whom abominable practices were ascribed; 16c); **F** salaud m, idiot m, pédéraste m, **S** mierda f, sodomita m, **I** individuo m lósco, sodomita m, **G** Kerl m, Sodomit m; offensive word for somebody who is silly and annoying, *that daft bugger has given me the wrong timetable*, used for expressing sympathy for someone you pretend to be annoyed with but you like or feel sorry for, *the poor bugger has been abandoned by his wife*, used as an exclamation to express annoyance, *bugger, it is raining again!*

**bug-ger<sup>1</sup>** *v* (from the noun; late 16c); **F** sodomiser, être crevé/e, **S** cometer sodomía con, **I** commettere sodomía con, mandàre al diàvolo, **G** Sodomie f treiben mit;

**bugger all** *n BrE slang* nothing, very little, *there is bugger all we can do in this field of business*

**buggered** *adj*

**bug-gery** *n slang* anal sex

**buggy** *n* (of unknown origin; late 18c; a small car designed for driving on rough ground, *golf buggy, beach buggy*)

**bugle** *n* (shortened from ME *bugle* horn, from *bugle* wild ox, OF *bugle*, wild ox or instrument made from the horn of the ox, L *bucūlus* young bullock, diminutive of *bos* ox; 14c); **F** clairon m, **S** corneta, clarin m, **I** trómba f, corno m da càccia, **G** Wald-, Jagdhorn n, Signalhorn n; a brass trumpet, used in the army to call soldiers

**bugler** *n* (*bugl* + *-er*; 19c); **F** (sonneur m de) clairon, **S** corneta m, **I** trombettiére m, **G** Hornist m; one who plays on a bugle, a soldier who conveys orders by signals sounded on a bugle, *the bugler was ordered to sound the 'retire'*

**build<sup>1</sup>** *v* **built, built** (ME *bilden, bulden, bylden*, OE *\*byldan* to build, from *bold* a dwelling, see Old Frisian *bōdel* dwelling, OS *bodl*, OE *būan* to dwell; the modern spelling appeared in the middle 16c); **F** bâtir, construire, **S** construire, edificar, **I** costruire, edificàre, **G** (er)bauen, konstruieren; to construct by putting together materials, *to build a house*, fig. to develop, to expand, *to build a business over the years*

**build<sup>2</sup>** *n* (from the verb; early 14c); the physical form of the human body, *a man of slim build*

**build-er** *n* (*build* verb + *-er*; late 14c); a person or company whose job is to build houses

**build-ing** *n* (from *build* verb + *-ing*, late 14c); a structure such as a house or factory, that has walls and a roof, *the most ancient buildings in the city*, the process of building houses, etc, *building regulations*

**building block** *n* a block of wood or plastic for children to build things with

**building site** *n* a place where a house is built

**building society** *n* an organization that lends money, often in the form of mortgages, to people who want to buy a house

**build-up** *n* something that develops gradually, *the build-up of a library*

**built** *combining form*, e.g. *German-built cars*

**built-in** *adj* forming a part of sth that cannot be separated, *a built-in wardrobe*

**built-up** *n* a place where a lot of buildings have been built, *a built-up area*

**bulb** *n* (MF *bulbe*, L *bulbus*, Gr *βολβός*; a bulb, especially of an onion; 16c; *electric bulb, light bulb*, 1856); **F** bulbe m, oignon m, lampe f, **S** bulbo m, bombilla f, **I** búlbo m, túbero m, lampadina f, **G** Knolle f, Zwiebel f, elektrische Birne f; a round root of some plants that is shaped like an onion, *tulip bulb, daffodil bulb*

**bulb-ous** *adj*

**bulge<sup>1</sup>** *n* (ME *bulge*, OF *boulge*, L *bulga* a leather bag, a wallet, apparently of Gaulish origin, see Old Irish *bolg*; 13c); **F** ventre m, protubérance f, **S** protuberancia f, bombo m, **I** protuberanza f, rigonfiamento m, **G** Anschwellung f, Vorsprung m; a swelling that sticks out from the surface, *a bulge in his pocket*, a sudden temporary increase in the amount of sth, *a bulge in the price of housing*, informal fat of the body

**bulge<sup>2</sup>** *v* (from the noun; 17c); **F** bomber, ballonner, **S** bombearse, sobresalir, **I** rigonfiarsi, incurvarsi, incurvare, **G** sich (aus)bauchen, hervortreten; to swell outwards, *his pockets bulged with sweets*, to be completely full of something, *my stomach bulges with beer*

**bu-limia** *n* (ModL form of *bulimy*, Gr *βουλιμία* ravenous hunger; late 14c); **F** boulimie f, **S** bulimia f, **I** bulimia f, **G** Bulimie f; a mental state in which one eats large amounts of food, and then vomits to remove it from the stomach

**bulk<sup>1</sup>** *n* (ME *bolke* a heap, apparently of Scandinavian origin, see Norse *bulki* a heap; 15c); **F** grandeur f, masse f, **S** volumen m, masa f, **I** mäsä f, möle f, **G** Größe f, Hauptteil m; the main part of sth, *the bulk of mankind, the bulk of the army*, used to refer to a person's size, *a man of vast bulk*

**bulk<sup>2</sup>** *v phrasal* **bulk sth out** to make sth bigger by adding sth, *he bulked the meal out by adding potatoes*

**bulk-head** *n technical* **F** cloison f, **S** mamparo m, **I** paratia f, **G** Schott n; a partition dividing the inside of a ship into separate sections

**bulky** *adj* large, difficult to move or carry, *the bulky equipments of the army*, referring to a person, tall and heavy, *the bulky figure of Colonel Smith*

**bull<sup>1</sup>** *n* (ME *bole, bula*, OE *bula*, ON *bole*, MLG *bulle*, Middle Dutch *bulle*); **F** taureau m, **S** toro m, **I** tòro m, **G** Bulle m, Stier m; the male of the cow; **take the bull by the horns**, to deal with something difficult in a determined way, *financial*, an investor who buys shares in a company hoping to resell them at a higher price, thus making a profit

**bull<sup>2</sup>** *n hist* (OF *bulle*, MedL *bullā* papal decree, document, seal, L *bullā* amulet, the amulet used to impress the seal on paper; 13c); **F** bulle f, **S** bula f, **I** bólla f, **G** Bulle f; a formal edict issued by the pope

**bull<sup>3</sup>** *n informal* (origin unknown; early 17c); boastful and insincere talk, nonsensical statement, *he gave me a bull about the evening programme, to talk bull*

**bull-dog** *n* (*bull* + *dog*; 1500); a short strong dog with a large head, long ears and short thick legs

**Bulldog clip** *n* a metal device for holding papers together

**bull-doze** *v* (*bull* + *doze* verb; 1876 in the sense of 'bull-dozing', or intimidating with violence, 1930 in the current sense of using a bulldozer); to destroy buildings with a bulldozer

**bull-dozer** *n* (1876 in the sense of one who intimidates with violence, 1930 in the current sense of a machine to move earth); a vehicle with a steel blade in front, used to move earth

**bullet** *n* (MF *boulette*, dimin. of *boule* ball; 16c); **F** balle *f*, **S** bala *f*, **I** pallottola *f*, **G** Kugel *f*; a metal object which is fired from the gun, *he got a bullet in the leg*

