

## The Roots of English- Worksheet 1

*All the words and expressions below are used in English, and most of them are used in many other languages too. Which languages did they originally come from (some languages appear several times)?*

A: beef, sauce, soup, sauté, marinade, mayonnaise, picnic, omelette, crepe, buffet, gourmet, marron, fillet, consommé, potage, hors d'oeuvre, café au lait, pain au chocolat, petit pois, champignon, chef, croissant, a la carte, croquette, sommelier, menu, champagne, rose, restaurant, roast, sirloin, soufflé, entrée, escargot, chef

B: violin, gallery, studio, dome, balcony, solo, sonata, prima donna, cello, finale, concerto, cello, opera, staccato, a cappella, allegro, aria, concerto, tempo, viola, baritone, falsetto, vibrato, legato, tremolo, sonata, biennale, bassoon, harmonica, piccolo, arpeggio, coda, glissando, mezzo soprano, scherzo, pianoforte,

C: genre, grand prix, matinee, montage, encore, renaissance, chanson, ballet, cabaret, collage, crayon,

D: yogurt, kiosk, coffee, turquoise, turkey, mammoth,

E: carpet, mascara, medal, charisma, ghetto, motto, portfolio, influenza, malaria, America, bank, casino, tarantula, torso, mafia, gondola, fascism,

F: trophy, umpire, croquet, parachute, relay, rifle, sport, etude,

G: broccoli, minestrone, latte, macaroni, cappuccino, espresso, pizza, pasta, spaghetti, farfalle, vermicelli,

H: tea, ketchup, lychee, wonton, oolong, mah-jong, feng shui, kung fu, silk, Tiananmen Square

I: aerobics, athlete, marathon, Olympic, gym(nasium),

J: punch, bungalow, pyjamas, shampoo, chutney, Himalaya, jungle, sari

K: denim, suede, negligee, haute couture, chic, prêt a porter, eau de cologne,

L: rickshaw, tycoon, (the head) honcho, koan, butoh, satori, hara-kiri, shiatsu, aikido, Ainu, Akita, anime, bonsai, bushido, futon, geisha girl, haiku, judo, kabuki, karaoke, kendo, kimono, ninja warriors, noh, origami, otaku, pachinko, salaryman, samurai warrior, shogun, sumo wrestling, tatami matting, yakuza, zaibatsu, shinto, Zen Buddhism, tsunami, typhoon, kaizen, reiki, kamikaze

M: robot, polka, pistol

N: zero, orange, alcohol, lemon, safari, saffron, syrup, sherbet, monsoon, jasmine, sofa, caramel, monkey, mirror, mattress, jar, mosque, Islam, Koran, minaret, O: okra, chimpanzee, zombie, banjo, jazz, voodoo,

O: debut, façade, esprit, fiancé, rendezvous, hostel, bidet, elite, hotel, silhouette, sabotage, camouflage, coupon, etiquette, raison d'être, route, syndicate, tampon, visa, zigzag, coupe, metre, petit bourgeois, attaché, coup d'état,

P: dollar, nickel, genome, seminar, neurosis, brake, heroin, menthol, muffin, noodle, poodle, pretzel, quartz, rocket, rucksack, scoop, snorkel, lager, waltz, Anglo Saxon, dachshund, edelweiss, yodel, sauerkraut, hamburger, frankfurter, Nazi,

Q: brandy, coleslaw, cookie, pickle, scone, snack, waffle, boss, Santa Claus, sketch, stove, Yankee, wagon, dot (matrix), drill, easel, etch(ing), gallop, holster, fumble, plug, mannequin, lob, knapsack, cam, holster, gallop,

R: comma, colon, alphabet, academy, apostrophe,

S: museum, harmonica, anthology, baritone, graphics, theme, music, xylophone, drama, symphony, scene, theatre, thesaurus, character, melody, mime,

T: satsuma, soy (sauce), miso soup, sake, nori, sashimi, soba, tempura, tofu, wasabi, shiitake,

U: haemoglobin, angina, allergy, atherosclerosis, anabolic (steroid), atomizer, cloning, cholera,

V: krypton, ceramic, isotope, kilo, mega(byte), mechanic, micrometer, amoeba, giga(byte), analysis, mnemonic, neon, halogen, amalgam, asbestos, automatic, siphon, television, microphone, helicopter, crystal,

W: trawl, cruise, deck, dock(ing), yacht, pump, block,

X: acrobat, echo, hero, panic, panorama, pyramid, anchor, atlas, catholic, Christ, alphabet, automatic, charisma, almond, aniseed, asparagus, anarchism, democracy, anti,

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**Japanese, Turkish, Dutch, Hindi, French, Italian, (various) Chinese languages, Arabic, German, Czech, Greek**

*Which languages have many words from these categories:*  
words spelt with 'ph' for /f/; words spelt with 'ce' and 'ci' for /ch/; words with a silent last consonant, e.g. 'et' as /ei/; Food; sailing and boats; clothes and fashion; artistic; punctuation; sports; scientific, medical and technical;

**Answer Key**

A: French, B: Italian, C: French, D: Turkish, E: Italian, F: French, G: Italian, H: Chinese languages, I: Greek, J: Hindi, K: French, L: Japanese, M: Czech, N: Arabic, O: French, P: German, Q: Dutch, R: Greek, S: Greek, T: Japanese; U: Greek, V: Greek, W: Dutch, X: Greek

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words spelt with 'ph' for /f/; Greek

words spelt with 'ce' and 'ci' for /ch/; Italian

words with a silent last consonant, e.g. 'et' as /ei/; French

Food; French, German, Arabic, Chinese, Italian

sailing and boats; Dutch

clothes and fashion; French

artistic; French, Dutch, Greek

punctuation; Greek

sports; French

scientific, medical and technical; Greek