# The New Oxford Dictionary of English 

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Madrid
and 'iransfer (land) to a corporation in ma. from Old French amortiss. lengthened stem u. amortur, based on Latin ad 'to. at' * mors. mort. 'death'.
Amos /emos/a Hebrew minor prophet ( $c .760 \mathrm{BC}$ ). a shepherd of Tekoa. near Jerusalem.
wa book of the bible concaining his prophecies.
amosite [emosant noun [mass nounf an iron-rich a mphibole asbestos, mined in South Africa.
ORIGIN early 20th cent.: from the initial letrers of Asbestos Mines of South Africa + -ITE
amount - noun a quantity of something, especially the total of a thing or things in number size. value. or extent: sport gives an enormous amount of pleasure to many people I the subsiance is hammess if taken in small amounts.
Ea sum of money: they have spent a colossal amount rebuilding the stadium.

- verb [no objj] (amount tol come to be [the cotal) when added together: losses amounted to over 10 million pounds.
Be the equivalem of: their ations amounted to a conspracy.
- PHRASES any amount of a great deal or number of: the secand half produced any amount of action no mount of nor even the greatest possible amount amount of not even the greatest possible am
of no amount of talk is going to change anything
- origin Middle English (as a verb): from Old French amunet. from amont 'upward'. literally 'uphill'. from latin ad montem. The noun use dates from the early 18 ch cent.
amour pimus noun a love affair or lover. especially one that is secret: he is enraged at this revelation of his past a mours.
- oricin Middle English foriginally in the sense 'love, affection): via Old French from Latin amor 'love'. The current sense dates from the late 16 th cenc.
amour courtois 12 mus ks :iwn French amur kurtura/ noun anocher term for courthy love.
- ORIGIN French.
amour fou $\beta$ muz 'fu:, French amuk fu) $\downarrow$ noun [mass noun] uncontrollable or obsessive passion.
-ORIGIN 1970s: French. 'insane love'.
arnour propre /a.mus propr(o). French amur propr/ noun [mass nount a sense of one's own worth: self-respect: Pablo's amour propre must have been tested by his short stature.
- origin French.

Amoy $/ a$ mal another name for XIAMEN.
AMP Bioctemisiry $\rightarrow$ abbreviation for adenosine monophosphate.
amp' noun short for AMPERE.
amp $^{2}$ - noun informal short for AMplifier.
ampelopsis /ampilopsis/ noun (pi. same) a bushy climbing plant of the vine family.

- Genus Ampelopsis, lamily Vilaceae: two species. especially the Norih American A. cordata
- Oricin modern Latin. from Greek ampelos 'vine' * opsis 'appearance'.
amperage $\mid \operatorname{amp}(\partial)$ rid $3 / \vee$ noun the strength of an electric current in amperes.
Ampère /'ampe., French āprk). André-Marie (17752836). French physicist, mathematician, and philosopher. who analysed the relacionship between magnetic force and electric eurrent.
ampere /ampe:/ (abbrev.: A) noun a unit of electric current equal to a flow of one coulomb per second.
- The SI base unil of electric cuerent. 1 ampere is precisely defined as that constant current which, it maintained in two straight parallel conductors of infinite tength, of negligible eireular cross section, and placed 1 metre apart in a vacuum. would produce between these conductors a force of $2 \times 10^{-1}$ newton per melre
- Oricin late 19th cenc.: named after A-M AmpĖRE.
ampersand /ampasand/ noun the sign \& (standing for and, as in Smith 8 Co.. or the Latin ef. as in Ec.).
- ORIGIN mid 19 th cent.: alteration of and per se and ' 6 by itself is and', chanted as an aid to learning the sign.
amphetamine $/$ am' $\lceil\varepsilon$ เวmi:n, $-1 n /$ noun \{mass noun\} a synthetic, addictive, mood-altering drug, used illegally as a stimulant.
- |count nound a cablet of this drug.

Alternatwe name: 1-pheny-2-aminopropane (or one of its salts. especially amphetamine sulphate): chem. salts. especially amphetamin
lormula: $\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{NH}_{2}$.