**bullet-proof** sth that prevents bullets from going into it, *a bullet-proof jacket*

**bulletin** *n* (in 17c from It *bulletino*, *bollettino*, dimin. of *bulletta*, itself dimin. of MedL *bulia* papal decree, but the modern word, as 'short account of news', first recorded by Burke in 1791, is from French *bulletin*); **F** bulletin *m*, communiqué *m*, **S** boletín *m*, anuncio *m*, **I** bollettino *m*, comunicato *m*, **G** Bulletin *n*, Tagesbericht *m*; a news report on the radio or television, an official statement about sth important, *the daily bulletin on the Pope's health*, a printed leaflet produced by an organization, *the weekly bulletin of our company*

**bulletin board** *n* *AmE* a board that you put information on, a place in a computer system where you can write or read messages

**bullfight** *n* (see **bull** *n*; 18c); public entertainment very popular in Spain, where it is called *corrida*, in which bulls are fought by *torreadores* and usually killed

**bullfinch** *n* a small European bird of the finch family, with a black head and a pink chest

**bullfrog** *n* a large American frog that makes a loud noise

**bullhorn** *n* *AmE* old-fashioned for **megaphone**

**bullion** *n* (AF *bullion*, *billon*, from OF *boillir* to boil, in reference to the practice of melting down gold or silver; early in 15c as *billon* a bar of precious metal and *bullion* a mint); **F** or *m* ou argent *m* en barres ou en lingot(s), **S** oro *m* en barras, plata *f* en barras, **I** òro *m* o argènto *m* in lingòtti, **G** Gold *n* oder Silber *n* in Barren; a bar of gold or silver

**bullish** *adj* (see **bull**<sup>1</sup>); **F** optimiste, à la hausse, **S** optimista, (de tendencia) alcista, **I** ottimista, in rialzo, **G** optimistisch, in der Hausse *f*; feeling confident about the future, *John is bullish about the future of his business*, *financial* connected with an increase in the price of shares, *a bullish market*

**bulllock** *n* (OE *bulluc*, see **bull** *n*; about 1000; originally a young bull, or bull calf, afterwards a castrated bull); **F** bœuf *m*, **S** toro *m* castrado, **I** manzo *m*, **G** Ochse *m*; a young male cow whose testicles have been removed

**bullring** *n* **F** arène *f*, **S** plaza de toros, **I** aréna *f*, **G** Arena *f*; the place where a bullfight is held

**bull session** *n* *AmE* *informal* (see **bull**<sup>3</sup>); an occasion when people meet and talk informally

**bullseye** *n* the central circle in a target that you try to hit in the sport of archery or in the game of dart

**bullshit** *n* *slang* *impolite* sth stupid and not true

**bull terrier** *n* a small strong dog with short hair

**bully** *n* (apparently from **bull**<sup>1</sup>); **F** tyran, **S** matón *m*, **I** prepotente *m*, **G** brutaler Kerl *m*; a person who frightens and torments weaker people

**bully**<sup>2</sup> *v* (see **bully** *noun*; early 18c); **F** brutaliser, **S** tiranizar, **I** tiranneggiare, **G** tyrannisieren; to intimidate, to hurt or frighten someone who is less powerful, *at school he was bullied by other children*

**bully boy** *n* *BrE* *informal* a violent, an aggressive man, especially one paid to frighten people, *bully-boy tactics*

**bulrush** *n* (from *bull*, of uncertain origin, apparently from *bole*, cf *bulaxe*, *bole* + *axe*, alternatively an attributive use of *bull* + *rush*; 15c); **F** jonc *m* des marais, **S** anea *f*, espadaña *f*, **I** giunco *m*, papiro *m*, **G** Binse *f*, Binsengras *n*; a tall plant that grows in or near water

**bulwark** *n* (Middle Dutch *bolverc*, MLG *bolwerk*, *bolle* tree, trunk + *werk* work; early 15c); **F** rempart *m*, **S** baluarte *m*, **I** bastione *m*, baluàrdo *m*, **G** Bollwerk *n*, Wall *m*; rampart, fortification, *the bulwark protecting the castle*, fig. *a bulwark against communism*

**bum**<sup>1</sup> *n* (onomatopoeic, compare other words of similar sound and meaning, e.g. *bump* *n*, *bumb* a pimple, Icelandic *bumba* belly of a cask, Fr *bombe*; 14c); **F** derrière *m*, **S** culo *m*, **I** deretàno *m*, sedere *m*, **G** Hintern *m*; the part of the body on which we seat

**bum**<sup>2</sup> *n* *informal* *AmE* (shortening of *bummer*, but see Scottish *bum*, 1540, lazy, dirty person, probably borrowed from Middle Dutch *bonne* bung; 19c); **F** fainéant, **S** holgazán *m*, vago *m*, **I** fannullóne *m*, **G** Stromer *m*; a good-for-nothing person, a person who asks other people for money or food

**bum**<sup>3</sup> *v* (apparently a back formation from *bummer*, **G** *Bummler* an idler, a loafer; 19c); **F** vagabonder, **S** mendigar, gorronear, **I** vagabondàre, scroccàre, **G** schnorren; to get something from somebody by asking or begging

**bum-bag** *n* *BrE* (*AmE* **fanny pack**) a small bag worn around the waist to keep money, keys etc

**bumble** *v* (of imitative origin, ME *bumblen*, *bomblen* are first recorded about 1395 in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*; early in 16c as *bumble*, *bomble*, referring to the noise of booming or buzzing about); to do sth or speak in a confused way, said of an insect, to drone

**bumble-bee** *n* a large social bee of the genus *Bombus*

**bumbling** *adj* (from *bumb* verb + *-ing*; late 19c); **F** maladroit/e, **S** inepto/a, **I** inètto/a, incompetente, **G** untauglich, ungeeignet, unfähig; confused, showing no skill, incompetent, *a bumping man*

**bumf** *n* *BrE* *informal* (short for *bumfodder* 'toilet paper', *bum* + *fodder*; late 19c); **F** paperasse *f*, **S** papeles *m/pl*, papel *m* higiénico, **I** scartòffie *f/pl*, cãrta *f* igiénica, **G** Papierkram *m*, Klopapier *n*; written information, usually superfluous and uninteresting, that you get with a product you have bought

**bummer** *n* *slang* (see *boom* + *-er*; 19c); **F** fiasco *m*, **S** desastre *m*, **I** disàstro *m*, **G** schweres Unglück *n*, Katastrophe *f*; something annoying or disappointing, *I have lost the key*, *what a bummer!*, a bad reaction to drugs

**bump**<sup>1</sup> *v* (onomatopoeic, cf **bunch**, **bounce**, **thump**, etc; early 17c); **F** heurter, frapper, **S** chocar contra, **I** urtare, sbàttere, **G** (heftig) stoßen, prallen; to hit sth accidentally, *the car bumped against the hard shoulder*

**bump**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; early 17c); **F** choc *m*, heurt *m*, **S** golpe *m*, choque *m*, **I** ùrto *m*, colliسیون *f*, **G** Bums *m*, heftiger Stoß; a sudden collision, the action or sound of something hitting a hard surface, *the bump of a stone falling to the ground*

**bumper** *n* (from *bump* noun or verb; 19c); **F** parechoc(s), **S** parachoques *m*, **I** paraùrti *m*, **G** Stoßstange *f*; a metal or plastic bar fixed to the front and back of a car to protect in case of collision

