

# OED

The historical English dictionary

oed.com



## Why the OED?

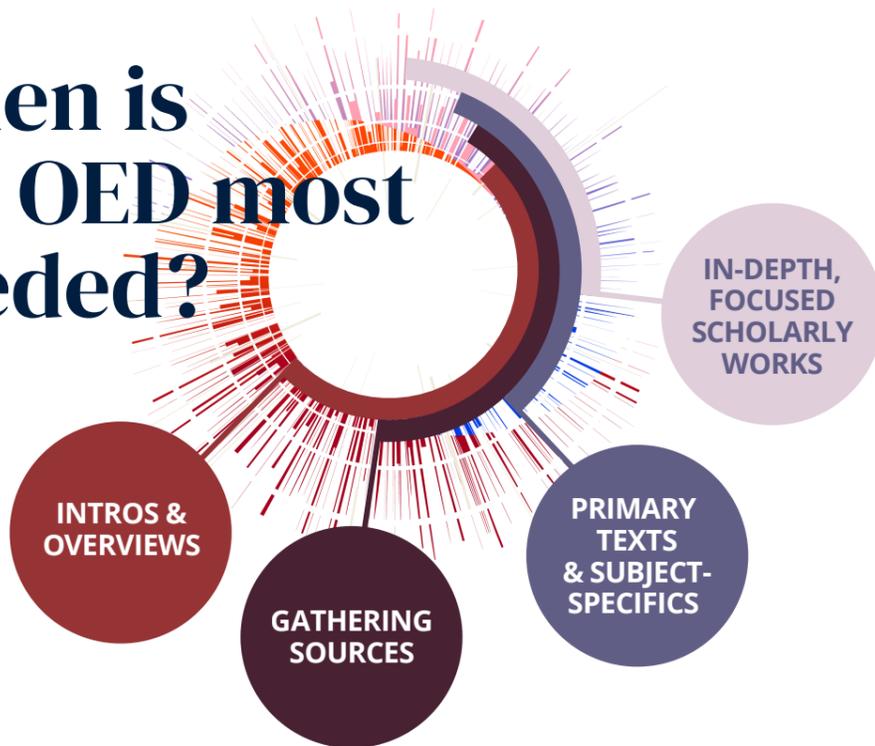
An authority on the English language, the OED is an unsurpassed guide to the meaning, history, and pronunciation of **500,000 words and phrases** from across the English-speaking world.

- ✓ UNRIVALLED ANALYSIS FROM NEARLY **100 LEXICOGRAPHERS**
- ✓ COMPLETE HISTORY OF INDIVIDUAL WORDS TRACED THROUGH **3 MILLION QUOTATIONS**
- ✓ SHOWS **WORD ORIGINS & DEVELOPMENT** RATHER THAN JUST MODERN USAGE
- ✓ BROWSE ALPHABETICALLY, CATEGORICALLY, OR BY SOURCE
- ✓ HISTORICAL THESAURUS SHOWS DIFFERENT WORDS FOR A CONCEPT **OVER TIME**
- ✓ WIDE RANGE OF **INTERACTIVE RESOURCES, TEACHING TOOLS, AND VIRTUAL EVENTS**

## When is the OED most needed?

The OED sits **at the heart of the academic research journey**, meeting and anticipating the needs and expectations of contemporary users.

It is full of valuable English language data that can be accessed easily and quickly, **saving researchers time and effort** no matter where their studies take them.



## Who is the OED for?

Researchers, academics, students, teachers, and professors of disciplines including English language and literature, linguistics, history, and lexicography.

FACULTY  
STUDENTS  
RESEARCHERS

- BUILDING BLOCKS FOR TEACHING
- SUPPLEMENTAL COURSE RESOURCES
- INTUITIVE SEARCHING
- REGIONAL VARIABILITY
- INTERDISCIPLINARY
- EASY ACCESS
- ANALYZE LARGE DATASETS
- ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

## RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

The OED's work is never complete! Here's a look at some additions and developments in 2025:

**610** new entries      **3,262** new senses

**3,404** entries updated through revision programme

## EXPANDED COVERAGE

of words from World Englishes, with additions from New Zealand English, Welsh English, East African English, and others

## FOUND EARLIER EVIDENCE

for hundreds of words as part of our work on antedating, such as...

- glamour* (antedated from 1937 to 1915)
- bloke* (antedated from 1861 to 1839)
- creaky* (antedated from 1834 to 1797)
- tooth fairy* (antedated from 1977 to 1908)



## What else does the OED offer?

In addition to the dictionary itself, a wealth of materials from detailed user guides to short informative videos support maximizing usage of all the OED has to offer, including but not limited to...

### FOR STUDENTS

- Guidance on the English language
- Glossary of grammatical terms
- World English hub
- Articles on the history of the English language

### FOR LIBRARIANS

- Materials to promote usage
- Training sessions with product experts
- Search widget code

### FOR TEACHERS AND LECTURERS

- Case studies and articles
- Downloadable posters
- Lesson plans

### OTHER RESOURCES

- Interactive quizzes
- Video guides and translations
- Virtual events

**SUCH AS** *Using the OED to Support Historical Writing* and *The Influence of Pop Culture on Mainstream Language*