- OrICIN 1930s: abbreviation of its chemical nar. allpho-jm(ethyl) phe(ne) inyl)amine.
amphi-/amfi/ combining form 1 boch: amphibian. mof both kinds: amphipod. on both sides: amphiprosiyte.
2 around: amphitheatre
- ORIGIN from Greek.
amphibian 1 noun $200 \log$ y a cold-blooded vertebrate animal of a class that comprises the frogs. toads. newts, salamanders. and caecilians. They are distinguished by having an aquatic gill-breathing larval stage followed (typically) by a terrestrial lung. breathing adult stage.
Class Amphibia: orders Urodela (newts and salamanders).
Anura (Irogs and loads), and Gymnophiona (caecilians).
a seaplane. tank, or other vehicle that can operate on land and on water.
- adjective Loology of or relating 10 this class of animals: amphibion eggs.
- OrICin mid 17th cent. (in the sense 'having two modes of existence or of doubtful nature): from modern Latin amphibium 'an amphibian', from Greek amphibion (noun use of amphibios living both in water and on land'. from amphi 'both' + bios 'life').
amphibious fam'fibirs/ adjective relating to. living in. or suited for both land and water. an amphibious vehicle.
- lof a military operation) involving forces landed from the sea: an amphibious assault. © (of forces) trained for such operations.
- derivatives amphibiousily advert.

ORICIN mid 17th cent.: from modern Latin amphibium, from Greek amphibion (see AMPHIBIAN) * ous.
amphibole $\int$ amfibsul/ $>$ noun any of a class of rockforming silicate or aluminosilicate minerals typically occurring as fibrous or columnar crystals. - Oricin early 19th cent. from French. from Latin amphibolus 'ambiguous' (because of the varied structure of these minerals). from Greek amphibolos. from amphi. 'both. on both sides' * ballein 'to throw:
amphibolite /am'fiblati/ p noun [mass noun) Geology a granular metamorphic rock consisting mainly of hornblende and plagioclase.