**bumper car** *n* *BrE* also **Dodgem**, a small electric car driven in an enclosed space at a funfair, where the aim is trying to hit other bumper cars

**bumph** a spelling of **bumf**

**bumpkin** *n* also **country bumpkin** (*boom* + *-kin*, see Dutch *boomken*; late 16c); someone from the countryside who is considered stupid and awkward

**bumptious** *adj* (see *bump* + *-tious*, a humorous formation on the pattern of words like *captivus*, *facetivus*, etc; early 19c); too proud of your merits, showing that you are very important in a way that annoys other people

**bumpy** *adj* (see **bump** *v*); **F** cahoteux/euse, **S** desigual, accidentado/a, **I** ineguàle, a scossóni, **G** uneben; not even, *a bumpy road*, with movements caused by the road surface, *a bumpy ride*

**bun** *n* (ME *bunne*, of unclear origin, cf Old French *buignet* a fritter, dimin. of *buigne*, also cp Spanish *buñelo* a fritter); **F** petit pain *m* au lait, (of hair) chignon *m*, **S** bollo *m*, (of hair) rodete *m*, **I** focaccia *f*, (of hair) chignon *m*, cipòlla *f*, **G** süßes

Brötchen, (Haar)Knoten; a small round sweet cake, a *currant bun*, a round flat bread roll, a hairstyle of a woman, when hair is tied in a round ball at the back or on the top of the head

**bunch**<sup>1</sup> *n* (of unclear origin, probably onomatopoeic, but see OF *bonge* bundle, Flemish *bondje* little bundle; 14c); **F** botte f (de radis), bouquet m (de fleurs), **S** manojó m, (of flowers) ramo m, **I** gràppolo m, (of flowers) màzzo, **G** Bund n, Verein m; a collection of things joined together, a *bunch of red roses*

**bunch**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the verb); **F** botteler (des radis), lier (des fleurs) en bouquet, **S** agrupar, juntar, **I** raggruppare, raccogliere in màzzi, **G** bündeln; to fasten things together, *he bunched the papers together*

**bun-dle**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *bynde*le, from \**bund* past participle stem of Old Teutonic \**bindan* to bind, but the modern word seems to be an adoption from Middle Dutch *bondel*, MHG *gebündel*; early 14c as *bondell*); **F** paquet m, ballot m, **S** lío m, legajo m, **I** fàscio m, fagòtto m, **G** Bündel n, Paket n; a group of things that have been tied together, a *bundle of newspapers, of firewood, etc*

**bun-dle**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 17c); **F** empaqueter, lier en paquets, **S** liar, envolver, **I** legàre con un fàscio, affastellàre, **G** in Bündel zusammen binden, -packen; to make into a bundle, *the dealer bundles together at a discount price both hardware and software*, to push someone in a rough way to make him go to a particular place, *police bundled him into the car*

**bung**<sup>1</sup> *n* (cf Middle Dutch *bonghe*, *bonne*, MHG *punkt*, the synonymous French *bonde* being apparently from L *puncta* 'hole', from *pungēre* to prick; 15c); **F** bonde f, bondon m (de fût), **S** tapón m, **I** turàcciolo m, tàppo m, **G** Spund(zapfen) m; a round piece of rubber, wood, etc, used to close the top of a container

**bung**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 16c); **F** boucher, fourrer, **S** tapar con bitoque, **I** tappàre, **G** verspunden, verstopfen; to close with a bung

**bun-ga-low** *n* (Hindi *banglā* of Bengal, from *Banga* Bengal; 17c); a one-storey house, usually with a thatched roof

**bun-gee jump-ing** *n* (of unclear origin, apparently from *bungie*, slang for India rubber; early 20c); the sport of jumping from a crane or from a bridge, having the feet or waste secured to an elasticated rope that pulls you back before you hit the ground

**bun-gle**<sup>1</sup> *v* (apparently onomatopoeic, cf *bumble*, *brangle*, *boggle* verb, but see Swedish dialect *bangla* to work ineffectually, Old Swedish *bunga* to strike; early 16c); **F** gâchis m, bousillage m, **S** chapucear, hacer malisimamente, **I** abborracciàre, **G** stümpern, pfuschen; to deal with sth very badly, *he bungled the homework*

**bun-gle**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from *bungle* verb; 17c); **F** gâcher, bousiller, **S** chapuza, **I** pasticció/a, **G** Stümperei f; something that has been done badly and without skill

**bun-gler** *n* (*bungle* verb + *-er*; early 17c); **F** bousilleur/euse, **S** chapucero m, **I** pasticció/a, **G** Stümper m, Pfuscher m; one who bungles a job or procedure, an unskilful worker

**bun-gling** *adj* (see the verb; 17c); **F** maladroit, **S** chafallón m, chapucero/a, **I** pasticció/a, **G** ungeschickt, stümperhaft; said of one who bungles

**bun-ion** *n* (etym. unclear, apparently connected with *bunny*, see Italian *bugnone* a botch, from *bugno*, OF *bugne*; early 18c); **F** inflammation f de la base du gros orteil, oignon m, **S** juanete m, **I** infiammazióne f dell'alluce, **G** entzündeter Fußballen; a painful lump on the big toe

**bunk** *n* (etym. unclear, possibly related to *bank*, perhaps shortened from *bunker*, cf also Old Swedish *bunke* boarding to protect the cargo of a ship from the weather; 18c); **F**

couchette f, **S** litera f, camastro m, **I** cuccétta f, **G** (Schlaf)Kojie, Etagenbett; a narrow bed that is fixed to a wall, especially on a train or in a ship

**bun-ker** *n* (apparently a variant of **banker** bench, 1677; the meaning of *bank of earth* appeared in 1824, and by 1939 this sense was extended to a dug-out fortification); a shelter for soldiers and guns, usually underground, reinforced with concrete, *Hitler's bunker*, a container for storing coal, especially on a ship or outside a house, a large hole on a golf course filled with sand

**bunk-house** *n* a building where workers sleep

**bun-kum** or **Buncombe** *n colloquial AmE* (named after Buncombe County, in North Carolina; 19c); nonsense, foolish talk

**bunny** *n* (English dialect *bun* tail of a hare, from Scottish Gaelic *bun* bottom; 17c); a pet name for a rabbit

**bunny slope** *n AmE* nursery slope

**Bun-sen burner** *n* (named after the German chemist R. W. Bunsen; 19c); an instrument used in chemistry laboratories that produces a hot gas flame

**bunt** *v AmE* (probably from *bunt*, 1825, strike, push; cp also **butt** *v*; late 19c); in baseball, to deliberately hit the ball at a short distance

**bunt-ing** *n* small flags on a string used to decorate streets on special occasions

**buoy**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *boye*, OF *boye*, Middle French *bouée*, L *boia* a halter, a fetter; see also Middle Dutch *boye*, *boeye*, of Germanic origin; 15c); **F** bouée f, **S** boya f, **I** bòa f, **G** Boje f, Seezeichen n; an object which floats on the sea to mark the places where for boats it is dangerous to go

**buoy**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 16c); **F** baliser, marquer, **S** aboyar, señalar con boyas, **I** segnalàre con una bòa, **G** durch Bojen markieren; to mark with a buoy

