

Weekly Word of Wisdom #1

Crinose – \krahy-nohs,krinohs\ adjective

Definition : hairy

Example: His crinose arms and back reminded me of an orangutan.

Origin: Latin root crinis meaning hair. The suffix –ose is used in adjectives describing "full".

Crinose began to be used in English in the 1720s.

Weekly Word of Wisdom #2

Tinnabular – \tin-ti-NAB-yuh-ler\ adjective

Definition : of or pertaining to bells or bell ringing.

Example: The tinnabular bells of Notre Dame can be heard on the left bank of Paris.

Origin: Comes from the Latin tinnabular comes from the Latin tinnabulum meaning bell.

Word of Wisdom #3

Calvous – \KAL-vuhs\ adjective

Definition : lacking all or most of the hair on the head; bald.

Example: Homer Simpson's calvous head was as shiny as the moon on a clear night.

Origin: Derived from the New Latin word calvus meaning "bald."

Word of Wisdom #4

Indagate – \IN-duh-geyt\verb

Definition: to investigate; research.

Example: Nancy Drew was well known in the act of indagation.

Origin: *Indagate* entered English in the 1600s from the Latin *indāgāre* meaning "to track down."

Word of Wisdom #5

Galoot – \guh-LOOT\noun

Definition: *Slang*. An awkward, eccentric, or foolish person.

Example: The galoot who had too much to drink at the party was the only one who was ready to pick a fight.

Origin: *Galoot* entered English in the early 1800s and is of unknown origin.

Word of Wisdom #6

Bibliophobe - \BIB-lee-uh-fohb\ noun

Definition: a person who hates, fears, or distrusts books.

Example: Acting as if they were bibliophobes, the students in the class claimed that they were unable to read the article that was assigned.

Origin: *Bibliophobe* comes from the Greek *biblion* meaning "book" and *phobos* "fear."

Word of Wisdom #7

Demesne – \dih-MEYN,-MEEN\ noun

Definition

1. possession of land as one's own: *land held in demesne*.
2. an estate or part of an estate occupied and controlled by, and worked for the exclusive use of, the owner.

Example

Harry Potter's land was held in demesne until he came of age.

Origin

Demesne is derived from the Middle English word *demeine*. It is related to the more common word *domain*, which also comes from the Latin word *dominicus* meaning "of a master."

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Word of Wisdom #8

Accidence-\AK-si-duhns\ noun

Definition

1. The rudiments or essentials of a subject.
2. In grammar, the study of inflection as a grammatical device or the inflections so studied.

Example

The accidence occurring in the child's pronunciation made me think of my previous days in New York City.

Origin

Accidence likely comes from the Latin grammatical term *accidentia* which referred to the part of grammar dealing with inflection. *Accidence* is related to the word accident, from the Latin *accidere* meaning "to befall."

\BIB-lee-uh-fohb\ noun

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Word of Wisdom #9

Deiform-\DEE-uh-fawrm\ adjective

Definition

1. Godlike or divine in form or nature.

Example

The male model had a deiform figure with perfect proportions.

Origin

Deiform comes from the Medieval Latin word *deiformis*, a combination of *dei*- (meaning “god”) and *-formis* (meaning “having the form of”).

\BIB-lee-uh-fohb\ noun

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Word of Wisdom #10

Odontoid-\oh-DON-toid\ adjective

Definition

1. Of or resembling a tooth; toothlike.

Example

The peaks of the mountain range resembled odontoid structures.

Origin

Odontoid entered English in the early 1700s from the Greek word *odontoeid* meaning “toothlike.”

\BIB-lee-uh-fohb\ noun

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Origin: *Bibliophobe* comes from the Greek *biblion* meaning “book” and *phobos* “fear.”

Cryptesthesia-\krip-tuhs-THEE-zhuh\ noun

Definition

1. Allegedly paranormal perception or clairvoyance.

Example

The fortuneteller had the rare gift of cryptesthesia.

Origin

Coined in the 1920s, *cryptesthesia* is a combination of *crypt(o)-*, meaning “hidden,” and *esthesia* referring to “capacity for sensation or feeling.”

\BIB-lee-uh-fohb\ noun

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Word of Wisdom #12

Comeuppance-\kuhm-UHP-uhns\ noun

Definition

1. *Informal.* Deserved reward or just desert, usually unpleasant.

Example

The student finally received her comeuppance for her rude behavior.

Origin

Comeuppance comes from the verbal phrase *come up* meaning “present oneself for judgment before a tribunal.” It is an Americanism that gained popularity in mid-1800s.

\BIB-lee-uh-fohb\ noun

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Word of Wisdom #13

Rufescent-\roo-FES-uhnt\ adjective

Definition

1. Somewhat reddish; tinged with red: rufous.

Example

During the winter months, is it easy to spot children playing outside with rufescent cheeks.