- origin early 19th cent.: from Amphibole + -ite'.
amphibology l.amfibolodji/ noun (pl. -ies) a phrase or sentence that is grammatically ambiguous. such as She sees more of her childrem then her husband.
- Origin late Middle English: from Old French amphibologie, from late Latin amphibologia. from Latin amphibolia. from Greek amphibolos 'ambiguous' (see AMPHIBOLE).
amphiboly fam'fibsti) noun (pl. -ies) anocher term for Amphibologr.
amphibrach l'aminbrak/ noun Prosody a metrical $^{\text {a }}$ foot consisting of a suressed syllable berween two unstressed syllables or (in Greek and Latin) a long syllable berween two short syllables.
-origin late 16 th cent. foriginally in the Latin forms amphibrachus, amphibrachys): via Latin from Greek amphibrakhus 'short at both ends'.
amphimixis lamfimiksis/ poun |mass noun) Bolany sexual reproduction involving the fusion of two different gametes to form a zygore. Often contrasted with apomixis
- Derivatives amphimictic adjective.
- OrIGIN late 19th cent.: from amphi- - Greek mixis 'mingling'.
amphioxus /amfiokszs/ noun a small lancelet which is caught for food in parts of Asia.
- Genus Branchiostoma (lormenty Amphiozus). Iamily Branchiostomidae.
- ORICIN mid 19th cent.: modern Latin. from amphi+ Greek oxus 'sharp',
amphipathic lamlipa $\theta$ Ik/ adjective Biochemistry (of a molecule, especially a protein) having both hydrophilic and hydrophobic parts.
- ORICIN 1930s: from AMPHI. + Greek pathikOS (from pachos 'experience').
amphiphilic , amfifllik/ $\downarrow$ adjective Broctremistry another term for ampmipathic.
Amphipoda lamfipoudo/ 2cology an order of chiefly marine crustaceans with a laterally compressed body and a large number of leg-like appendages.
- DERIVATIVES amphipod/'amfipod/ noun.
- ORICIN modern Latin (plural), from amphi- of
sinds' (because some legs are specialized for 5n ..arning and some for feedingl + Greek pous, pod. 'foor'
amphiprostyle lam'fiprasixill adjective fof a classical building/ having a porsico at each end but nor at the sides.
- oricin early 18 th cent: via Latin from Greek amphiprostulos. from amphi. 'borh. on both sides'* prostulos 'having pillars in front' (see PRostraE).
amphisbaena lamfis'bi:ny noun poetchliterary a mythical serpent with a head at each end.
- origin lace Middle English: via Latin from Greek amphisbaina, from amphis 'both ways' + bainein 'go'.
Amphisbaenia l.amfis'bi:nid 200logy a group of repriles which comprises the worm lizards.
- Suborder Amphisbaenia, order Squamala
- derivatives amphisbaenian noun $\delta$ adjeclive.
- OrIGin modern Latin, from Greek omphisbaina. from amphis 'borh' * bainein 'go, walk'.
amphitheatre (US momithester) noun (especially in Greek and Roman architecture) a round building. typically unroofed, with a central space for the presentation of dramatic or sporting events surrounded by tiers of seats for spectators a a semicircular seating gallery in a theaue.
- origin late Middle English: via Latin from Greek amphitheatron. from amphi 'on both sides' + theatron (see theatre).
Amphitrite /amfitrali/ Greek Mynology a sea goddess. wife of Poseidon and mother of Triton.
amphiuma /amfiju:mol noun a fully aquaric eellike amphibian with very small limbs, occurring in stagnant water and swamps in the south-eastern US.
- Family Amphiumidae and genus Amphiums: three specios.
- Fomily Amphiumidae and genus Amphiums: three specios.
origin modern Latin. probably formed iregularly from Amphi- 'both' + Greek pneuma 'breath".
amphora famf(a)ra) noun (pl. amphorae |-ri:/ or amphoras) a tall ancient Greek or Roman jar or jug with two handles and a narrow neck.
- origin Latin. from Greek amphoreus. or from French amphore.
amphoteric l.amfo'tarik/ adjective Chemissry lof a compound, especially a meral oxide or hydroxide) able to react both as a base and as an acid.
- ORIGIN mid 19 th cent.: from Greek amphoteros. comparative of ampho 'both'. + -ic.
ampicillin lampisilin/ noun lmass noun Medicine a semi-synthetic form of penicillin used chiefly to rreat infections of the urinary and respiratory tracts.
- ORICIN 1960s: blend of ARANO and a contraction of PENICILLIN.
ample adjective (ampler, amplest) enough or more than enough: plentiful: there is ample time for discussion I an ample supply of consumet goods.
- large and accommodating: he leaned back in his ample chair. - used euphemistically to convey that someone is stout she stood with her hands on her ample hips.
- DERIVATIVES ampieness noun, amply adverb.
- OR:Gin late Middle English: via French from Latin amplus 'large, capacious, abundant'
amplexus lam'pleksos/ noun [mass noun] Zoology the mating position of frogs and roads. in which the male clasps the female about the back.
- ORICIN 1930s: from Latin, 'an embrace.
amplifier noun an electronic device for increasing the amplicude of electrical signals. used chiefly in sound reproduction.
a device of this kind combined with a loudspeaker used to amplify electric guitars and other musical instruments.
