

Lingua e traduzione inglese I – Mod. a "lingua e cultura"

A.A. 2018/2019

EXERCISE 1 FOR WEEK 2

Select **ten lexems** and analyse their *etymology and formation*.

<p>"Turning away" (l.1)</p>	<p>phrasal verb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from <i>turn</i> (verb) + <i>away</i> (adj.) - Etymology: late Old English <i>turnian</i> "to rotate, revolve," in part also from Old French <i>turner</i> "to turn away or around; draw aside, cause to turn; change, transform; turn on a lathe" (Modern French <i>tourner</i>), both from Latin <i>tornare</i> "to polish, round off, fashion, turn on a lathe," from <i>tornus</i> "lathe," from Greek <i>tornos</i> "lathe, tool for drawing circles"
<p>"watchdog" (title)</p> <p><u>Type of compounding:</u> endocentric</p>	<p>noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from <i>watch</i> (verb) + <i>dog</i> (noun) - Etymology: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>watch</i>: Old English <i>wæccan</i> "keep watch, be awake" 2. <i>Dog</i>: "quadruped of the genus <i>Canis</i>," Old English <i>docga</i>, a late, rare word, used in at least one Middle English source in reference specifically to a powerful breed of canine; other early Middle English uses tend to be depreciatory or abusive. Its origin remains one of the great mysteries of English etymology.
<p>"ombudsman" (l. 3)</p> <p><u>Type of compounding:</u> copulative</p>	<p>noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from <i>ombuds</i> (noun) + <i>man</i> (noun) - Etymology: from Swedish <i>ombudsman</i>, literally "commission man" (specifically in reference to the office of <i>justitieombudsmannen</i>, which hears and investigates complaints by individuals against abuses of the state); cognate with Old Norse <i>umboðsmaðr</i>, from <i>umboð</i> "commission" (from <i>um-</i> "around," from Proto-Germanic <i>umbi</i>, from PIE root *ambhi- "around," + <i>boð</i> "command," from PIE root *bheudh- "be aware, make aware") + <i>maðr</i> "man" (from PIE root *man- (1) "man").
<p>"photographer" (l. 5)</p>	<p>noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from <i>photo</i> (noun) + <i>graph</i> (noun) + <i>-er</i> - Etymology: agent noun from photograph : "picture obtained by photography," coined by Sir John Herschel from photo- "light" + -graph "instrument for recording; something written."
<p>"workplaces" (l. 16)</p>	<p>noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from <i>work</i> (noun) + <i>place</i> (noun) - Etymology: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>work</i>: Old English <i>weorc</i>, <i>worc</i> "something done, discreet act performed by someone, action (whether voluntary or required), proceeding, business; that which is made or manufactured, products of labor," also "physical labor, toil; skilled trade, craft, or occupation; opportunity of expending labor in some useful or remunerative way;" also "military fortification," from Proto-Germanic <i>*werka-</i> "work" (source also of Old Saxon, Old Frisian, Dutch <i>werk</i>, Old Norse <i>verk</i>, Middle Dutch <i>warc</i>, Old High German <i>werah</i>, German <i>Werk</i>, Gothic <i>gawaurki</i>) 2. <i>Place</i>: "space, dimensional extent, room, area," from Old French <i>place</i> "place, spot" (12c.) and directly from Medieval Latin <i>placea</i> "place, spot," from Latin <i>platea</i> "courtyard, open space; broad way, avenue," from Greek <i>plateia</i> (<i>hodos</i>) "broad (way)," fem. of <i>platys</i> "broad".
<p>"duller" (l.29)</p>	<p>adjective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from <i>dull</i> (adj)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Etymology</u>: "stupid;" early 13c., "blunt, not sharp;" rare before mid-14c., apparently from Old English <i>dol</i> "dull-witted, foolish," or an unrecorded parallel word, or from Middle Low German <i>dul</i> "foolish, reckless," both from ProtoGermanic <i>*dulaz</i> (source also of Old Frisian <i>dol</i> "reckless," Old Saxon <i>dol</i> "foolish," Old High German <i>tol</i>, German <i>toll</i> "mad, wild," Gothic <i>dwals</i> "foolish").
"rankings" (l.36)	<p>noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from <i>rank</i> (noun) + <i>-ing</i> - <u>Etymology</u>: "row, line series;" c. 1400, a row of an army, from Old French <i>renc</i>, <i>ranc</i> "row, line" (Modern French <i>rang</i>), from Frankish <i>*hring</i> or some other Germanic source
"billboards" (l.39)	<p>noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from <i>bill</i> (noun) + <i>boards</i> (noun); also <i>bill-board</i>, "any sort of board where bills were meant to be posted," 1845, American English - <u>Etymology</u>: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. bill: "written statement," late 14c., "formal document; formal plea or charge (in a court of law); personal letter," from Anglo-French <i>bille</i>, Anglo-Latin <i>billa</i> "a writing, a list, a seal," from Medieval Latin <i>bullā</i> "decree, seal, sealed document," in classical Latin "bubble, boss, stud, amulet for the neck" 2. Board: "piece of timber sawn flat and thin, longer than it is wide, wider than it is thick, narrower than a plank;" Old English <i>bord</i> "a plank, flat surface," from Proto-Germanic <i>*burdam</i> (source also of Old Norse <i>borð</i> "plank," Dutch <i>bord</i> "board," Gothic <i>foṭu-baurd</i> "foot-stool," German <i>Brett</i> "plank". In late Old English or early Middle English the sense was extended to include "table".

Are there any abbreviations?

<p>"meme" (l. 1)</p> <p>abbreviation of "Mimeme"</p>	<p>noun / verb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from the original noun "Mimeme" - <u>Etymology</u>: introduced by evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins in "The Selfish Gene," coined by him from Greek sources, such as <i>mimesthai</i> "to imitate": <p><i>"We need a name for the new replicator, a noun that conveys the idea of a unit of cultural transmission, or a unit of imitation. 'Mimeme' comes from a suitable Greek root, but I want a monosyllable that sounds a bit like 'gene'. I hope my classicist friends will forgive me if I abbreviate mimeme to meme. If it is any consolation, it could alternatively be thought of as being related to 'memory', or to the French word mème. It should be pronounced to rhyme with 'cream'.</i> [Richard Dawkins, "The Selfish Gene," 1976]</p>
<p>"ads" (l. 21)</p> <p>abbreviation of "advertisements"</p>	<p>noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Etymology</u>: early 15c., "written statement calling attention to (something), public notice" (of anything, but often of a sale); from Old French <i>avertissement</i> (15c., later respelled pedantically as <i>advertissement</i>, a change rejected in French but accepted in English), from stem of <i>avertir</i> "to turn, direct, make aware".
<p>"TV"</p> <p>acronym of "television"</p>	<p>Noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Etymology</u>: 1907, as a theoretical system to transmit moving images over telegraph or telephone wires; formed in English or borrowed from French <i>télévision</i>, from <i>tele-</i> + <i>vision</i>.