Origin

Rufescent was mostly used in zoological descriptions when it entered English in the early 1800s. Its Latin precursor *rufescent* was formed from the Latin term for “red” or “reddish”.

\BIB-lee-uh-fohb\ noun

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Specter-\SPEK-ter\ noun

Definition

1. Some object or source of terror or dread.
2. A visible incorporeal spirit, especially one of a terrifying nature: ghost; phantom; apparition.

Example

The student had a nightmare that a specter of their least favorite professor failed them on their final exam.

Origin

Specter is derived from the Latin verb *specere* meaning “to look, see.” It entered English in the early 1600s

Weekly Word of Wisdom: Spring #1

Subrogate: \SUHB-ruh-geyt\ verb

Definition

1. To put into the place of another: substitute for another.
2. *Civil Law.* To substitute (one person) for another with reference to a claim or right.

Example

The student subrogated using an Apple computer instead of a pc.

Origin

Subrogate comes from the Latin word *subrogare* which means “to nominate (someone as a substitute.”

Weekly Word of Wisdom #16

Nonesuch \NUHN-suhch\ noun

Definition

1. A person or thing without equal; paragon.

Example

The professor thinks of himself as a nonesuch, since he is an expert in British Literature.

Origin

Nonesuch entered English in the mid-1500s. It is a portmanteau of the words *none* and *such*.

Solipsistic \sol-ip-SIS-tik\ adjective

Definition

1. Of or characterized by solipsism, or the theory that only the self exists, or can be proved to exist.

Example

The girl's **solipsistic** attitude made her acquaintances think that only she existed.

Origin

Solipsistic descends from the Latin terms *solus* meaning “alone” and *ipse* meaning “self.” It entered English in the late 1800s.

Polymathy \puh-LIM-uh-thee\ noun

Definition

1. Learning in many fields; encyclopedic knowledge.

Example

Benjamin Franklin was known for his **polymathy**.

Origin

Polymathy descends from the Greek words *poly* meaning “much,” and *manthanein* meaning “to learn.” It entered English in the mid-1600s.

Weekly Word of Wisdom #19: Spring #5

Augur \AW-ger\ verb

Definition

1. To conjecture from signs or omens.
2. To be a sign, bode.

Example

The student augured the outcome of the exam, since he knew he did not study.

Origin

Augur comes from the Latin verb *augere* meaning “to augment” with the original implication of “prosper.” It entered English in the mid-1500s.

Phillumunist \fi-LOO-muh-nist\ noun

Definition

1. A collector of matchbooks and matchboxes.

Example

The woman was found to be an avid phillumunist.

Origin

Phillumunist came to English in the mid-1990s from the Greek *philos* meaning “loving,” the Latin *lumen* meaning “light.” The suffix *-ist* denotes a person who practices or is concerned with something.

Word of Wisdom #21: Spring #7

Collywobbles\KOL-ee-wob-uhlz\ noun

Definition

1. A feeling of fear, apprehension, or nervousness.
2. Intestinal cramps or other intestinal disturbances.

Example

The final exam gave a few classmates a feeling of the collywobbles.

Origin

Collywobbles came to the English in the 1800s and is presumably based on the term *colic* meaning “a sudden pain in the abdomen or bowels.”

Mal de Mer \mal duh MER\ noun

Definition

1. Seasickness

Example

As the ship left the harbor, into open water, the feeling of mal de mer seized me.

Origin

Mal de mer came to English in the 1700s from French.

Pepper-upper \PEP-er-UHP-er\ noun

Definition

1. Something. As a food, beverage, or pill, that provides a quick but temporary period of energy and alertness.

Example

Red bull is a popular pepper-upper that many people turn to everyday.

Origin

Pepper-upper entered English in the 1930s from the expression *pep up*, an Americanism from the early 1900s.

Panoply \PAN-uh-plee\ noun

Definition

1. A wide-ranging and impressive array or display.
2. A complete suit of armor.

Example

The panoply of majors that Lynn offers is both wide and various.

Origin

Panoply entered English in the late 1500s, and comes from the Greek word *panoplia*, meaning “a full complement of arms and armor.”

Simulacrum\sim-yuh-LEY-kruh-m\ noun

Definition

1. A slight, unreal, or superficial likeness or semblance.
2. An effigy, image, or representation.

Example

The simulacrum of President Obama at the Hall of Presidents in Disney World was an unmistakable likeness to him.

Origin

Simulacrum is related to the word *simulate*. It comes from the Latin word *simulacrum* which means “likeness, image.”

Diurnal \dahy-UR-nl\ adjective

Definition

1. Of or belonging to the daytime (opposed to nocturnal).
2. Of or pertaining to a day or each day; daily.

Example

The diurnal nature of college students is, at times, frenzied.

Origin

Diurnal derives from the Latin term for “day,” *dies*. It entered English in the mid-1400s, when it was used chiefly to describe the movements of celestial objects.