

**ENGLISH ETYMOLOGY: A SELECT  
GLOSSARY SERVING AS AN  
INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY  
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

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English etymology: a select glossary serving as an introduction to the history of the English language by F. Kluge & F. Lutz

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**F. KLUGE & F. LUTZ**

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A SELECT GLOSSARY

SERVING AS AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY  
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

BY

*Friedrich*  
**F. KLUGE** AND *Frederick*  
**F. LUTZ**  
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STRASSBURG  
KARL J. TRÜBNER  
1898.

## PREFACE.

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Our primer of English Etymology is meant to serve as an introduction to the study of the historical grammar of English. However manifold the advantages which the student may derive from Professor Skeat's Etymological Dictionary, it cannot be denied that it does not commend itself as a book for beginners. Though it is a work of deep research, brilliant sagacity, and admirable completeness, the linguistic laws underlying the various changes of form and meaning are not brought out clearly enough to be easily grasped by the uninitiated. We therefore propose to furnish the student with a small and concise book enabling him to get an insight into the main linguistic phenomena. We are greatly indebted to Professor Skeat, of whose excellent work we have made ample use, drawing from it a great deal of material, which we hereby thankfully acknowledge. As our aim has of course not been to produce a book in any way comparable to our predecessor's work in fulness of detail and general completeness, we have confined ourselves to merely selecting all words the history of which bears on the development of the language at large. We have therefore, in the first place, traced back to the older periods loanwords of Scandinavian, French and Latin origin and such genuine English words as may afford matter for linguistic investigation. In this way we hope to have provided a basis for every historical grammar of English, e.g. for Sweet's *History of English Sounds*.

If we may be allowed to give a hint as to the use of our little book, we should advise the teacher to make it a point to always deal with a whole group of words at a time. Special interest attaches for instance to words of early Christian origin, to the names of festivals and the days of the week; besides these the names of the various parts of the house and of the materials used in building, the words for cattle and the various kinds of meat, for eating and drinking, etc. might be made the subject of a suggestive discussion. On treating etymology in this way, the teacher will have the advantage of converting a lesson on the growth of the English language into an inquiry into the history of the Anglo-Saxon race, thus lending to a naturally dry subject a fresh charm and a deeper meaning.

In conclusion, our best thanks are due to Professor W. Franz of Tübingen University, who has placed many words and etymologies at our disposal and assisted us in various other ways.

Freiburg i. B.

F. KLUGE — F. LUTZ.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.

acc. = accusative case  
 adj. = adjective  
 adv. = adverb  
 BRET. = Breton  
 CELT. = Celtic  
 conj. = conjunction  
 CORN. = Cornish  
 cp. = compare  
 Cymr. = Cymric (Welsh)  
 Dan. = Danish  
 dat. = dative case  
 der(iv). = derived, derivative  
 dimin. = diminutive  
 DU. = Dutch  
 E. = modern English  
 f. (fem.) = feminine  
 frequent. = frequentative  
 FR. = French  
 FRIES. = Friesic  
 G. = modern German  
 Gael. = Gaelic  
 gen. = genitive case  
 GOTH. = Gothic  
 GR. = Greek  
 Icel. = Icelandic  
 inf. = infinitive mood  
 infl. = inflected  
 interj. = interjection  
 IR. = Irish  
 ITAL. = Italian  
 LAT. = Latin  
 LG. = Low German

lit. = literally  
 LITH. = Lithuanian  
 m. = masculine  
 ME. = Middle English  
 MHG. = Middle High German  
 n. (neutr.) = neuter  
 nom. = nominative  
 obl. = oblique case  
 ODU. = Old Dutch  
 OFR. = Old French  
 OHG. = Old High German  
 OIR. = Old Irish  
 ON. = Old Norse  
 ONFR. = Old North French  
 orig. = original, originally  
 OSAX. = Old Saxon  
 OSLOV. = Old Slovenian  
 pl. = plural  
 p. p. = past participle  
 prob. = probably  
 pron. = pronoun  
 prop. = properly  
 PROV. = Provençal  
 prt. = preterite, past tense  
 RUSS. = Russian  
 sb. = substantive  
 SKR. = Sanskrit  
 SPAN. = Spanish  
 superl. = superlative  
 SWED. = Swedish  
 TEUT. = Teutonic  
 vb. = verb