amplify vert (-ies, -ied) [with oby.) (often be armplified) increase the volume of (sound), especially using an amplifier: the accompanying chords have been amplified in our arrangement.
- increase the amplitude of (an electrical signal or ocher oscillation). a cause to become more marked or intense: urban polity initiatives amplifed jocial polarization. Genelics make mulciple copies of a gene or DNA sequence). enlarge upon or add detail to (a story or statement): the notes amplify information contained in the statement.
- DERIVATIVES amplification noun.
- origin late Middle English (in the general sense 'increase. augment'): from Old French amplifier. from Latin amplificare. from amplus 'large. abundant'.
amplitude noun [mass noun] 1 Physics the maximum
-a list of the books of a specific author or publisher. or on a specific subject. (mass nounl the history or systematic description of books. their authorship. printing. publication. editions, els. any book containing such information.
- DERIVATIVES bibliographer noun. bibliographic |-a'grafik/ adjective. bibliographical |-2gralik(o)l| adjeclive. blbliographically $\mid-$ g'grafikialli| advert. $^{\text {a }}$
- ORIGIN early 19th cent.: from French bibliographie or modern Latin bibliogruphin. from Greek biblion 'book" + graphia 'writing'
bibliomancy /biblis(u)mansi/ $\rightarrow$ noun (mass noun) the practice of foretelling the future by interpreting a randomly chosen passage from a book. especially the Bible.
bibliomania noun [mass noun) passionate enthusiasm for collecting and possessing books.
- DERIVATIVES bibliomaniac noun 8 adjeclive.
bibliometrics - plural noun |reateo as sing.| statistical analysis of books. articles, or ocher publications.
-DERIVATIVES bibliometric adjective.
bibliophile noun a person who collects or has a great love of books.
- Derivatives bibliophitic adjective. bibliophily Fobili/ noun.
- Oricin early 19th cent.: from French. from Greek biblion 'book' + philas 'loving'.
bibliopole /biblisfuipaul/ noun achac a person who buys and sells books. especially rare ones.
- ORICIN late 18th cent.: via Latin from Greek bibliopols.s. from biblion 'book' + poles 'seller'
Bibliothéque nationale /.biblıo, lek, nisja'na:l. French bibljotek nasjonal/ the national library of France. in Paris. which receives a copy of every book and periodical ecc. published in France.
bib tap noun another term for sib cock.
bibulous /bibjulas/ adjective lormal excessively fond of drinking alcohol.
- DERIVATIVES bibulously advert. bibulousness noun.
- ORICIN late 17 th cent. (in the sense absorbent"):
- Oricin late lith cent. in the sense 'absorbent. bibere 'to drink') - ous.
bicameral $/ \mathrm{bakim}(2) \mathrm{r}(2) \mathrm{l}$ - adjective fof a legislative bodyl having tuo chambers.
- DERIVATIVES bicameralism noun.
- DERIVATIVES bicameralism noun.
- ORIEIN mid 19th cent: from bi- 'wo' + Latin
-ORICIN mid 19th cen
comera chamber' + -AL.
bicarb noun [mass noun] inlormal sodium bicarbonate.
bicarbonate fbwka:honett. -nil/ noun Chemsly a salt containing the anion $\mathrm{HCO}_{3}{ }^{-}$.
- (also bicartonate of sodal [mass nounl sodium bicarbonate.
bice fbus/ noun (mass noun) daled a medium blue or bluegreen pigment made from basic copper carbonate.
- ORIGIN Middle English (originally in the sense -dark or brownish grey') from Oid French bis dark grey', of unknown ultimate origin.
bicentenary / busen li:nari. - 'ien-/ noun (pl. -ies) the two-hundredth anniversary of a significant event.
- adjective of or relating to such an anniversary: the huge bicentemar' celebrations.
bicentennial noun $\&$ adjective another term for bicentenary.
bicephalous /buiscf|a)los. - 'kef-/ adjective having swo heads.
- ORICIN early 19ih cent.: from BI. 'rwo + Greek kephale 'head' + ous.
biceps |'buiteps/ noun (pl. same) any of several muscles having two points of atrachment at one end. in particular:
- (also bieeps brachii /brethinil) a large muscle in the upper arm which urns the hand to face palm uppermost and fiexes the arm and forearm: he clenched his fist and exhiburd his bulging biseps. © (also biceps femoris [fimasis/ or leg biceps\} Analomy a muscle in the back of the thigh which helps to 䏠 the leg.
- ORIGIN mid 17th cent.: from Latin. literally 'rwoheaded'. from bi- 'wo' * cceps (from cuput bead').
bichir /bifia/ noun an elongated African feeshwater fish with an armour of hard shiny scales and a series of separate fins along its back.
-Genus Polyplerus. lamily Polypleridae: several species. incluang $P$ senegaius.
- ORIGIN 19605: via French from dialect Arabic abu shir.
 matters: whenever the phone rings. they bicker over who must answer it.
2 poenthlitary (of water) flow or fall with a gentle repetitive noise: parter.
- of a flame or lighu flash. gleam. or flicker.
- DERIVATIVES bickerer noun.
- oricin Middle English: of unknown origin.
bicky (also bikky) noun ( $\rho$ ! -ies) inlormal a biscuir.
- PHRASES big bickies Austral. inlormal a large sum of
money: Jusl showing up is worth big bickies.
- ORICIN 1930s: diminutive of Biscuit.