**buoy-ancy** *n* (English *buoyant* + *-cy*; early 18c); the quality of being able to float, *the boat lacks buoyancy*, fig. the ability to recover quickly from a disappointment, *the qualities of optimism and buoyancy*

**buoy-ant** *adj* (apparently after Spanish *boyante*, or OF *buoyant*; late 16c); floating, having the power to buoy, fig. cheerful, a *buoyant market*

**bur** a spelling of **burr**

**bur-ble**<sup>1</sup> *v BrE* (apparently onomatopoeic, but the Romanic forms, e.g. It *borbogliare*, point to L *bullā* bubble; early 14c); **F** murmurer, **S** burbujear, parlotear, **I** ciarlàre, cianciàre, **G** brodeln, plappern; to speak in a confused way, that is difficult to understand

**bur-ble**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; 14c); **F** papotage m, **S** chisme m, cuento m, **I** brontolio m, ciànce f/pl, **G** Geschwätz n, Gerede n; a confused and fast talk, difficult to understand

**burbs** *informal* for **suburbs**

**bur-den**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *byrthen*, ME *burthen*, from the root of Germanic \**beran* to carry, see **bear**; some forms, meaning 'a load of responsibility, duty, sorrow', etc., are derived from Romanic *bourdon*, but the fusion of the two words is now complete, and they cannot be treated separately); **F** fardeau m, charge f, **S** carga f, fardo m, **I** càrico m, péso m, **G** Last f, Ladung f; a heavy load, a *beast of burden*, something difficult you have to deal with, *the burden of responsibility, law the burden of proof*

**bur-den**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 16c); **F** charger, accabler, **S** cargar (de), **I** gravàre, impòrre un ònere m, **G** belasten; to give somebody a difficult or hard duty, responsibility, etc, *the youngman was burdened with heavy responsibilities*

**bur-den-some** *adj formal* **F** onéreux/euse, **S** gravoso/a, oneroso/a, **I** gravóso/a, oneróso/a, **G** hart, schwer; difficult to carry or tolerate, a *burdensome task*

**bur·eau** *n* (F *bureau* office, from *bureau* tapis de table, woollen stuff for covering writing-desks, OF *burel* woollen cloth, LL *burra* coarse wool; 18c); **F** bureau/aux m, **S** buró m, oficina f, **I** ufficio m, **G** Büro n; an office for business, for providing and collecting information, *an employment bureau*, *AmE* a government organization, *the Federal Bureau of Investigation*, an office of a company that has its main branch elsewhere, *the Rome Bureau of the 'International Herald Tribune'*, *BrE* a writing desk with drawers and a top that opens down

**bur·eau·cracy** *n* (F *bureaucratie*, from *bureau* + *-cratie*, appears in English in 1818 as a borrowing from French, in 1834 with the present spelling); **F** bureaucratie f, **S** burocracia f, **I** burocrazia f, **G** Bürokratie f; the system of administration based on bureaus, etc, *derogatory* a system of government that is marked by excessive officialism, by a complex set of procedures, etc, *unnecessary state bureaucracy*

**bur·eau·crat** *n* (from French *bureaucrate*; 19c); **F** *n* bureaucrate m, **S** burócrata m/f, **I** buròcrate m/f, **G** Bürokrat m; a member of bureaucracy, in particular one who follows too strictly the rules

**bur·eau·cra·tic** *adj* (from French *bureaucratique*; late 18c); **F** bureaucratique, **S** burocrático/a, **I** burocrático/a, **G** bürokratisch; connected with bureaucracy, *bureaucratic organization*

**bur·ette** *n* (F *burette* small vase, diminutive of *buire* vase for liquors; 19c); **F** burette f, éprouvette graduée, **S** bureta f, **I** burétta f, provétta f graduàta, **G** Burette f; a glass tube marked with a scale, used in chemical experiments for measuring small quantities of liquid

**bur·geon** *v* *literary* (ME *borioun*, *hurioun*, OF *bor-*, *burjon*, ModF *bourgeon*, of uncertain etymology, see OHG *burjan* to raise, to hold up, alternatively VL *\*burrionem*, accusative of *\*burrio* bud, sprout, LL *burra* coarse wool); **F** bourgeonner, **S** retoñar, florecer, **I** germogliare, sviluppàrsi, **G** knospen, (hervor)sprießen; to flourish, *the tree burgeons in spring*, fig. to grow quickly, *a burgeoning market*

**bur·ger** *n* *AmE* for **hamburger**

**burgh** *n* old fashioned or Scottish for **borough**

**bur·gher** *n* *old fashioned* (Middle Dutch *burgher*, MHG *Burger*, see *borough*; late 16c); **F** citoyen/enne, **S** vecino m, habitante de una villa, **I** abitante m/f di un bórigo, cittadino/a, **G** Bürger m, Städter m; inhabitant of a borough, as distinct from a person living in the country

**burg·lar** *n* (AL *burglator*, apparently from L *latro*, nomin. of *latr-ōnem* a robber; MedL *burgator* is from *burgāre* to commit burglary in, L *burgus* fortress, castle; 16c); **F** cambrioleur m, **S** ladrón m, escalador m, **I** scassinatōre/trice, **G** Einbrecher m; one who commits burglary, a thief

**burglar alarm** *n* **F** alarme f anti-vol, **S** alarma f antirrobo, **I** segnàle m antifurto, **G** Alarmanlage f; a device that gives a warning if someone tries to illegally enter a building

**burg·lary** *n* (from *burglar* noun; late 12c as *burgaria*); **F** cambriolage m, **S** robo m en una casa, **I** furto m con scàsso, **G** (nächtlicher) Einbruch; the crime of illegally entering a building to steal things

**bur·gle** *v* (back formation from *burglar*, from AL *burgulāre*; 19c); **F** cambrioler, dévaliser (une maison), **S** robar, desvalijar, **I** svaligiare, commettere furto con scàsso, **G** einbrechen in; to enter a building illegally and steal things

**bur·gundy** *n* a wine from the Burgundy region of eastern France

**bur·ial** *n* (ME *buryel*, *biriell*, formed as a singular of *byriels*, from OE *byrgels* burial place, from *byrgan* to bury+-els, see **bury**); **F** enterrement m, inhumation f, **S** entierro m, **I**

sepoltūra f, inumaziōne f, **G** Begräbnis n; the act of burying a dead body, *my grandfather's burial*

**burial ground** *n* a place where dead people are buried

**bur·lap** *n* *AmE* for **hessian** (apparently from Dutch *\*boerenlap*, *boeren* coarse + *-lap* piece of cloth; late 17c); **F** toile f d'emballage, **S** arpillera f, **I** tela f da imballaggio, **G** Sackleinwand f; a type of rough cloth used for sacking

**bur·lesque** *n/adj* (F *burlesque*, It *burlesco*, from *burla* jest, apparently an alteration of LL *burrae* trifles, nonsense; 17c); **F** burlesque adj, *parodie* n/f, **S** burlesco adj, *parodia* f, **I** burlésco/a adj, *caricatura* n/f, **G** burlesk adj, *Burleske* n/f; a literary parody, a performance which tries to represent as ridiculous something serious, *burlesque style*

**burly** *adj* (ME *borlich*, northern *burli*, imposing, stately, probably related to OE *beran* to bear, carry; 13c); **F** robuste, solidement bâti/e, **S** corpulento/a, **I** corpulento/a, **G** stämmig; (said of a man or of his body) big, strong, heavy

