Merriam-Webster

Unabridged Dictionary

"The #1 reference source for the Millennium"

The Library Journal

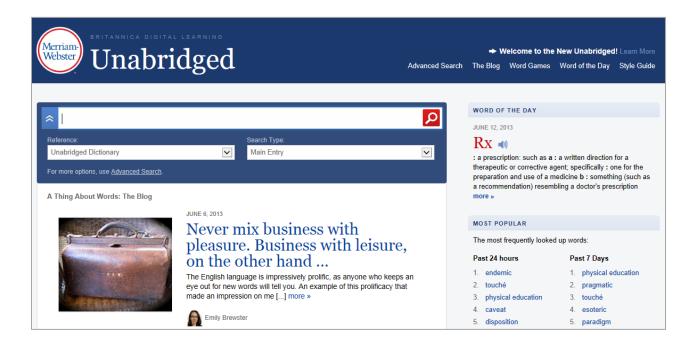


Overview

Login URL: http://www.dictionary.eb.com

For more than 150 years Merriam-Webster, a subsidiary of Encyclopaedia Britannica Inc, has been America's leading and trusted provider of language information. Each month, our Websites and Apps offer guidance to tens of millions of visitors. In print, our publications include dictionaries for all ages including Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary (one of the best-selling books in American history), and newly published dictionaries for English language learners.

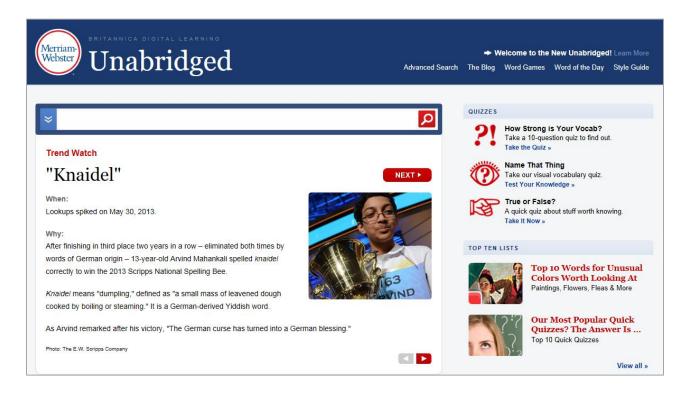
All Merriam-Webster products and services are backed by the largest team of professional dictionary editors and writers in the world. Headquartered in Springfield, Massachusetts, Merriam-Webster Inc. acquired the rights to revise and publish Noah Webster's dictionaries after the great American lexicographer's death in 1843. Other publishers use the name "Webster's," but only the name "Merriam-Webster" carries the quality and authority of a company backed by more than 180 years of accumulated knowledge and expertise.



Merriam Webster Unabridged Dictionary

Merriam-Webster's flagship Unabridged Dictionary is America's most comprehensive dictionary and recognized as one of the finest in the world. Throughout 150 years it has grown in size, scope and features to become the product known and cherished today.

The leading dictionary for modern international English, our new platform provides engaging editorially generated content and observations including Trend Watch, Top 10 Lists, Blog, Word of the Day, and "Ask the Editor" videos.



Useful Statistics:

Updating the *Unabridged Dictionary* is an extensive and ongoing project withnew and revised entries added continuously throughout the year. In time, every entry and definition in the dictionary will be reviewed and edited by our lexicographers, and new definitions will be created as new vocabulary enters the ever-expanding English language.

- 700,000 definitions
- 107,000 example phrases
- 263,000 main entries
- 476,000 words defined

- 100,000 quotations
- 143,000 etymologies
- Nearly 1,000 pictorial illustrations

Key Features:

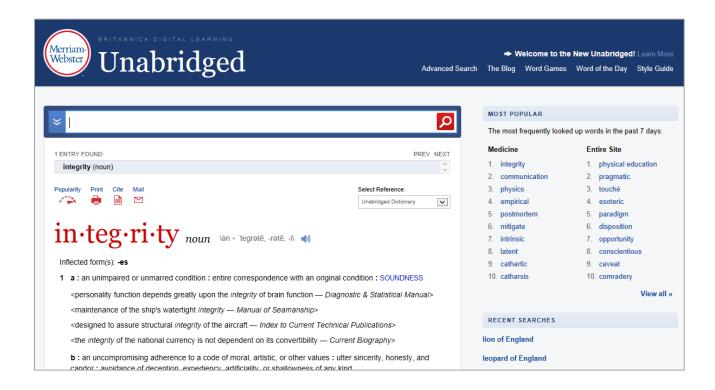
- Advanced Search
- Popularity meter
- Word in History (within each word entry)
- Top Ten lists
- <u>Audio pronunciations</u> (within each word entry)

- Localized top searches
- Seen & Heard
- <u>Games</u>, and <u>quizzes</u> with competitive scoring
- Cite and share entries
- Ask the Editor Video Channel

Additional references:

Merriam-Webster's Unabridged Dictionary also includes the following additional resources:

- The Collegiate[®] Dictionary.
- Collegiate Thesaurus, and Collegiate Encyclopaedia.
- Medical Dictionary.
- Spanish-English Dictionary, and French-English Dictionary.
- Citations database an unsurpassed collection of over a million real-world usage examples that our editors use to track words and their meanings.



LIBRARYJOURNAL.

Excerpt from an Independent review in comparison with OED

"Content

Merriam-Webster Unabridged is an American online dictionary containing over 700,000 definitions, 143,000 etymologies, and 100,000 word-in-context quotations from well-known writers. Using the advanced search feature enables users to access citations from the Merriam-Webster citation files (a collection of over a million real-world usage examples that the publication's editors use to track words and their meanings). This edition, the largest revision done in 50 years, includes 5,000 new words and definitions, supplementary notes providing additional context, and usage paragraphs offering guidance and suggestions for words with disputed usage. The dictionary is supplemented on a continual basis. The new site also includes a blog, quizzes, Top Ten Lists, and word-popularity rankings.

Usability

This new rendition of the Merriam-Webster Unabridged (MWU) online combines a workmanlike interface with a delightfully seductive design that will reel word lovers (like me) in at first glance. The main screen looks similar to the familiar home screen of the Oxford English Dictionary (OED): there's a simple search box (with a link into advanced search), a featured word of the day, a list of recent additions (akin to the OED's "recently published" words), a link to the resource's blog, and a predominantly blue, white, and red color scheme. But where the OED's personality is stately and profound (one feature, the OED Appeals, asks users to "help record the history of our language"), the nature of the MWU is unabashedly frolicsome: it doesn't take itself too seriously, and the result is fun to use.

A title bar includes links to advanced search, the blog, word games, word of the day, and a style guide. Below this at screen left is the simple search box and the day's blog entry, followed by "Trend Watch" (which notes recent word lookup "spikes"), recent videos by M-W editors ("The Longest Word in the Dictionary" and "Weird Plurals," for example), quizzes, and top-ten lists. The word of the day is featured prominently, below which appear lists of the most frequently looked up words of the past 24 hours and past seven days, followed recent additions to the dictionary. That sounds like a lot of features, and it is, but the screen isn't crowded and keeps a research-type character while being entertaining."