Bical noun \& adjective variant spelling of Brkol
bicolour adjective having two colours: a male bicolour damselfish.

- noun a bicolour flower or breed.
- DERIVATIVES bicoloured adjective \& noun.
biconcave $r$ adjective concave on boch sides.
biconvex adjective convex on both sides.
bicultural adjective having or combining the cultural attitudes and customs of two nations. peoples. or ethnic groups.
- derivatives biculturalism noun.
bicuspid - adjective having two cusps or points.
-noun a rooth with two cusps, especially a human premolar tooth.
- OrIGIN mid 19 gh cent.: from gi. 'rwo' - Latin ruspis, cuspid- 'sharp point'.
bicuspid valve noun Andomy another term for mitral valve.
bicycle noun 2 vehicle composed of two wheels held in a frame one behind the other. propelled by pedals and steered with handlebars attached to the front wheel.
- verb [no obp.. with adverbial of direction] ride a bicycle in a particular direction: the' had spent the holidays bigcting oround the beausiful Devonshire countryside.
bigcling around the beautiful
- DERIVATIVES bicyclist noun.
- ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: from mi. 'rwo' - Greek kuklos 'whee!'.
bicycle chain $\rightarrow$ noun a chain that transmits the driving power from the pedals of a bicycle to its rear wheel.
bicycle clip noun either of a pair of metal clips worn by a cyclist round their ankles to prevent their trouser legs from becoming entangled with the bicycle chain.
bicycie pump noun a portable pump for innating bicycle ryres.
bicycle rickshaw noun another term for CYCLE RICKSHAW.
bicyclic lbus s.aklik. - sik-1 adjective Chemisty having two rings of atoms in its molecule.
bid' verb (bidding: past and past participle bid) [wilh obs.] offer (a certain price) for something, especially at an auction: a consortium of dealers bid a world record price for a snuff box | what am I bid? I |no obb.] guests will bid for pieces of fine jeweller).
- [no otj.] (bid fari (of a contracior) offer to do (work) for a staced price: tender for: nineteen companies have indicated their intention to bid for the contract. a [no obi.] (bid for) make an effort or artempt to achieve: the two fonmords are bidding for ploces in the England side. fonmords are bidding for places make a statement during the auction Mrdge make a statement during the auction underiaking to make (a certain number if the bid is successful
with a stated as trumps) and one becomes the declarer: North bids four hearts | and one becomes the declarer: North bids
[no obl.] with this hand. South should not bid.
- noun an offer of a price. especially at an auction: at
the fur iobles, several buyers make bids for the pelis.
an offer to buy the shares of a company in order to gain control of it: a Iukeover biul. an offer to do work or supply goods at a stated price: a tender. a an attempt or effort to achieve something: Edward helped him make a bid for the Scottish throne | [with infinitive] an investigation would be carried ou: in a bid so establish what had happened. Bridge an undertaking by a player what had happened.
in the auction to make a stated number of tricks with a stated suit as uumps.
- DERIVATIVEs bidder noun.
- ORIGIN Old English béodan 'to offer. command', of Germanic origin: related to Dutch bieden and German bieten.
bid' verb (bidding: pest bid or bade: pasl parliciple bid) |with obji.] 1 utter (a greeting or farewell| to: a thance to bid forewell to their president and welcome the new moл.
2 ainaic or poelichterary command or order (someone) to do someching: I did as he bade me.
- invite (someonel to do someching: he bade his rompanions enter.
- PHRASES bid fair to achalc or poelicflserary seem tikely to: the girl bade fair to be prenty.
- origin Old Engiish biddon 'ask'. of Germanic origin: related to German biten
bidarka /baida:kal noun a canoe covered with animal skins. used by the Inult of Alaska and adjacent regions.
- oricin early 19th cent.: from Russian baidarka. diminurive of baidaro 'an umiak'.
biddable adjective 1 meekly ready to accept and follow instructions.
2 Bnoge strong enough to justify a bid.
- Degivatives biddabllity f'bilii/ noun.
bidden archaic or poeticlliterary past participle of B10.
bidding noun |mass nown 1 the offering of paricular prices for something. especially at an auction.
E che offers made in such a situation: from o cautious
opener of E30, the bidding soared to a top of $i 48$. a (in bridge and whist) the action of stating before play how many tricks one intends to make.
2 the ordering or requesting of someone to do something: women came running at his bidding | (in sing.) I never needed a second bidding.
PIng PASES do someone's bidding do what someone - PHRASES do someone's bidding do what someone
orders or requests, especially in a way considered overly slavish.
bidding paddle noun a paddle-shaped baton. typically marked with an identifying number. used to signal bids at auctions.
bidding prayer noun (ir. church use) a prayer in the form of an invitation by a minister or leader to the congregation to pray about something.
biddy - noun ( $p$ l, ies) informal a woman. especially an elderly one. regarded as annoying or interfering: the old biddies wete muttering in his direction.
- origin early 17 rh cent. (originally denoting a chicken): of unknown origin; probably influenced by the use of biddy denoting an lrish maidservant from Biddy. pet form of the given name Bridget.
bide verb (no obj... with adverbal of place) archaic or dialea remain or stay somewhere: how long muss I bide here to wail for the answer?
- phrases bide one's time wait quietly for a good opportunity to do someching: she patiently bided her time bejore making an escape bid.
- origin Old English bidan. of Germanic origin.
bidet $r$ noun a low oval basin used for washing one's genital and anal area.
- ORIGIN mid 17th cent. (in the sense 'horse'): from French, literally 'pony', from bider 'to trot'. of unknown origin.
bidi /'bi:di:/ (also beedi or biri) noun (pl. bidis) (in the Indian subcontinent) a type of cheap cigarene made of unprocessed tobacco wrapped in leaves.
made of unprocessed tobacco wrapped in leaves. - oricin from
Sanskrit vitika.
bidirectional adjective functioning in two directions.
bidonville /bid(a|nvil/ nown a shanty town built of oil drums or other metal containers, especially on the ourskirts of a North African ciry.
- ORIGIN 1950s: from French. from bidon container for liquids' + ville 'town'.
bid price noun the price at which a marketmaker or dealer is prepared to buy securities or other assets. Compare with OFFER PRICE.
bidri /'bidri) $>$ noun [mass noun] an alloy of copper. lead. tin. and zinc, used as a ground for intaying with gold and sitver.
origin late 18 th cent.: from Urdu bidry. from Bidar. the name of a town in India.
Biedermeier / bi:damalo/ $\rightarrow$ adjective denoting or relating to a style of furniture and interior decoration current in Germany in the period 181548, characterized by restraint. conventionality, and utilitarianism.
- ORICIN from the name of Gotclieb Biedermoier, a - ORICIN from the name of Gotrlieb Biedemmate, a
fictitious German provincial schoolmaster and poet created by L. Eichrodr (1854).
Bielefeld /bilafelt/an industrial city in North Rhine-Westphalia in western Germany: pop. Rhine-Westphalial
322.130 (1991).
biennale f.bixina:leı, -lij noun a large an