**burn**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OE *beornan* and *baernan* were distinct verbs, but run together early in ME; in late ME *brenne*, *brent*, was common, but in the 16th century it was replaced by *burn*, *burnt*); **F** brûler, **S** quemar, quemar(se), **I** bruciare, **G** (ver)brennen, in Flammen stellen; to set on fire, to be on fire

**burn**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; early 16c); **F** brûlure f, **S** quemadura f, **I** bruciatura f, **G** verbrannte Stelle; an injury on your skin caused by fire, *the blacksmith suffered burns to his hands*, the burns, the feeling that you get in your muscles when you have done a lot of exercise

**burn**<sup>3</sup> *n* *Scottish* (AS *burna* brook); a rivulet

**burn·er** *n* (late 13c as *Brenner* a person who makes bricks); the part of a fuel-burning device that produces a flame, a piece of equipment for burning wood or coal

**burn·ing** *adj* (*burn* verb + *-ing*; 1300 as *brennyng*); **F** ardent/e, brûlant/e, **S** ardiente, **I** ardente, bruciante, **G** brennedn, heiß; *very strong*, *the burning desire of glory*, *very hot*, *the burning sun in Sicily*

**bur·nish** *v* *formal* (OF *burnir*, *brunir* make brown; 14c); to make a metal shiny by rubbing

**burn·out** *n* (*burn* + *out*; late 17c); a condition of extreme exhaustion caused by stress and overwork.

**burnt-out** *adj* damaged by fire, a *burnt-out car*, feeling as if having done very much and needing a rest, *after correcting the proofs I felt burnt-out*

**burnt** *adj* damaged by burning, *burned toast*

**burp**<sup>1</sup> *v/n* *AmE slang* (imitative of the sound of belching; early 20c); **F** éructer, **S** eructar, **I** eruttare, **G** rülpsen; to let air from the stomach through the mouth, making a noise, see **belch**

**burp**<sup>2</sup> *n* **F** éructation f, rot m, **S** eructo m, **I** rütto m, **G** Aufstoßen n; a belch

**burr**<sup>1</sup> *n* (probably imitative; 18c); **F** 'r' m de la gorge, **S** pronunciación de la 'r' a la francesa, **I** pronúncia f arrotàta della 'r', **G** Zäpfchenaussprache f; a strong pronunciation of the 'r' sound, *a soft Northumberland burr*

**burr**<sup>2</sup> *n* (imitative, or of Germanic origin; early 17c); **F** *botanical* teigne f, **S** erizo m, **I** tigna f, **G** Grind m; in some plants, a small round seed container covered with prickles, that stick to clothes and to animals' fur

**bur·rito** *n* a Mexican dish consisting of a tortilla folded with beans, meat and cheese

**bur·row**<sup>1</sup> *n* (of obscure origin, see ME *borwgh*, *borewe*, from OE *burg* stronghold, fortress, apparently related to OE *beorgh* hill, mound, see **barrow** and **borough**); **F** terrier m, renardière f (de renard), clapier (de lapin), **S** madriguera f, conejera f, galeria f, **I** tàna f, cunicolo f, **G** Bau m, Höhle f; a hole made in the ground by a rabbit for shelter

**bur-row**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 17c); **F** fouir la terre, **S** hacer madrigueras en, **I** scavare un cunicolo, **G** sich eingraben; to excavate a hole in the ground

**bur-sar** *n* (MedL *bursarius* keeper of the purse, from *bursa* a bag or purse, Gr *βύρσα* skin, OF *borsier*, *boursier*, from *bourse* purse; late 16c); **F** économiste m/f, (student) boursier/ère, **S** tesorero/a, **I** economo m, tesoriere m, **G** Finanzverwalter m, (student) Stipendiat m; the person who deals with the financial affairs of a school or college, in Scottish universities and schools, a student who holds a bursary, an exhibitioner

**bur-sary** *n* (MedL *bursaria*, *bursa* purse; 17c); **F** économate m, (student) bourse f (d'études), **S** beca f, **I** economato m, bórsa f di stúdio, **G** Quästur f, Stipendium n; the bursar's office, *Scottish* a scholarship awarded to a student

**burst**<sup>1</sup> *v* (OE *berstan*, ME *bersten*, *bursten*, cognate with OS *bersta* to burst, OHG *brestan*, ModG *bersten*, from Proto-Germanic); **F** éclater, exploser, **S** reventar(se), **I** scoppiare, esplodere, **G** bersten, explodieren; to make something split or open suddenly because of internal pressure, *the balloon burst in the sky*, *the door burst open*, fig. to feel a strong emotion, *to burst with curiosity*, *to burst into tears*

**burst**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; early 17c); **F** éclatement m, explosion f, **S** reventón m, explosión f, **I** esplosióne f, **G** Bersten n, Explosion f; an act of bursting, *a burst in the water pipe*, *a burst of anger*, a short period of particular activity, *a burst of anger*, a series of shots from a gun, *bursts of machine gun fire*

**bur-then** *n* *archaic* for **burden**, used to mean 'capacity of a ship'

**bur-ton** *n* *BrE slang* (origin unknown; 20c); **gone for a burton** to go lost, broken, of a person or thing, to be missing or destroyed

**bury** *v* **bur-ies**, **bury-ing**, **bur-ied** (OE *byrgan*, cognate with OHG *bergan* shelter, conceal, ME *birien*, *burien*; 1000); **F** enterrer, ensevelir, **S** enterrar, sepultar, **I** sotterrare, seppellire, **G** begraben, beerdigen; to place a corpse in a tomb, *the colonel was buried with military honours*, to hide something by depositing it in the earth, *to bury a treasury*, fig. *to bury oneself in the books*

**bus**<sup>1</sup> *n* (a shortening of **omnibus**; early 19c); **F** autobus m, **S** autobús m, **I** àutobus m, **G** Omnibus m, (Auto)bus m; a motor-driven vehicle that carries passengers along a fixed route, fig. **to miss the bus** to lose an opportunity

**bus**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; early 19c); to transport by bus, *to travel by bus*, *we were bussed to the restaurant*

**bus-boy**, **bus-girl** *n* *AmE* a boy who works in a restaurant and whose job is to clear the dishes

**busby** *n* (origin unknown; Busby is the name of an English village and a personal surname; 18c); a fur hat worn by British soldiers on the occasion of particular ceremonies

**bush** *n* (ME *busk*, *bussh*, cognate with OHG *bush*, see MedL *boscum*, *boscus* wood, and Old Saxon *busc* bush); **F** buisson m, arbrisseau m, **S** arbusto m, **I** cespùglio m, bòsco m, **G** Busch m, Strauch m; a plant with many small branches growing from the ground, *a rose bush*, an area of land covered with bushes and trees

**bushed** *adj informal* (*bush* n + *-ed*; from the state of one who wanders in a bush; late 19c); **F** fatigué/e, désorienté/e, **S** perplejo/a, **I** sfinito/a, stremàto/a, **G** erledigt/e; very tired, exhausted, perplexed, confused

**bushel** *n* (ME *boyschel*, *buyschel*, OF *boissiel*, diminutive of *boiste* box, see MedL *bustellus*, *bussellus*); a measure of capacity containing 8 imperial gallons (36.37 litres)