## LIST OF SYMBOLS IN TEUT. WORDS.

- $\bar{e}$  (not umlauted) = European and Aryan *e*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in OE, ME, long closed *e*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in OE, ME, long open *e*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in OHG, XHG, OSAX, closed *e* (umlauted).  
 $\bar{e}$  a reduced Aryan and pre-Teut. vowel.  
 $\bar{e}$  in Oe, Me, long closed *e*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in OE, ME, words long open *e*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in OE, words palatalized *k*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in ME, words as in NE, *age bridge*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in Oe, Me, words a spirantic palatalized *g*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in Teut. words = E. *th*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in On, Oe, Osax, words = E. *th*.  
 $\bar{e}$  in Goth. is  $\bar{h} \dagger w$ .  
 $\bar{e}$  = root.  
 \* before a word not inferred.

## A

**a<sup>1</sup>, an** indef. article ME. *a an*, OE. *an*: ident. with *one*.

**a<sup>2</sup>** ME. *a*: ident. with *on* (cp. *back, abroad*):

**abase**; cp. *base*.

**abash** short for ME. *abaisshe abaische (abaïsse)*: borrowed from OFR. *esbahiss-* stem of OFR. *esbahir* (FR. *ébahir*) 'astonish'.

**abate** ME. *abâte*: adapt. of OFR. *abatre* 'beat down'.

**abbess, abbey** see *abbot*.

**abbot** ME. *abbot*; older by-form ME. OE. *abbod*. Source LAT. *abbâtem (abbas)*, whence IT. *abbate*, FR. *abbé*, OHG. *abbât* G.DU. *abt*. — Hence **abbess** ME. *abbesse* from FR. *abbesse* (but OE. *abbudisse* = LAT. *abbatissa*) 'abbess' and **abbey** ME. *abbec* from FR. *abbaye* (OFR. *abêie*).

**abide** cp. *hide* and *abode*.

**able** ME. *able*: adapt. of OFR. (*h)able* = SPAN. *habil*, IT. *abile*; source LAT. *habilis*.

**abode** ME. *abôd* prop. 'delay, abiding'; cp. *bidc*.

**abound** ME. *abounde*: adapt. of FR. *abonder* = LAT. *abundare* 'abound'.

**about** ME. *aboute* OE. *abûtan onbûtan*; cp. *but* for OE. *bûtan*.

**above** ME. *above* earlier *abufen* OE. *abufan*; akin to G. *oben* OHG. *obana* 'from above'; cp. *over*.

**abridge** ME. *abrigge abregge*: adapt. of OFR. *abrigier abregier* (source LAT. *abbreviare* 'shorten').

**abroad** ME. *a brôd* prop. 'broadly, widely'; cp. *broad*.

**abuse** cp. *use*.

**accord** vb. ME. *acorde* late OE. (c.1140) *acordian*; borrowed from OFR. *acorder* FR. *accorder* (cp. IT. *accordare*).

**accuse** ME. *accûse* from FR. *accuser* (LAT. *accusare*).

**accrue** (*accrew*) vb. from FR. *accrue* sb. 'growth, increase' (orig. part. of FR. *accroître*: LAT. *ad+cretum*); cp. *increase*.

**ace** ME. *as aee*: loanword from FR. *as* (= SPAN. *as*, G. *ass*, DU. *aas*). Source LAT. *as* (acc. *assem*) 'a unit, pound, foot'.

**ache** earlier spelling *ake* ME. *ake*; derived from OE. *îce* ME. *cche* 'pain' under the influence of the vb. OE. *acan* ME. *ake* 'ache, feel pain'.