2 a person who reviews examination papers to ensure consistency. or orherwise oversees an examination.
3 Prysics a substance used in a nuclear reactor to retard neutrons.

- Derivatives moderatorship noun.
modern adjective of or relating to the present or recent times as opposed to the remote past: the pace of modern life I modem Chinese history
:characterized by or using the most up-lo-date lechniques, ideas, or equipment: they do not have modern weapons. atarib.) denoting the form of a language that is currently used, as opposed to any earlier form: modern Germon. - |atrib.) denoting a current or recems style or crend in art architecture or other cultural activity marked by a significant departure from traditional styles. and values: Matisse's contribution to modern art
noun (usu. moderns) a person who advocates or practises a departure from traditional styles or values.
- derivatives modernity noun. modernly advert. modernness noun.
- Origin late Middle English: from late Latin modernus, from Latin modo 'just now'
modern dance $>$ noun [mass nown] a free expressive sryle of dancing started in the early 20th century as a reaction to classical ballet. In recent years it has included elements not usualiy associared with dance, such as speech and film.
moderne $/ \mathrm{ma} d a: n /$ adjective of or relating to a popularization of the art deco sryle marked by bright colours and geometric shapes.
- ohen derogatory denoting an ultra-modern scyle
- ORICIN mid 20rh cent.: French. 'modern'.
modern English noun [mass noun] the English language as it has been since abour 1500
Modern Greats plural noun (as Oxford University) the school of philosophy. politics. and economics.
modern history noun [mass noun] history up to the present day. from some arbitrary point taken to represent the end of the Middle Ages. In some contexts it may be contrasted with 'ancient' rather than "medieval" history. and start (e.g.) from the fall of the Western Roman Empire.
modernism noun [mass noun] modern character or quality of thought. expression. or technique: when he waxes philosophical. he comes over as a strange mix of nostalgia and modernism
-a scyle or movement in the arts that aims to break with classical and (raditiona) forms. a a movement towards modifying traditional beliefs in accordance with modern ideas. especially in the Roman Catholic Church in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
modernist noun a believer in or supporter of modernism. especially in the arts.
- adjective of or associated with modernism especially in the arts.
- derivatives modernistic adjective.
modernize (also -ise) vert (with obj.) adapt (something) to modem needs or habits, typically by installing modern equipment or adopting modern ideas or merhods: he wanted to modermize the healith service.
DERIVATIVES modernization noun, modernizer noun.
modern jazz noun [mass noun) jazz as developed in the 1940 s and 1950s. especially bebop and the music that followed it.
modern languages plural noun European languages (especially French and Cerman) as a subject of study. as contrasted with classical Latin and Greek.
modern Latin $>$ noun [mass noun) Latin as developed since 1500 . used especially in scientific terminology.
modern pentathlon noun see pentatmlon
modest adjective 1 unassuming or moderate in the estimation of one's abibities or achievements: he ubs a very modest man, refusing to take any credit for the enterprise.
2 fof an amount, rate, or level of something)
relatively moderate, limited, or small: drimk modest amounts of aicohol | employmen: growth wos relatively modest.
Clof a place in which one lives, eats. or stay's) nor
excessively large, elaborate, or expensive: a modesi flar in Fulham.
3 (of a woman) dressing or behaving so as to avoid impropriety or indecency, especially to avoid atracting sexual attention.
-(of clothing) not tevealing or emphasizing the figure: modest dress means that hemlines must be below the knee. - DERIVATIVEs modestly advert.
- ORICIN mid 16th cent.: from French modeste. from Latin modestus 'keeping due measure', relared to modus 'measure'.
modesty nown |mass noun the quality or state of being unassuming or moderate in the estimation of one's abilities: with typical modesty he insisted on sharing the credir with others.
Ethe quality of being relatively moderate. limited. or smali in amount. rate, or level: the modesty of hi political aspirations. behaviour. manner. or appearance intended to avoid impropriety or indecency: modesty fortade her to undress in front of so many people.
modicum l'modikam/ noun [in sing.] a small quantity of a particular thing, especially something considered desirable or valuable: his statement had more chan a modicum of truth.
ORICIN late 15ch cent.: from Latin. neuter of modicus 'moderate', from modus 'measure'
modification noun (mass noun) the action of modifying something: the ports supplied should fit with little or no modification.