**bush-league** *adj AmE informal* (see **bush**); of very low quality

**Bush-man** *n* a man from Southern Africa who live in the bush

**bushy** *adj* said of hair or fur, growing thickly, *the bushy tail of our cat*

**busily** *adv* in an active and energetic way, *he was busily checking his papers*

**busi-ness** *n* (OE *bisignis* anxiety, from *bisig* anxious, busy, see *busy* adj + *-ness*; late 14c); **F** affaire f, métier m, commerce m, entreprise f, **S** negocios m/pl, ocupación f, comercio m, empresa f, **I** lavóro m, mestiére m, attività f, **G** Tätigkeit f, Beruf m, Gewerbe n; the activity of buying, selling, etc, *she runs a business in the High Street*, a commercial organization, *the family business*, *to set up a business*, fig. responsibility, *it is our business looking after him*

**business card** *n* a small card printed with sb's name and job and company, see **visiting card**

**business class** *n* the part of the plane where sit passengers who travel for business, as distinct from the first class

**business end** *n informal* the end of a tool or weapon that does the work, as opposed to the handle, *the business end of the gun*

**business hours** *n* the hours during which business is run

**busi-ness-like** *adj* showing qualities that are useful in conducting a business

**busi-ness-man**, **busi-ness-woman** *n* a person engaged in business as an owner or as an executive

**business park** *n* an area usually peripheral to a town designed for offices or industry

**business studies** *n* studies connected with economics and management of business

**busk** *v* *BrE slang* (origin unclear, apparently from French *busquer* fortune 'to go seek his fortune', It *buscare*, Sp *buscar*; 19c); **F** chanter ou jouer d'un instrument dans les rues, **S** tocar música f (en la calle), **I** suonare musica f per le strade, **G** auf der Straße musizieren; to perform music in the streets for money

**busk-er** *n* (*busk* verb + *-er*; 16c); **F** musicien ambulante *ou* des rues, **S** músico m ambulante, **I** suonatore m ambulante, **G** Straßenmusikant m; one who performs music in the street for money

**busk-ing** *n*

**bus lane** *n* (see **bus**); a marked traffic lane that only buses use

**bus-load** *n* the number of passengers that a bus can carry

**bus-man's holiday** *n* *humorous* a holiday where you do what you normally do at work, instead of relaxing yourself

**bus shelter** *n* a covered structure at a bus stop, that gives shelter against the rain

**bus station** *n* a place where buses leave and arrive

**bus stop** *n* a place where buses stop to pick up or set down passengers

**bust**<sup>1</sup> *v* *AmE slang* (alteration of **burst**; late 19c); **F** casser, (se) casser, **S** romper, romperse, quebrar, **I** esplodere, ròmpere, andare in rovina, **G** kaputtgehen (machen), ruinieren; to break or burst something, *I fell and busted my arm*, said of the police, to arrest, to search someone or somewhere, especially for possession of drugs, *the club was busted by police and the owner was arrested*, to make someone lower in military rank, to demote

**bust**<sup>2</sup> *n* (*F* *buste*, *It* *busto*, *L* *bustum* funeral monument; late 17c); **F** buste m, poitrine f, **S** busto m, pecho m, seno m, **I** busto m, séno m, **G** Büste f, Kopf m, Busen m; a statue of the head, shoulders and chest of a person, *the bust of Cicero in the Capitoline Museums in Rome*, a woman's breasts, *AmE informal*, a thing that is not good, *the performance was a bust* **bust**<sup>3</sup> *adj informal* broken, *the engine is bust*, (said of a person or business) bankrupt because of lack of money, **go**

**bust** *colloquial* to go bankrupt, *John's business went bust last autumn*

**bus-tard** *n* (L *avis tarda* slow bird; 15c); a bird of the Otididae family, with long legs, long neck and a large body, that build nests on the ground

**busted** *adj* *AmE informal* broken, a *busted leg*

**bus-ter** *n* *AmE informal* (an alteration of **buster**, 'person or thing that bursts'; 19c); used in a form of address, slightly disrespectful, or to a man you do not like, *get lost, buster!*

**bus-tier** *n* (French **bustier** bodice; late 20c); a piece of clothing that women wear on the top half of the body, but which does not cover the shoulders

**bus-tle**<sup>1</sup> *v* (ME *bustelen* to move vigorously, apparently onomatopoeic, suggested by *bluster*, alternately a phonetic variant of the obsolete *buskle*, meaning 'to prepare in a busy way'; 16c); **F** s'activer, s'affairer, **S** menearse, ir y venir, **I** darsi da fare, affaccendarsi, andare su e giù, **G** geschäftig hin und her rennen; to move around quickly because you are very busy, *the city center bustles with people*

**bus-tle**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; early 17c); **F** mouvement m, remue-ménage m, **S** movimiento m, animación f, **I** andirivieni m, confusión f, **G** Geschäftigkeit f; the noisy activity in a crowded place, *the hustle and bustle in Princes Street during the rush hours*

**bust-ling** *adj* (*bustle* verb + *-ing*; late 16c); **F** animé/e, **S** hacendoso/a, **I** animato/a, affollato/a, **G** geschäftig; full of people moving in a busy way, *a bustling street, a bustling market*

**bust-up** *n* *informal* a row, a bad argument,

**busty** *adj* (of a woman) having big breasts

**busy**<sup>1</sup> *adj* (OE *bisig*, MLG *besig*, Middle Dutch *bezig*; late 14c as **busy**); **F** occupé/e, affairé/e, **S** ocupado/, activo/a, **I** occupato/a, affaccendato/a, **G** beschäftigt, tätig; having much work to do, *I have been very busy during the weekend*, said of a place, *Princes Street is busy during the Edinburgh festival*, said of time, *a busy period of the year*, said of the telephone, *the line is busy, I will try again later*

**busy**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun); **F** s'occuper (à ou de quelque chose), **S** ocuparse (en), **I** darsi da fare, occuparsi (di), **G** (sich) beschäftigen (mit); to spend your time dealing with something, *he busies himself with the project of a new house*

**busy-body** *n* *disapproving* a person who is too interested in what other people are doing, *an old busybody*

**busy Lizzie** *n* (*busy* + *Lizzie*, nickname for *Elizabeth*); a small plant with scarlet, pink or white flowers

**busy-work** *n* a work that is given somebody to keep them busy, but without any real utility

**but** *conj/prep/adv* (OE *būtan* without, unless, *be* by + *ūtan* outside, from *ūt* out); **F** mais, seulement, **S** sólo, excepto, pero m, objeción f, **I** ma, però, eccetto, soltanto, obiezione f, **G** aber, sondern, außer, nur, ohne daß; *conj* used to introduce a word or phrase that contrasts with what was said before, *poor but honest*; *prep* except, apart from, *no one was late but Louis*; *adv* formal only, *he is but a youngman*; *n* an objection or doubt, *I have no buts about the endeavour, there are no ifs and buts*

**bu-tane** *n* *chem* (*but(yl)* + *-ane*, from *butyric* (acid), a product of fermentation found in rancid butter, L *butīrum* butter, Gr *βούτυρον*, late 19c); **F** butane m, **S** butano m, **I** butano m, **G** Butan n; a colourless highly flammable gas of the alkane series, used especially as a fuel

