



EVERYDAY ETYMOLOGY

*EXPLORING THE RICH HISTORY
OF EVERYDAY WORDS*

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4.1 SUMMER

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

Root origin is *sm-* meaning 'summer' also the source of the Sanskrit word *sama* meaning 'season, half-year.'

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

summer camp (from 1886)
summer resort (from 1823)
summer school (from 1810)

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

From the Old English word *sumor* and the Old Norse word *sumur*.

Old Norse *sumarsdag* meaning 'first day of summer' was the Thursday that fell between April 9th and 15th.



4.2 PICNIC

#EverydayEtymology

**Morpheme
Marvel** asks...



**What are the
root words?**

Root origin is possibly from the French word *piquer* meaning 'to pick, peck' and Germanic *nique* meaning 'a worthless thing.'

**Captain
Connector** asks...



**Which words
are related?**

**pick
pike
pitchfork
woodpecker**

**Doctor
Derivation** asks...



**What's the
word history?**

From the French word *piquenique* which originally meant 'a fashionable social affair, not necessarily outside, in which every partaker contributed something to the general table.'

4.3 FRISBEE

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

Frisbee as a family name is from a place name in Leicestershire (*Frisby on the Wreak*) and comes from Old Danish meaning 'farmstead or village of the Frisians.'

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

Other words for 'Frisbee' are:

**disk
disc
flying disc**

***Did you know that 'Frisbee golf' originated in Canada in the 1920s?**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

***Frisbee* was introduced as a trademark-registered name in 1959 by Wham-O Company. It was modelled on pie tins from Mrs. Frisbie's Pies as people would often throw them about.**



4.4 DANDELION

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

**Root origin is *dent-* meaning
'tooth' and *leonis* meaning 'lion.'**

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

**al dente (pasta)
dental
dentist
denture
indent
tooth**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

The original French word was *dent-de-lioun* meaning, literally, 'lion's tooth' from the tooth-like shape of the flower's leaves.

Also known as *tell-time* referring to the custom of telling time by blowing the seed and counting the hours.



4.5 RELAX

#EverydayEtymology

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

**Root origin is *sleg-* meaning
'to be slack, be languid.'**

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

**release
lush
relish
slack
sleep**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

**From Old French *relaschier*
meaning 'to set free, soften, reduce'
and from Latin *relaxare* meaning
'relax, loosen, open, stretch out.'**



4.6 ADVENTURE

#EverydayEtymology

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

**Root origin is *gwa-* meaning
'to go, come.'**

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

**venture
adventuring
adventuring
adventured
advent
avenue**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

**Introduced in the 1200s as *aventure*
or *aventure* meaning 'that which
happens by chance, fortune, luck.'**

**The meaning of 'a perilous
undertaking' was introduced in the
late 14th century.**



4.7 ICE CREAM

#EverydayEtymology

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

**Created by combining the words
'ice' and 'cream.'
Ice cream cone was introduced
in 1909.**

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

**In French... la glace
In Catalan... gelat
In Italian... gelato
In Spanish – helado
In Swedish... glass**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

**Originally known as *iced cream*
(1680s) meaning 'a confection
made by congealing variously
flavoured cream or custard in a
vessel surrounded with a
freezing mixture.'**



4.8 OUTDOORS

#EverydayEtymology

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

**'Out' is from the Old English *utian*
meaning 'expel, put out' and
'door' is from the root origin
dhwer- meaning 'door, doorway.'**

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

**the great outdoors (1932)
out a doors (1520s)
foreign
forum
forest**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

**Introduced in 1817 meaning 'in
the open air, out of the house.'

The use of the phrase 'open
spaces' is recorded from 1857.**



4.9 SWIM/SWIMMING

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

The root origin is *swem-* meaning 'to be in motion' and also *sna-* meaning 'cross by swimming, to let flow.'

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

nourish
nurse
nursery
nurture
nutrient

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

From Old English *swimman* meaning 'to move in or on the water, to float.'

Possible cognates are Welsh *chwyf* (motion), Old Irish *do-sennaim* (I hunt) and Lithuanian *sundyti* (to chase).



4.10 KITE

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

**From Old English *cyta* which
relates to the sound of the cry/
call of the kite (bird).**

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

**go fly a kite (1942)
box-kite (1898)
Red Kite (bird of prey)**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

**The toy 'kite' (a light frame
covered with paper or cloth) was
first named in the 1660s from the
way it hovers in the air like a bird.**



4.11 SEA

#EverydayEtymology

**Morpheme
Marvel** asks...



**What are the
root words?**

The root origin of 'mere' is *mori-* meaning 'body of water.'

**Captain
Connector** asks...



**Which words
are related?**

aquamarine
marina
marinate
maritime
mermaid
submarine

**Doctor
Derivation** asks...



**What's the
word history?**

From Middle English *se* and *seo* meaning 'a sheet of water, sea, lake, pool.'

Germanic languages also use the more general word *mere* but there's no distinction between 'sea' and 'lake.'



4.12 SAND

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

The root origin is *bhes-* meaning 'to rub' referring to the fine, crystalline particles of sand.

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

sand-grass – grass growing in sand (1766)
sand-trap – filtering water (1838) or in golf (1906)
sand-bank – hill of sand formed by a river or sea (1580s)
sand-castle (1838)
sand-dune (1830)

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

From the Old English word *sand* and Latin *sabulum* meaning 'coarse sand.'



4.13 FLIP-FLOPS

#EverydayEtymology

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

The word 'flip-flap' had been used since the 1520s to imitate a flapping movement or sound.

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

'Flip-flop' can also mean to change direction (used in English from the 1900s).

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

Also without the hyphen (*flip flop*), this word was introduced in 1970 and imitates the sound of someone walking in this kind of shoe (a plastic, beach sandal).



4.14 CAMP/CAMPING

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

**The origin of the word is from
Latin *campus* and French *champ*
meaning 'a field.'**

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

**'Camping out' was introduced in
American English in 1834 and
campground in 1806.
**Another meaning (from the
1520s) was 'a place where an
army lodges temporarily.'**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

**Introduced in the 1540s meaning
'to establish or make a camp.'**

**In the 1610s, the meaning
changed slightly – 'to live
temporarily in tents or shelter.'**



4.15 CHILL (CHILL OUT)

#EverydayEtymology

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

**The root origin is *gel-*
meaning 'cold, to freeze.'**

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

**cold
cool
glacier
jelly
gel**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

**Originally from the 14th century,
'chill' meant 'to feel cold, grow
cold.'**

**The modern meaning of 'chill' as
'to hang out' was first recorded in
1985, from 'chill out' in 1979.**

4.16 BAREFOOT

**Morpheme
Marvel asks...**



**What are the
root words?**

**The root origin of 'bare' is *bhoso-*
meaning 'naked.'
The root origin of 'foot' is *ped-*
meaning 'foot.'**

**Captain
Connector asks...**



**Which words
are related?**

**pedal
pedestrian
pedicure**

**Doctor
Derivation asks...**



**What's the
word history?**

**From Old English *baerfot* as a
compound word from the words
'bare' and 'foot.'**