- |counl nouml a change made: a number of madifications are being carried out to the engines.
Origin late 15 th cent. (in Scots law. denoting the assessment of a payment): from French, or from Latin modificatio(n). from modificare (see modify).
modifier noun a person or thing that makes partial or minor changes to something.
-Grammar a word. especially an adjective or noun used attribucively, that restricts or adds to the sense of a head nous (e.g. good and family in a good family house). - Gentios a gene which modifies the phenorypic expression of a gene at another locus.
modify $\rightarrow$ rert (-les, -ied) [with obj.] make parrial or minor changes to (something). typically so as to improve it or to make it less extreme: she may be prepared to modify her views i [as adj. modified] a modified version of the aircrafi.
- Biology transform (a structure) from its original anatomical form during development or evolution. - Grammar (especially of an adjective) restrict or add to the sense of (a noun): the target noun is modified by a 'direction' word. E Phonetics pronounce (a speech sound) in a way that is different from the norm for that sound.
- derivatives modifiable adjective. modificatary adjective.
- Origin late Middle English: from Old French modifier. from Latin modificare. from modus (see modifier.
MODE).
Modigliani /.modilja:ni/. Amedeo (1884-1920). Italian painter and sculptor, resident in France from 1906. His portraits and nudes are noted for their elongated forms. linear qualities, and earthy colours.
modillion /ma'diljan/ noun archiveclure a projecring bracket under the corona of a cornice in the Corinthian and other orders
- oricin mid 16th cent.: from French modillon, from Italian modighone. based on Latin mutulus 'mutule'. modiolus /mo'dnılas/ noun (pl. modialif) Anatomy the conical central axis of the cochlea of the ear.
- ORIGIN early 19 th cent.: from Latin. literally 'nave of a wheel'
modish /maudij/ adjective ohen derogatory conforming to or following what is currently popular and fashionable: it seems sad that such a scholar should feel compelled to use this modish jargon.
- derivatives modishly advert, modishness noun
modiste /mo'di:sy noun daled a fashionable milliner or dressmaker
orrgin mid 19 h cent.: French. from mode "fashion.
Mods plural noun inlormal the Moderations examination at Oxford University.
modular adjective employing or involving a module or modules as the basis of design or construction: modular housing units.
- of or relating to an educational course designed as a
series of independent units of study that can be
combined in a number of ways. Matnematics of or relaring to a modulus
- DERIVATIVES modularity noun
- ORIGIN late 18th cent.: from modern Latin modularis. from Latin modulus (see modulus).
modulate /modjulenli verb [win oon.] exert a modifying or controlling influence on: the state attemprs to modulate private business's cash fow
- vary the strength. tone, or pitch of (one's voice): ne all modulate our voice by heaning it. aller the amplitude or frequency of fan electromagnetic wave or other oscillation) in accordance with the variations of a second signal. gecordallyce with the variations of a second signal. gypicalty one of a lower
irequency: radio waves are modulated to carry the frequency: radio waves are modulated to carty the
onalogue information of the voice. ano obl.] Muste change onalogue information of the wice. © (no obll. Mustic change
from one key to another: the firs half of the melody. from one key to another: the firs hatf of the melody.
modulating from $E$ minor to $G$. 1 (no obi.) imodulate modularing from $E$ minor to 6 . (no obi. imodulate (another): the fraught silence would modulate into conciliator' monosyllables.
- Derivatives modulation noun, modulator noun.
- origin mid l6th cent. (in the sense intone (a songl'l: from Latin modulat. 'measured, made melody'. from the verb modulari. from modulus 'measure' (see mooulus).
module noun each of a set of standardized parts or independent units that can be used to construct a more complex structure, such as an item of furniture or a building.
weach of a set of independent units of study or training that can be combined in a number of ways to form a course at a college or university. a lusu. mith modilitel $2 n$ independent self-contained unit of a spacecraft. - Compuling any of a number of distinct but interrelated units from which a program may be built up or into which a complex activity may be analysed.
- ORIGIN late 16 th cent. (in the senses 'allorted scale' and 'plan. model'): from French. or from Latin modulus (see moDulus). Current senses date from the 1950s.
modulo /modjulau preposition Mathematics lin number theoryl with respect to or using a modulus of a specified number. Two numbers are congruent modulo a given number if they give the same remainder when divided by that number.