**butch** *adj* *slang* *AmE* (apparently from dialectal *butch* vendor, short for *butcher*, or even from the male nickname *Butch*; 20c); **F** très masculin, lesbienne, **S** (woman) marimacho m, **I** (woman) masculina, lesbica, **G** Lesbierin f; said of a woman behaving or dressing like a man, a lesbian, said of a man who is big, strong, tough

**butcher**<sup>1</sup> *n* (ME *bocher*, *boucher*, OF *bo(u)chier*, the literal sense being therefore 'dealer in goat's flesh', see It *beccaio* butcher, from *becco* wild goat, Latin *ibex*; 13c); **F** boucher/ère, **S** carnicero m, **I** macellàio m, **G** Fleischer m, Metzger m, Schlachter m; someone who has a shop that sells meat, or whose job is killing animals to sell them for meat

**butcher**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 16c); **F** abattre (un animal), **S** matar, **I** macellàre, **G** schlachten; to slaughter an animal for sale, to kill someone in a violent way, fig. to make a mess of something, *he has butchered my essay*

**butch-ery** *n* (F *boucherie*, see *butcher* + *-y*; 1340 as *bocherie*); **F** abattage m, massacre m, **S** matanza f, **I** macellazione f, massacro m, **G** Schlachterhandwerk n, Gemetzel n; the work of preparing meat to be sold, fig. a cruel killing, *the Flodden fields battle was a butchery of the Scottish nobility*

**but-ler** *n* (ME *butuler* chief servant in charge of the wine, AF *butuiller*, OF *bouteillier*, from *bouteille* wine vessel, MedL *buticularius*, see **bottle**); **F** maître d'hôtel, **S** mayordomo m, **I** maggiordomo m, **G** Butler m, Kellermeister m; the chief male servant in a house, in charge of the running of the household

**butt**<sup>1</sup> *v* (ME *butten*, Old French *bo(u)ter*, Anglo-Norman *buter*, of Germanic origin, see **beat**); **F** donner un coup de corne à (qn), **S** dar cabezadas contra, **I** däre una testàta f contro, dare una cornàta (of an animal), incornàre, **G** anstoßen; to hit against somebody with the horns, to strike with the head

**butt**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; 17c); **F** coup de la tête, **S** cabezada f, **I** cornàta f, testàta f, **G** Kopfstoß m; a blow with the horns

**butt**<sup>3</sup> *n* (of Germanic origin; early 15c as *botte* or *butte*); **F** souche f (d'arbres), mégot m (de cigarette), crosse f (de fusil), **S** cabo m, extremo m, culata (of gun), colilla f (of cigarette), **I** estremità f, céppo m (of a plant), mozzicòne m (of cigarette), **G** (dickes) Ende (of a tool), Kolben m (of a gun), Stummel m (of cigarettes); the thicker end of anything, *a rifle butt*, the unused end of a cigarette or cigar, *a cigarette butt*

**butt**<sup>4</sup> *n* (F *but* a target, OF *bout*, from Frankish; 14c as *but*); **F** but m, souffre-douleur m, **S** blanco m, (ser) el objeto de, **I** bersaglio m, oggetto m di schërno, **G** Kugelfang m; a person who is an object of ridicule or scorn, *he became the butt of silly jokes*, a low mound behind which goose-shooters etc conceal themselves to shoot at game birds

**butt**<sup>5</sup> *n* (French *botte*, LL *buttis* cask, Greek *πτίνη* decorated cask; 14c); **F** barrique f, tonneau m, **S** tonel m, tina f, **I** bótte f, barile m, **G** Faß m; a large barrel for wine or beer

**but-ter**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OE *butere*, borrowed from L *butīrum* butter, Gr *βούτυρον* cow's milk curds, from *βόυς* cow + *τύρός* cheese); **F** beurre m, **S** mantequilla f, **I** bürro m, **G** Butter f; a fatty food made from milk and used for cooking

**but-ter**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; 15c); **F** beurrer, **S** untar con mantequilla, **I** imburràre, **G** mit Butter bestreichen; to spread butter on something, *to butter the bread*

**butter bean** *n* a type of large pale yellow bean, usually sold dried

**but-ter-cream** *n* a mixture of butter and sugar, used inside or on top of cakes

**but-ter-cup** *n* a wild plant with small flowers that are shaped like cups

**but-ter-fin-gers** *n* *informal* a person who drops things

**but-ter-fly** *n* (OE *buterflege*, ME *buterflige*, a compound of *butter* + *flēoge* fly; the reason of the name for the insect is unclear); an insect of the order *Lepidoptera*, fig. a person who is not very serious and is only interested in pleasure, *a social butterfly*

**but-ter-milk** *n* the liquid that remains after the separation of butter from milk

**but-ter-scotch** *n* also **butterscot** (*butter* + *Scotch* 'having been first made in Scotland'; 19c); a kind of toffee made from brown sugar, butter and water

**buttery** *adj* containing butter, spread with butter, *buttery sweets*

**but-tery** *n* (ME *boterie*, from Old French *botte*, LL *botariā*, from *butta* cask, see **butt**<sup>5</sup>); a room, especially in some English universities, where food is supplied to students

**but-tock** *n* usually plural (OE *buttuc* small piece of land, about 1300 as *buttok*, see **butt**<sup>4</sup> + *-ock*, and the surname *Brittebuttock*, 1268); **F** *fesse f*, *le derrière m*, **S** *nalgas f/pl*, *cachas f/pl*, **I** *nàtica f*, **G** *Hinterbacke f*; the two fleshy parts of the back of the body just above the legs

**but-ton**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OF *boton*, *bouton*, bud, knob, from assumed LL *\*bottonem*, from *\*bottare* to thrust, put forth; 14c); **F** *bouton m*, **S** *botón m*, **I** *bottóne m*, **G** (Kleider)Knopf *m*; a little piece of plastic, usually flat and round, that holds together the two parts of a clothing, for example, a jacket

**but-ton**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun, see **F** *boutonner*; late 14c); **F** *boutonner*, **S** *abotonar*, **I** *abbottonàre*, **G** (zu)knöpfen; to fast something with a button

**but-ton-down collar** *n* a collar on a shirt that has the ends fastened to the shirt with buttons

**but-ton-hole** *n* a hole through which a button passes to fasten clothes, a flower that is worn in the buttonhole of a jacket

**button mushroom** *n* a small mushroom used in cooking

**but-tress**<sup>1</sup> *n* (OF *bouterez* 'arc boutant', from *bouter* to push, bear against, ME *butres*; 13c); **F** *contrefort m*, *arc-boutant m*, **S** *contrafuerte m*, *apoyo m*, *sostén m*, **I** *contrafförte m*, *speróne m*, **G** *Strebepfeiler m*, *Stütze f*; a stone or brick structure that supports a wall

**but-tress**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 14c); **F** *arc-bouter*, *étayer*, **S** *poner contrafuerte a*, *apoyar*, **I** *rafforzàre con un contrafförte*, *sostenére*, **G** (durch *Strebepfeiler*) *stützen*, *fig. stützen*; to support a wall with a buttress

**butty** or **buttie** *n* northern English informal (from *butter*; 19c); a sandwich, a *jam butty*

**buxom** *adj* (ME *buxom* pliant, obedient, see OE *būgan* to bend + *-some*; see **bow** bend; the present meaning was first recorded in 1589); **F** à la forte *poitrine*, aux formes rebondies, **S** *rollizo/a*, *tetuda*, **I** *formósa*, *prosperósa*, **G** *drall*; (said of a woman), healthy-looking in an attractive way, and with large breasts