## - [zs modifier] using moduli: modulo operations.

- OrIcin late 19th cent: from Latin. ablative of modulus (see modulus)
modulus /'modjulos/ Mathematics noun (pl modull |-lal. -li:|| 1 another term for absolute value.
whe positive square root of the sum of the squares of the real and imaginary parts of a complex number: 2 a constant factor or ratio.
-a constant indicating the relation between a physical effect and the force producing it.
3 a number used 25 a divisor for considering numbers in sets. numbers being considered congruent when giving the same remainder when divided by a particular modulus.
- ORIGIN mid 16 th cent. (denoting an architectural unit of length): from Latin, literally measure' diminutive of modus.
modus operandi /moudos ops'randi:, -dal noun (pl. modi operandi /,moudiी [usu. in sing.) a particular way or method of doing something, especially one that is characteristic or well-established: every killer has his own special modus operandi.
- the way something operates or works.
-origin Latin. literally 'way of operating'
modus ponens /,moudas 'pounenz/ noun the rule of logic which states that if a conditional statement ("if $p$ then $q$ ") is accepted, and the antecedent ( $p$ ) holds, then the consequent $(g)$ may be inferred holds, then the consequent ( $q$ )
man argument using this rule.
- origin latin, literally 'mood that affirms'
modus tollens /.moudas 'tolenz/ noun she rule of logic which states that if a conditional statement ('if $p$ then $q$ ') is accepted, and the consequent does not hold (not-q) then the negation of the antecedent (not-p) can be inferred.
Ean argument using this rule.
- origin Latin, literally 'mood that denies'.
modus vivendi /.moudas vivendi., -d.al/ noun ( $p$ t. modi vivendi (moudi) (usu. in sing.) an arrangement or agreement allowing conflicting parties to coexist peacefully, either indefinitely or uncil a Enal settlement is reached.
-a way of living.
- origin Latin. literally 'way of living'

Moesia /imiss. "mi: $\int a /$ an ancient country of