**buy**<sup>1</sup> *v* (ME *biggen*, *beyen*, OE *bycgan*, cognate with OS *buggian* buy, Gothic *bujan*; the present spelling became standard near the end of the 16c); **F** *acheter*, **S** *comprar*, **I** *acquistàre*, *compràre*, **G** *kaufen*; to get something by paying money, *to buy a new car*, *fig. to believe sth, I cannot buy what you are telling me, to buy the silence of somebody*

**buy**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; late 19c); **F** *achat m*, **S** *compra f*, **I** *acquisto m*, *spésa f*, **G** *Kauf m*; something bought, *that house was a good buy*

**buyer** *n* (*buy* verb + *-er*; 1300 as *bier*); a person who buys sth, especially expensive, *a buyer for the farm*, a person who chooses goods to be sold in a large store or for a factory

**buyer's market** *n* a situation in which there are more goods for sale than people acquiring them, so that the prices stay low

**buy-out** *n* (*buy* + *out*; 20c); **F** *rachat m*, **S** *comprar la parte de*, **I** *il rilevàre* (un'azienda); **G** *Aufkauf m* einer Firma; a situation in which people employed in a company buy all of its shares taking control of it, *the management buyout*

**buzz**<sup>1</sup> *v* (imitative of the sound made by the bees and other insects; early 16c as *buss*); **F** *bourdonner*, **S** *zumbar*, **I** *ronzàre*, *fare un brusio m*, **G** *summen*, *brummen*; to make a humming sound, *the bees were buzzing with excitement*

**buzz**<sup>2</sup> *n* (from the verb; early 17c); **F** *bourdonnement m*, **S** *zumbido m*, **I** *ronzio m* (delle api), *brusio m*, **G** *Summen n*, *Brummen n*; a continuous sound like the one of the bees, *the buzz of the (bee)hive*

**buzz-zard** *n* (OF *busart*, It *bozzagro*, apparently from L *bute-ōnem* a species of hawk; 14c); **F** *busard m*, *buse f*, **S** *ratonero m* común, *águila f* *ratonera*, **I** *buzzàgro m*, *poiàna f*, **G** *Bussard m*; *BrE* a European bird of prey of the hawk family, that kills other creatures for food, *AmE* a large American bird like the vulture, that eats the flesh of dead animals

**buzz-er** *n* (*buzz* verb + *-er*; 1606, late 19c in the sense of an electrical apparatus); **F** *sonnette f*, **S** *timbre m*, **I** *cicalino m*, **G** *Summer m*; an electrical device that produces the buzz sound when you press it, *to press the buzzer*

**buzz-word** *n* informal a word or phrase that has become fashionable in a social group, in newspapers, etc, *the buzzword of the moment is 'communication'*

**by** *prep/adverb* (OE *bī*, *be*, cognate with OS *bī* *be*, *by*, *near*, OHG *bī*; also cognate with the second element in L *ambi-* about, around, Gr *ἀμφί* about); **F** *prep* (near) (au)près *de*, a côté *de*, (via) *par*, (agency) *par*, *de*, (according to) à, **by the by(e)**, **by the way** à propos, **by and by** bientôt, tantôt, *adverb* (near) près, (aside) *de côté*, **S** *prep* (by means of) *por*, (in accordance with) según, *de acuerdo con*, (time) *para*, (place) *al lado de*, (measurement) *por*, **by the by** a propósito, *por cierto*, *adverb* más tarde, luego, **I** *prep* (near) *vicino a*, *prèsso*, (via) *per*, (from the hand of) *di*, (according to) *per*, *secondo*, *adverb* (near) *vicino*, (aside) *da parte*, **G** *prep* (near) *bei*, *an*, *neben*, (via) *durch*, *über*, *entlang*, (Zeit) *während*, *bei*, (mittel) *durch*, *adverb* (near) *dabei*, (along) *vorbei*, **by and by** *nach und nach*; *prep* near sb/sth *the house by the highroad*, *she was sitting by me*, after a passive verb, used to show who does or creates sth, *the Divine comedy was written by Dante*, to show how sth is done, *to travel by car*, *to pay by cheque*, no later than, *by tomorrow morning*, during, *to travel by night*, giving personal information, *Italian by birth*, *a teacher by profession*; *adverb* near, *John lives close by*, aside, *put money by*

**by-** *prefix* of minor importance, *a by-product*, *a by-election*

**by-catch** *n* fish that are caught while other types are caught, *a bycatch of small soles were thrown back into the sea*

**bye** *n* informal good bye

**by-election** *n* an election of a new Member of Parliament, to replace one who has died or left Parliament

**by-gone** *adj* (*by* + *gone* past part. of *go*; early 15c); **F** ....., **S** ....., **I** ....., **G**.....; existing a long time ago, *bygone ages*

**by-gones** *plural noun* referring to something unpleasant that happened in the past, *let bygones be bygones*, i.e. forget the past

**by-law** *n* (ME *bilage*, *bilawe*, influenced by *bī* village, town, and *lawe* law, of Scandinavian origin; the current meaning appeared in 16c through confusion of the *by-* with English *by* adv, near, aside); a law made by local authorities, valid only in that area, *by-law prohibits parking in this street*

**by-line** *n* technical a line at the top of a newspaper article giving the author's name

**by-pass**<sup>1</sup> *n* (*by* + *pass*; 19c); **F** ....., **S** ....., **I** ....., **G**.....; a road built around a town to avoid the centre, (**by-pass operation**) a medical operation on the heart to direct blood along a different route, avoiding diseased veins, *a bypass operation*

**bypass**<sup>2</sup> *v* (from the noun; late 19c); **F** ....., **S** ....., **I** ....., **G**.....; to go around a town or city to avoid the busy centre, *the ring road bypasses Rome*

**by-product** *n* something that is produced unintentionally during a process, a side effect, *inflation is the by-product of government policy*

**byre** *n* *BrE old fashioned* (OE *byre*, apparently a variant of OE *būr*, cottage, dwelling, ancestor of **bower**); **F** *étable f à vaches*, **S** *vaquería f*, **I** *vaccheria f*, *stalla f per mucche*, **G** *Kuhstall m*; a farm building in which cows are held, a cowshed; see Scots *to muck the byre*, to take out the dung and cleanse the byre

**by-stand-er** *n* (*by + stander*; early 19c); **F** ....., **S** ....., **I** ....., **G**.....; a person present when sth is happening but is not involved in the situation or accident

**byte** *n* *AmE* (blend of *bit* binary digit, a unity of information in computers + *bite* morsel; 1964); a unit of eight bits stored in a computer memory

**byway** *n* (*by + way*; early 14c); a way other than the highway, a little-used road or path, a secondary aspect, *plural byways* the less important areas of a subject, *the highways and byways of the Italian art*, i.e. the important and less important parts of Italian art

**by-word** *n* a person or thing that represents the symbol of a particular quality, *a byword for elegance*

**By-zan-tine** *adj* (L *Byzantīnus*, from *Byzantium*, Gr *Βυζάντιον*; 16c); **F** *byzantine/e*, **S** *bizantino/a*, **I** *bizantino/a*, **G** *byzantinisch/e*; relating to the Byzantine empire, a *Byzantine temple*, difficult to understand, *Byzantine politics*